

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/20/2021 4:51:29 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN,
BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thank you. I shared this with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) as well bc she just called.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN,
BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief
Law Enforcement Operations Directorate
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE
C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.

Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM

To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief

Law Enforcement Operations Directorate

USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM

To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,

I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT
To: "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)
Cc: "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

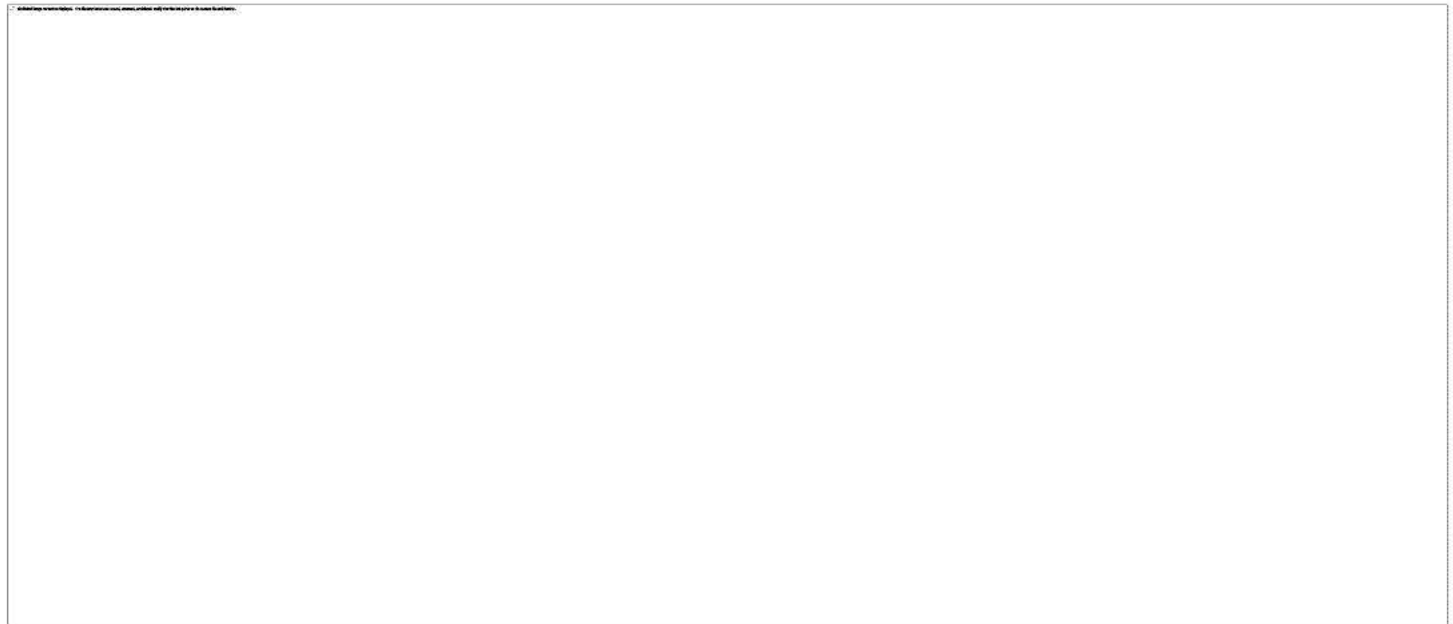
In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 11/17/2021 11:27:56 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: November 17, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS |

November 17, 2021

Executive Summary

CNN reported that DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told senators Tuesday that DHS has stopped the practice of releasing migrants in the United States only with paperwork that tells them to report to an ICE office. Migrants who are released going forward will likely receive notices to appear at immigration court as has typically been done. U.S. immigration officials also recently began sending packets to migrants who underwent ad hoc processing. The operation has sparked concern among immigration advocates and attorneys, who worry the packets may not get to the migrants.

Meanwhile, BorderReport reported that the "Remain in Mexico" policy could begin again "within the coming weeks," according to a federal court brief filed this week by Justice Department officials. The four-page document filed Monday in Amarillo, Texas, said that the government of Mexico is close to accepting migrants who are sent back from the United States under the program. Mexico apparently has one major sticking point, although the brief does not detail what it is.

In other news, CNN reported that DHS announced Tuesday that the horse patrol incident in Del Rio, Texas, that drew swift condemnation from senior Biden administration officials will not be investigated by DHS's inspector general. Instead, CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility is now investigating the incident. The agents involved in the incident remain on administrative duty, according to DHS

spokeswoman Marsha Espinosa. Horse patrol units continue to be deployed based on operational assessments, but are not deployed in the city of Del Rio, she added.

Top News

[A.1] DHS stops releasing some migrants without providing immigration court dates

November 16, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 14.6k

DHS has stopped the practice of releasing migrants in the United States only with paperwork that tells them to report to an ICE office, Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told senators Tuesday. During a Senate panel hearing Tuesday, Mayorkas said that from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, CBP issued 94,581 notices to report, adding that the practice has been "discontinued." "We've discontinued the practice of issuing notices to report," Secretary Mayorkas said. Migrants who are released going forward will likely receive notices to appear at immigration court as has typically been done. U.S. immigration officials also recently began sending packets to migrants who underwent ad hoc processing. They are expected to include a "notice to appear" and additional information about ICE processing. The operation has already sparked concern among immigration advocates and attorneys, who worry the packets may not get to the migrants, which could put them at risk of missing their court dates. If migrants don't appear to immigration court on their designated dates, they can be ordered removed by immigration judges.

[A.2] 'Remain in Mexico' policy could restart in 'coming weeks,' DOJ officials tell federal court

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 156k

The controversial Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" policy — which forced migrants to wait south of the border in Mexico during their immigration proceedings — could begin again "within the coming weeks," according to a federal court brief filed this week by Justice Department officials. The four-page document filed Monday in Amarillo, Texas, said that the government of Mexico is close to accepting migrants who are sent back from the United States under the program, formally called Migrant Protection Protocols or MPP. DHS "is ready to reimplement MPP shortly after the Government of Mexico makes an independent decision to accept the return of individuals that the Department seeks to enroll in the program," Acting Assistant Attorney General Brian Boynton wrote. Mexico apparently has one major sticking point, although the brief does not detail what it is.

[A.3] DHS inspector general declines to investigate Del Rio horse patrol incident

November 16, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 14.6k

The horse patrol incident in Del Rio, Texas, that drew swift condemnation from senior Biden administration officials will not be investigated by DHS's inspector general, the department announced Tuesday. CBP had referred the incident to the watchdog, according to DHS. Instead, CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility is now investigating the incident, the department said, adding that the office has reviewed videos and photographs and interviewed witnesses, employees and CBP leadership. "Once completed, the results of the investigation will be provided to CBP management to determine whether disciplinary action is appropriate and, if so, the specific discipline to be imposed. At that time, the employees will be afforded due process, including an opportunity to respond, and any corrective actions will comport with applicable laws and regulations," DHS said in a

statement Tuesday. The agents involved in the incident remain on administrative duty, according to DHS spokeswoman Marsha Espinosa. Horse patrol units continue to be deployed based on operational assessments, but are not deployed in the city of Del Rio, she added.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] U.S. Border Arrest Numbers Drop After Summer Peak; The number of migrants apprehended at the southern border ...

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Alicia A. Caldwell) Reach: 34.1m

Arrests of migrants caught crossing the Mexican border declined in October for the third straight month, the Biden administration said this week. Border Patrol agents made 158,575 arrests last month, a nearly 15% decline from September.

[B.2] Varying border apprehension interpretations for latest numbers

November 16, 2021 (MyRGVNews.com - Valerie Gonzalez) Reach: 253k

The number of migrants encountered at the border was released Tuesday for the first month of the fiscal year, but the interpretation of those figures varies depending on the media statements offered by officials from CBP and Border Patrol in the Rio Grande Valley.

[B.3] Migrant Detentions Up In The RGV, Down Elsewhere Along The Border

November 16, 2021 (KURV-AM) Reach: 4.2k

The number of undocumented immigrants being detained across the entire southwest border continues to decline, but not in the Rio Grande Valley region. Border Patrol agents in the Rio Grande Valley Sector are continuing to see record numbers of migrants crossing the border – 45,324 migrants were encountered in October, a 157 percent increase from the same month last year.

[B.4] October Migrant Apprehensions at Border Jump 130 Percent from Prior Year

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.1m

Border Patrol agents apprehended nearly 159,000 migrants who illegally crossed the southwest border with Mexico between ports of entry in October. The record-setting apprehensions represent an increase of nearly 130 percent over the previous October.

[B.5] EXCLUSIVE: Venezuelan Migrant Apprehensions at West Texas Border Up 9000 Percent

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.1m

Preliminary arrest data indicates some migrant demographics encountered in October have increased upwards of 9,000 percent when compared to October 2020. The documents were provided by a source within CBP not authorized to speak to the media.

[B.6] Injured Migrant Rescued in California Wilderness near Border

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.1m

El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents teamed up with other local and federal assets to rescue an injured migrant near the California border with Mexico. The search and rescue effort led to saving the life of a migrant who injured his ankle shortly after crossing the border near Ocotillo, California on Thursday morning.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Instead of spending thousands on smugglers, some migrants are buying cars to drive toward asylum

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Salvador Rivera) Reach: 156k

Instead of paying up to \$18,000 dollars to a smuggler to get them north of the border, some migrants are pooling their money and investing it in cars and driving them into ports of entry, where they can ask for asylum. The strategy seems to be working for many.

Border Wall

[D.1] Audit: North Dakota firm was properly awarded wall contract

November 16, 2021 (Associated Press - JAMES MacPHERSON) Reach: 21.8m

The Defense Department's internal watchdog said its investigation into a \$400 million border wall contract found it was properly awarded to a North Dakota firm whose owner used multiple appearances on Fox News to push for the job.

[D.2] Large Migrant Groups Surge Through Arizona Border Wall Gaps

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.1m

Border Patrol agents in Yuma are encountering sizeable groups of migrants entering the United States illegally through gaps in border walls. More than 300 were apprehended in two large groups over a two-day period. On Monday, more than 200 migrants breached a border wall gap in a single event. On Sunday, 112 were apprehended at the same location.

[D.3] GOP Sen. Braun: Dems Appropriating Money to Tear Down Trump's Border Wall

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Trent Baker) Reach: 5.1m

Sen. Mike Braun said the spending package includes funding to tear down the border wall.

Travel

[E.1] CDC adds more European destinations to its level 4 travel list

November 16, 2021 (The Washington Post - Annabelle Timsit) Reach: 356k

The CDC on Monday moved four European destinations to its highest-risk category for travel — a reflection of growing concern over rising cases in Europe just as the United States reopens to international travelers from that region.

[E.2] Port Huron border crossing enrollment center to reopen Nov. 29

November 16, 2021 (Port Huron Times Herald - Unknown) Reach: 12.7k

NEXUS and FAST enrollment centers will reopen in the U.S. on Nov. 29. NEXUS is designed to speed up border crossings for low-risk, pre-approved travelers into Canada. The U.S. FAST program enhances border and trade security and makes cross-border commercial shipments simpler and subject to fewer delays. Both are joint programs between CBP and the Canadian Border Services Agency.

Trade

[F.1] U.S., Japan to rebuild trade ties with new forum, meetings

November 17, 2021 (Reuters - David Lawder) Reach: 39.5m

The United States and Japan announced on Wednesday a new trade partnership to boost cooperation on labor, environment and digital trade issues with an emphasis on "third country concerns," a reference to China's state-driven economic policies.

[F.2] Japan, US set plans for talks on resolving tariffs dispute

November 17, 2021 (Associated Press - MARI YAMAGUCHI) Reach: 21.8m

U.S. Trade Representative Katharine Tai and Japan's trade and industry minister agreed Wednesday to work to resolve a dispute over American tariffs on steel and aluminum as part of a framework for cooperation in wider areas.

[F.3] Xinjiang cotton banned in the U.S. is still making it on to store shelves, says report

November 17, 2021 (The Washington Post - Eva Dou) Reach: 356k

In China's cotton-growing Xinjiang region, farmers have been hailing a bumper harvest this autumn. But much of the crop is under U.S. sanctions, and where it will end up is a thorny question.

[F.4] U.S. commerce chief sees Indo-Pacific economic framework early next year

November 17, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 39.5m

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said on Wednesday that an Indo-Pacific economic framework could be launched at the start of next year, and her Asia visit was to lay the groundwork for potential partnerships.

[F.5] World News: U.S. Moves to Bolster Asia Trade Ties --- Biden seeks closer alliances to challenge China's ...

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Yuka Hayashi) Reach: 34.1m

Top U.S. trade and commerce officials are meeting this week with their counterparts in Japan, South Korea and India -- but not China -- as the Biden administration seeks to build stronger economic ties with friendly nations in Asia.

[F.6] Biden-Xi summit set a foundation despite stopping short of trade negotiations

November 16, 2021 (Fortune - PersonMeena Thiruvengadamhttps) Reach: 5.5m

The United States and China disagree on many things, but after U.S. President Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping's first (virtual) face-to-face meeting since Biden's inauguration, there are signs that the two economic giants may slowly be moving down a more cooperative path.

[F.7] U.S. judge rules against tariffs on imported solar panels, ending Trump policy

November 16, 2021 (Reuters - Jonathan Stempel) Reach: 39.5m

A U.S. judge overseeing trade issues on Tuesday overturned a decision by then-President Trump to allow a reimposition of tariffs on some imported solar panels.

[F.8] Trump Decision to End Solar-Trade Loophole Is Overturned by U.S. Court

November 16, 2021 (Bloomberg - Brian Eckhouse) Reach: 36.7m

A U.S. trade court has reinstated a tariff exemption on some imported solar panels, a decision that benefits domestic clean-energy developers.

[F.9] US Import and Export Prices Surge in October, Adding to Signs of Persistent Inflation

November 16, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.0m

The prices of U.S. imports and exports surged in October, adding to signs that the current bout of inflation, which Federal Reserve policymakers and Biden administration officials say is "transitory," could prove to be considerably more persistent.

[F.10] China Buying More Brazil Soy in Sign of Shifting Trade Flows

November 16, 2021 (Bloomberg - Unknown) Reach: 36.7m

China is making big purchases of soybeans from Brazil, an unusual move for this time of year. The Asian nation needs soybeans to feed its expanding hog herds, and November is a prime time for the U.S. to sell its crops, having just finished the harvest. Supplies are at their peak and American prices should be the most attractive in the world. Yet this year, Brazil is even cheaper and cutting into the U.S.'s key sales window.

Workforce

[G.1] Some Border Patrol Agents Preparing to Be Fired Over Vaccine Mandate

November 16, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.0m

CBP won't release the number, but it's likely that the jobs of thousands of Border Patrol agents are on the chopping block if their requests for COVID-19 vaccine exemptions aren't accepted or if they simply refuse to take the job.

Opioid

[H.1] Photos Show Over a Ton of Meth, Cocaine Seized in Texas Worth \$53M

November 16, 2021 (Newsweek - Matthew Impelli) Reach: 20.5m

New photos show more than a ton of methamphetamine and cocaine, worth approximately \$53 million, that was recently seized by border agents in Texas. CBP posted the photos of the seized narcotics on Twitter and in a press release on its website.

Opinion

[I.1] Upward Mobility: Border Crisis Has Biden's Presidency on the Edge

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Jason L. Riley) Reach: 34.1m

In this opinion piece, Jason L. Riley wrote that "It's hard to know the extent to which President Biden's job-approval tribulations can be linked to the continuing chaos at the southern border. But we know that illegal immigration has become a top concern of voters, and the amnesty provisions that Democrats want included in their Build Back Better reconciliation bill are unlikely to help matters."

Immigration

[J.1] What are President Biden's challenges at the border?

November 16, 2021 (BBC) Reach: 178m

Some 2 million "encounters" between government agents and migrants near the border are expected by the end of 2021, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told US senators on Tuesday. In a hearing with the Senate Judiciary Committee, Secretary Mayorkas defended the Biden administration's handling of immigration and border issues, saying that rebuilding "a broken immigration system" will take time.

[J.2] Border crisis grows as some countries won't take migrants back

November 16, 2021 (KOKH FOX 25 - JILLIAN SMITH) Reach: 313k

DHS Secretary Mayorkas was on Capitol Hill Tuesday, answering tough questions about the number of migrants making their way into the United States illegally. Overall, the number of migrants at the southern border is far lower than it was earlier this year, during the peak of children and families illegally crossing into the U.S. from Mexico, but an unprecedented number of migrant adults are coming from countries that make deportation difficult.

[J.3] 5-year-old migrant left on river island, reunited with mom by Border Patrol

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 156k

U.S. Border Patrol agents said they rescued a 5-year-old Venezuelan girl who was left on an island in the Rio Grande — between Mexico and the United States — by human traffickers.

[J.4] Migrant caravan arrives depleted in the Mexican state of Veracruz

November 16, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 237k

The migrant caravan that is trying to cross Mexico from the south to the northern border entered Veracruz on Tuesday, the third state they have entered since their departure on Oct. 23 from the border city of Tapachula, in the state of Chiapas.

DHS

[K.1] DHS Mayorkas: 'Not All' Afghans Brought to U.S. Are Interviewed by Feds

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - John Binder) Reach: 5.1m

During a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, DHS Secretary Mayorkas said the roughly 70,000 Afghans brought to the U.S. by President Biden since late August "have not all been given interviews" by federal law enforcement officials despite that being standard vetting protocol.

[K.2] DHS inspector general declines to probe use of horses to round up asylum seekers

November 17, 2021 (United Press International) Reach: 1.8m

The inspector general of DHS has declined to investigate the controversial deployment of horse-mounted patrols to round up Haitian and other asylum seekers in Del Rio, Texas, in September.

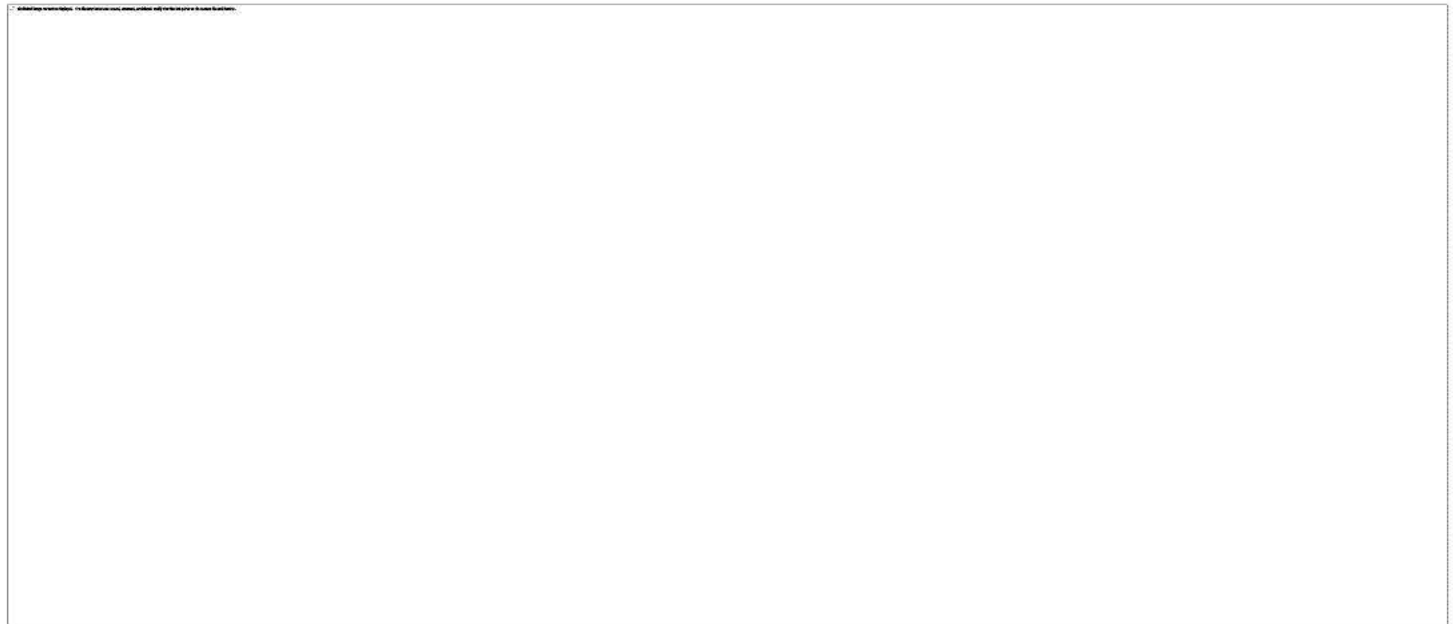
[K.3] DHS defends delay in the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of whipping Haitians

November 16, 2021 (The Washington Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Stephen Dinan) Reach: 2.5m

DHS issued a statement Tuesday defending the lengthy delay in the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of whipping Haitian migrants in Texas in September, saying the probe is following the "customary process."

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 2/10/2022 11:45:03 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: February 10, 2022



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

February 10, 2022

Executive Summary

The Associated Press reported that USCIS is reverting its mission statement to refer to the country as “a nation of welcome and possibility.” The new statement unveiled Wednesday by USCIS Director Ur Jaddou is symbolic but somewhat restores previous language after the agency removed a reference in 2018 to the U.S. being a “nation of immigrants.” Immigration advocates applauded the new language.

Meanwhile, Fox News reported that deportations by ICE dropped sharply last fiscal year. The drop coincided with numerous Biden administration policies that restricted ICE agents from arresting illegal immigrants. According to preliminary FY2021 statistics on ICE’s website, there were 55,590 removals in FY 2021. That’s down significantly from the 185,884 deportations in FY 2020 and the 267,258 removed in FY2019.

In other news, BorderReport reported that agriculture specialists with CBP are busy tapping and shaking bouquets to make sure flowers are free of insects, pests and diseases. During the first two weeks of February, border officers begin seeing an increase in personal and commercial importations of Valentine’s Day flowers that could be carrying pests that could harm the agricultural and floral industries of the United States, officials say.

Top News

[A.1] Us Citizenship Agency Reverts To Welcoming Mission Statement

February 9, 2022 (Associated Press) Reach: 411k

USCIS is reverting its mission statement to refer to the country as "a nation of welcome and possibility." The new statement unveiled Wednesday by USCIS Director Ur Jaddou is symbolic but somewhat restores previous language after the agency removed a reference in 2018 to the U.S. being a "nation of immigrants." Immigration advocates applauded the new language and said reframing the mission of the agency was needed. "The agency is right to reframe its mission and emphasize dignity and fairness," Ali Noorani, president of the National Immigration Forum, said in a statement. "In a nation that depends on immigrants, but where too many are stuck in legal-immigration logjams, the administration must strive to live up to these values."

[A.2] ICE deportations dropped sharply in FY 2021 as Biden admin restricted agency: preliminary data

February 10, 2022 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 4.2m

Deportations by ICE dropped sharply last fiscal year. The drop coincided with numerous Biden administration policies that restricted ICE agents from arresting illegal immigrants. According to preliminary FY2021 statistics on ICE's website, there were 55,590 removals in FY 2021, a fraction of removals from prior years. That's down significantly from the 185,884 deportations in FY 2020 and the 267,258 removed in FY2019, despite an enormous surge of migrants coming to the U.S., many of whom were processed and released into the U.S. While ICE has not formally issued its end of fiscal year report, previous reporting by Fox News found that arrests have similarly dropped sharply. The Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates for lower levels of immigration overall, had previously cited data in December that showed ICE removals are lower than in 2019 and 2020 when enforcement had been curtailed significantly because of the pandemic.

[A.3] Don't try to import just any kind of flower this Valentine's Day

February 9, 2022 (borderreport.com - Unknown) Reach: 21.6k

A single flower could potentially ruin Valentine's Day for lovers in the Borderland, and that is why agriculture specialists with CBP are busy tapping and shaking bouquets to make sure they are free of insects, pests and diseases. During the first two weeks of February, border officers begin seeing an increase in personal and commercial importations of Valentine's Day flowers that could be carrying pests that could harm the agricultural and floral industries of the United States, officials say. This includes commercial shipments arriving at area ports of entry as well as individual bouquets and arrangements being transported by individuals, said Hector Mancha, CBP Director of Field Operations in El Paso. "Our ever-vigilant CBP agriculture specialists are carefully inspecting all floral shipments to be certain that they are free from insects, pests or disease."

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] 132 Migrants Found Locked in Tractor-Trailer in Far West Texas near Border

February 9, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Border Patrol agents in the El Paso Sector rescued a group of 132 migrants locked inside a tractor-trailer near the Texas border with Mexico. The group included two unaccompanied Guatemalan migrant children.

[B.2] CBP – 132 migrants rescued inside a tractor trailer in far east El Paso

February 9, 2022 (El Paso Herald-Post) Reach: 15.7k

Border Patrol Agents of the El Paso Sector discovered 132 migrants inside a commercial trailer during a human smuggling attempt in far east El Paso, Feb. 7.

[B.3] 132 migrants found hiding in a trailer on the Juarez-El Paso border

February 9, 2022 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 175k

Border Patrol agents discovered a commercial trailer with 132 migrants aboard during a human smuggling attempt east of El Paso. Ysleta Border Patrol agents assigned to the Anti-Smuggling Unit received information about suspected smuggling activity at a vacant building.

[B.4] 5-Year-Old Migrant Girl Found Alone in Texas Along Rio Grande

February 9, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Border Patrol agents continue to find young migrant children abandoned along the Texas riverbank of Rio Grande. This time, a five-year-old Guatemalan girl told agents she crossed the river by herself.

[B.5] U.S. Border Patrol Locates Five-Year-Old Guatemalan Girl Alone at the Border

February 9, 2022 (CE Latin America Migration - Powered by Dow Jones - Evelin Vásquez) Reach: 2.0m

Border Patrol agents in Del Rio, Texas, United States found two migrant girls alone in the last two days and both are five years old. CBP has identified one as Guatemalan and the other as Honduran.

[B.6] Smuggler collides with school bus to avoid arrest

February 9, 2022 (ValleyCentral.com - Jesse Mendez) Reach: 390k

Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol agents disrupted four migrant smuggling attempts. Border Patrol's news release stated in one of the incidents, a migrant smuggler collided with a school bus while attempting to evade arrest.

[B.7] Border patrol cracking down on human smuggling

February 9, 2022 (NewsNation - Robert Sherman) Reach: 3.7m

CBP is grappling with an influx of migrants crossing the U.S. border, many victims of human smuggling. Officials say it's the most activity they've seen in years.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Truckers 'Freedom Convoy' Protests Disrupt Ambassador Bridge on U.S.-Canada Border; Nearly two-week ...

February 9, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jacquie McNish) Reach: 33.0m

Protesters fighting Covid-19 vaccine mandates temporarily stopped two-way traffic on the busiest international land-border crossing in North America as a nearly two-week demonstration in Ottawa threatened to expand and disrupt U.S.-Canada trade.

[C.2] Asylum-seekers turning to smugglers as U.S. won't take claims at ports of entry, group says

February 8, 2022 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 29.8k

Biden administration policies are forcing asylum-seekers to attempt dangerous crossings or seek out smugglers to come into the United States, a nonprofit reports. Those include refusing to accept asylum petitions at U.S. ports of entry and keeping in place "an illegal" Trump-era policy allowing for the immediate expulsion of newly arrived migrants on public health grounds, a Human Rights First report states.

Border Wall

[D.1] State of Texas Makes Deal to Build Border Fence on Tribal Lands

February 9, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 4.9m

A new section of border fence is expected to go up locally as the result of a partnership between the State and the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas. The new section, constructed by the Texas Military Department, will be located south of Eagle Pass on tribal lands.

Trade

[F.1] U.S. Will Make China Account for Trade-Deal Miss, Raimondo Says

February 9, 2022 (Bloomberg - Eric Martin) Reach: 37.1m

The U.S. will hold China to account for failing to meet the purchase targets pledged in trade deal inherited from the Trump administration, President Biden's commerce chief said.

[F.2] China hopes U.S. will remove tariffs, end sanctions to create conditions for trade

February 10, 2022 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 2.8m

China hopes the United States will remove additional tariffs on Chinese goods and end its sanctions and crackdowns as soon as possible to create conditions for trade cooperation, the Ministry of Commerce said on Thursday.

[F.3] Chamber of Commerce: New tariffs possible if China talks fail

February 9, 2022 (Washington Examiner - Julia Johnson) Reach: 6.5m

New China tariffs could be on the docket for the Biden administration, according to Wednesday comments by officials from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

[F.4] America First Trade Policies Harming U.S. Companies In China

February 10, 2022 (Forbes - Stuart Anderson) Reach: 66.2m

Protectionist trade policies have weakened the ability of U.S. companies to defend themselves in China and elsewhere in Asia. New research shows this is another example of how America First trade policies have put Americans and U.S. companies last.

[F.5] China Was Never on Path to Meet 'Phase 1' Purchase Commitments: Report

February 9, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 13.0m

China's failure to meet the import targets agreed to under the "phase one" trade agreement with the United States signed in January 2020 can't be blamed wholly on the global COVID-19 pandemic and supply-chain disruptions, according to a new report issued by the Peterson Institute for International Economics (PIIE).

[F.6] US Industry Leaders Back Biden's Steel Tariff Agreement With Japan

February 9, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 13.0m

Some U.S. steel industry leaders have backed the Biden administration's steel tariff-rate quota agreement with Japan, citing the "melt and pour" provision as one that could help prevent steel sector circumvention.

[F.7] Auto plants start halting production following border protests

February 9, 2022 (NBC News - Paul A. Eisenstein) Reach: 40.8m

The anti-vaccination trucker protest that has paralyzed the Canadian capital, Ottawa, has spread to Michigan's border and threatens to create chaos in an auto industry already struggling to cope with what industry experts have described as a "fragile supply chain."

[F.8] Protesters disrupt crucial trade link between U.S. and Canada

February 9, 2022 (CNBC) Reach: 58.5m

[Video] CNBC reported on the trucker protest taking place in Ottawa and how it's threatening to cause more supply chain issues.

[F.9] Officials Raise Concerns Canada Border Protest Will Disrupt Supply Chains; Canadian authorities are re- ...

February 9, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jacquie McNish) Reach: 33.0m

Canadian and U.S. officials expressed concerns Wednesday on the possible fallout from a prolonged traffic disruption at Detroit's Ambassador Bridge on already strained supply-chain networks.

[F.10] Ambassador Bridge Shutdown Threatens Supply Chains: Officials Say

February 9, 2022 (Patch.com) Reach: 14.2m

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said Wednesday that federal officials are closely watching the shutdown at the Ambassador Bridge as it poses a threat to supply chains, particularly the auto industry.

[F.11] South Carolina Ports Authority CEO discusses ongoing supply chain pressures

February 9, 2022 (CNBC) Reach: 58.5m

[Video] Jim Newsome, South Carolina Ports Authority CEO, discussed the company's record import volumes, why the U.S. needs to fix the truck driver shortage and more.

[F.12] America's buying habit sends trade deficit to record

February 9, 2022 (Axios - Matt Phillips) Reach: 5.8m

The trade deficit hit a record last year as Americans attempted to ease pandemic-era sorrows by acquiring a mountain of consumer goods.

[F.13] Forced Labor Claims at Malaysian Firms Spur Spate of US Import Bans

February 9, 2022 (Voice of America) Reach: 7.7m

Malaysia's government and business leaders say they are taking steps to stamp out forced labor amid a flurry of U.S. import bans over the rampant abuse of migrant workers making much of the world's rubber gloves and palm oil. Labor advocates and analysts, though, say their efforts still don't go far enough.

[F.14] Canada's Alberta province files trade challenge over scrapped Keystone XL pipeline

February 10, 2022 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 107k

The Canadian province of Alberta on Wednesday formally initiated a trade challenge to recover its investment in the Keystone XL oil pipeline, which was scrapped in 2021 after the United States canceled a key permit.

Workforce

[G.1] Working conditions for Border Patrol getting more attention

February 9, 2022 (Associated Press - Unknown) Reach: 6.5m

A strained Border Patrol is getting increased attention from the Biden administration after tense meetings between senior officials and the rank and file while the agency deals with one of the largest spikes in migration along the U.S.-Mexico border in decades.

[G.2] Smuggler Sentenced to Prison for Ramming Border Patrol Agents with Car Near Jamul

February 9, 2022 (Times of San Diego) Reach: 312k

A man who injured several Border Patrol agents by ramming their vehicles on a state highway near Jamul while he was smuggling 10 migrants has been sentenced to more than three years in federal prison, prosecutors said Wednesday.

[G.3] Video shows woman arrested for human smuggling lunging toward border patrol officers after she's arrested at US Customs agents at Mexico border

February 9, 2022 (Daily Mail - Adry Torres) Reach: 6.6m

A harrowing video shows the moment a woman lunges at a U.S. Border Patrol officer after she was detained for smuggling a group of migrants.

Opioid

[H.1] Rep. Guthrie to Newsmax: Further Controls Needed to Stop Illicit Fentanyl

February 9, 2022 (Newsmax - Sandy Fitzgerald) Reach: 6.4m

The DEA's "Operation Overdrive," is one way to put pressure and leverage on China to keep ingredients used in fentanyl from coming into Mexico, but further controls are needed to stop the illegal flow of the deadly drug into the United States, Rep. Brett Guthrie said Wednesday.

[H.2] Overwhelmed border agents reportedly working with drug cartels to handle migrant surge

February 9, 2022 (Fox News Channel - Fox Report Weekend) Reach: 7.3m

[Video] Independent journalist Ali Bradley and Blakpak Vice President Angie Wong discussed the growing problem of drug cartels and coyotes entering through the southern border.

Opinion

[I.1] DeSantis' anti-immigrant policies are inhumane and will hurt businesses in Florida | Opinion

February 9, 2022 (Miami Herald - Aida T. Levitan) Reach: 126k

In this opinion piece, Aida T. Levitan and Miguel "Mike" B. Fernandez wrote that "As workers, business owners, taxpayers and neighbors, immigrants make contributions that benefit everyone. Yet, some politicians continue to whip up their base and raise funds by generating fear and hate toward immigrants, attacking immigrants through orders and legislation."

Immigration

[J.1] Stricter 'house arrest' program for released migrants draws criticism

February 9, 2022 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 151k

DHS soon plans to roll out a controversial pilot program that will confine some migrants to overnight "house arrests" as they remain in the United States awaiting their immigration court proceedings, according to some reports.

[J.2] Watchdog Groups Sue Biden Admin for Communications with Catholic Organizations on Migrants

February 9, 2022 (National Review - Unknown) Reach: 160k

Two watchdog groups are suing DHS and the Department of Health and Human Services for records of communications with Catholic organizations involved in aiding migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.

[J.3] Advocates condemn dismantling of migrant camp in Tijuana

February 8, 2022 (BorderReport - Salvador Rivera) Reach: 6.2k

Border Angels, a San Diego-based migrant advocacy group, is condemning the dismantling of the migrant camp in Tijuana during a pre-dawn operation that evicted about 380 migrants from the site on Sunday.

[J.4] Daughter of immigrants takes over border advocacy center

February 9, 2022 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 151k

The daughter of migrant farmworkers, Linda Corchado knows a thing or two about the needs of clients who walk through the doors at Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center looking for help.

DHS

[K.1] DHS: Anti-Vaccine Trucker Convoy Could Come to US on Super Bowl Sunday

February 9, 2022 (Newsmax - Solange Reyner) Reach: 6.4m

An anti-vaccine trucker convoy like the one in Canada that has shut down Ottawa, that nation's capital, could be coming to the U.S. starting Super Bowl Sunday, DHS warns.

[K.2] Biden admin pressed on legal authority for releasing migrants into US after DHS reveals numbers

February 10, 2022 (Fox News - Adam Shaw) Reach: 4.2m

Rep. Andy Biggs on Wednesday pushed DHS for more answers to questions about its legal basis and authority for releasing migrants into the U.S. interior – after DHS revealed the number of migrants it released into the interior without a notice to check in with a local ICE office.

Of Interest

[L.1] U.S. lawmakers have yet to receive CBP apology for Iranian-American detention, DeBene says

February 9, 2022 (The Northern Light - Grace McCarthy) Reach: 10.6k

After demanding CBP officials issue a public apology on the January 2020 detention of Iranian-Americans at a Blaine border crossing, U.S. lawmakers say the request was ignored.

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/20/2021 10:46:28 PM
To: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
JAMES, MICHELE (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Sirs,

AC Klein asked me to send the following quick update:

CBP OPR Resident Agent in Charge (RAC) Del Rio is actively investigating the widely reported incident involving the U.S. Border Patrol mounted personnel engaging with migrants near the shore of the Rio Grande River yesterday afternoon. RAC Del Rio has identified the Border Patrol Agents (BPAs) involved in the incident as:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/22

In addition, two Supervisory Border Patrol Agents (SBPAs) were also reportedly in the area at the time of the incident. They are:

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 05/21/2022

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

EOD: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

STAR:

Grade:

PDO: Carrizo Springs Station

Detailed to Del Rio Sector HPU 08/29/21 – 06/17/2023

CBP OPR has coordinated this matter with the DHS Office of Inspector General and will be interviewing the two SBPAs who were in the area in the next several hours. OPR will also interview all of the mounted personnel involved in the incident, however, those interviews will likely be delayed for at least 48 hours due to collective bargaining commitments related to subject interviews.

With respect to the Go-Pro that was seen in the news coverage, we do not believe it was an authorized device and will be addressing that with the BPA as well as attempting to obtain a copy of any relevant footage.

OPR will provide additional updates as they become available. We will have personnel on site 24/7 until no longer required.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Executive Director for Investigative Operations
Office of Professional Responsibility
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (Mobile)

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:29 PM

To: ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Cc: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Yes we're on it.

Matthew Klein

Assistant Commissioner

Office of Professional Responsibility

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Mobile (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:14 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Matt, do y'all think you can support?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 5:12 PM

To: ORTIZ, RAUL L

Cc: MILLER, TROY A

Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Concur with the idea if OPR can support.

From iPhone

On Sep 20, 2021, at 6:05 PM, ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) wrote:

Sirs, with your concurrence I would like to have a full time presence of OPR agents on site.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:03 PM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR; HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A; (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L; JAMES, MICHELE (OPR); (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

OPR is engaged, agents are on scene and working to collect additional information and identify involved agents. So can confirm the following:

- CBP OPR engaged and investigating the actions of the agents depicted in the footage, and assessing any potential for misconduct.
- OIG has been notified.

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:43 PM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Additional details;

The horse patrol was not tasked to conduct containment/entry prevention operations at the location shown in the video.

DRT Sector has corrected this issue and provided operational guidance to horse patrol. Their duty is to patrol the area and keep order with the migrants' movements as well as look for any migrants that are in need – medical distress, water and food, vulnerable population, etc..

The current situation warrants the ability for migrants to go back and forth in a controlled manner. This is the operational guidance in place.

OPR is looking into the matter to determine if there is any misconduct.

Thank you,

Manny

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:31 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) KLEIN, MATTHEW (OPR)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) JAMES, MICHELE (OPR)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in OPR Leadership. Just got off the phone with C1, need to update the TP with more details ASAP and confirm that OPR is reviewing/investigating the incident.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 3:25 PM
To: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

DHS wants to be able to update the talking points for media inquiries to say an investigation is underway. Please let me know if/when I can confirm that.

From: PADILLA, MANUEL JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:41 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Getting with DRT now

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 2:30 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Hi all: We need to get the more details on this as soon as possible. Just got a call from WH IGA/Political – the footage is getting everywhere.

Thanks,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:50 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Good with this and will continue to work on the details. Ultimately defer to Chief Ortiz and Deputy Padilla.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(A) Chief

Law Enforcement Operations Directorate

USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC

Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:48 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Coordinated with BP Strat Comm for this response, not enough info is available yet:

Why is Border Patrol using agents on horseback with whips to control those trying to cross the river?

We are aware of the reporting and are looking into the situation. Any allegation of misconduct will be investigated. We will continue to prioritize processing the migrants here in a safe, orderly and humane way.

Why are you no longer allowing people to move back and forth since for days they were getting food and other supplies like diapers in Mexico and coming back?

We are not preventing their movement, we're processing those under the bridge as quickly, safely, and in as humane a way as possible.

Again, we will review any allegation of misconduct thoroughly. But we have worked hard to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved as we process migrants for return to their countries of origin.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 12:05 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On the public communication side we'll also need to explain why people were going back and forth for the first few days, many buying food or supplies before returning, and why we suddenly started blocking that.

If they're hearing about our deportation flights and decide to go back, does this mean we won't let them return to Mexico either?

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:26 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Thanks. Will need TPs more generally as well on enforcement/use of force posture. Something short is fine for now - we will definitely need more if we start to see real unrest on the ground. Thank you--

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:16 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL
JR (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are communicating with the local leadership now. Update shortly.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(A) Chief

Law Enforcement Operations Directorate
USBP Headquarters, Washington, DC
Cell: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

From: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 11:15 AM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) MILLER, TROY A
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) PADILLA, MANUEL JR
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) ORTIZ, RAUL L (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Looping in Chief Padilla and Chief Ortiz,
I pasted what I believe to be the concerning part of the story below. We need find out what really happened and if appropriate, report to the JIC/OPR. Also work with OPA with the response.

"Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food."

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:55 AM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Re: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

On it with (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) right now, Sir.

From: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Monday, September 20, 2021 10:54:35 AM
To: HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Cc: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Fwd: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Deputy, FYSA: We need a good response. Troy

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Date: September 20, 2021 at 10:44:35 AM EDT
To: "Mayorkas, Alejandro" (b) (6)
Cc: "MILLER, TROY A" (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject: Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

We are running down and will put together a statement. Will need to clarify what reins look like vs a horse whip, and clarify use of force.

Reuters: "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border (Daina Beth Solomon and Alberto Fajardo)

CIUDAD ACUÑA, Mexico, Sept 19 (Reuters) - A U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food.

It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday.

Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti.

Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico.

"We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

"There are no humane conditions... We have to break out to buy water."

More than 12,000 migrants, identified by officials on both sides as mostly Haitian, have been gathering under the bridge in recent days, awaiting immigration processing. Instead, U.S. officials began removing several thousand people from the camp over the weekend, including some who were later seen arriving in Haiti.

Still, several people who spoke to Reuters, most of whom traveled with their children, said they would take their chances to try to stay in the United States.

Mackenley Pearre, 25, left impoverished Haiti in July with his cousin, wife and 2-year-old daughter due to the worsening violence and inability to find work as an electrician. In July, Haiti's president was assassinated, and in August a major earthquake and powerful storm hit the country.

"You have to do something to not die of hunger," he said, eating a tamale given to him by a local resident on the Mexican side, one of several people who said they felt moved to help.

At a news conference in Del Rio Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said resources were available.

"We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels, emergency medical technicians are available for first aid," Ortiz said.

"Over the next 6 to 7 days our goal is to process the 12,662 migrants that we have underneath that bridge as quickly as we possibly can," Ortiz said. "What we want to make sure is that we deter the migrants from coming into the region so we can manage the folks that are under the bridge at this point."

At the border, migrants waded deeper to try to evade law enforcement. Mostly men, many barefoot and in boxers, attempted trickier crossings through waist-deep water. Some migrants crossed at another point where water reached their necks.

Reuters journalists saw mounted officers wearing cowboy hats and vests emblazoned with "POLICE U.S. BORDER PATROL" blocking the path of migrants scrambling up the U.S. embankment carrying plastic bags and cardboard boxes.

After one of the officers in the vests unfurled a cord resembling a lariat like a whip and steered his horse to block the migrants, one tumbled back into the water. He got up and tried again, but the officer swung the cord again near his face.

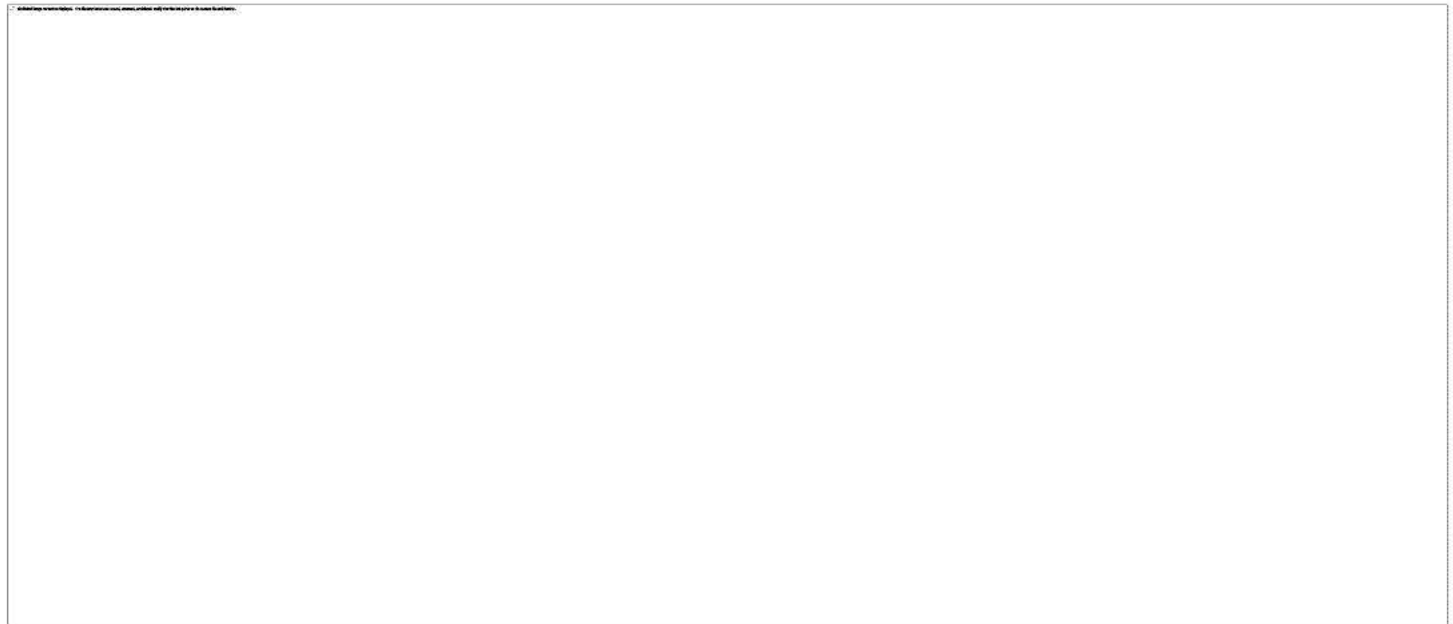
In another incident, the same officer grabbed the back of the shirt of a migrant trying to run up the bank with bags of food.

Both people appeared to eventually slip past while the officers tried to hold back migrants who were scattering in all directions. A group of some two dozen people were later seen seated on the U.S. side of the river's edge behind yellow tape near several patrol cars.

###

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 9/21/2021 10:44:06 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: September 21, 2021



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS |

September 21, 2021

Executive Summary

The Associated Press reported Monday that the options remaining for thousands of Haitian migrants straddling the Mexico-Texas border are narrowing as the United States government ramps up to an expected six expulsion flights to Haiti Tuesday and Mexico began busing some away from the border. More than 6,000 Haitians and other migrants had been removed from an encampment at Del Rio, Texas, U.S. officials said Monday as they defended a strong response that included immediately expelling migrants to their impoverished Caribbean country and faced criticism for using horse patrols to stop them from entering the town.

In related news, the Washington Post reported that Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas traveled Monday to the makeshift camp in Del Rio, Tex., where nearly 15,000 border-crossers have arrived, and he was quickly pulled into an escalating controversy over the treatment of the mostly Haitian migrants by U.S. agents. Secretary Mayorkas directed DHS's internal oversight office to send personnel to the camp and oversee agents' conduct "full-time." Border Patrol chief Raul Ortiz said he made the decision to deploy the horse patrol agents to "find out if we had any individuals in distress, and be able to provide information and intelligence as to what the smuggling organizations were doing in and around the river."

Meanwhile, Reuters reported that the Biden administration wants to nearly double the number of

refugees admitted to the United States to 125,000 in the upcoming fiscal year starting on Oct. 1 in keeping with a campaign promise. The State Department will consult with DHS and Congress to lift the cap, which was set at 62,500 for the 2020 fiscal year ending this month. The plan to dramatically increase refugee admissions comes at a time when tens of thousands of Afghan refugees are on U.S. military bases awaiting resettlement in the United States. Many still at risk were left behind in the chaotic final days of the withdrawal of U.S. forces.

Top News

[A.1] Options shrink for Haitian migrants straddling Texas border

September 20, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The options remaining for thousands of Haitian migrants straddling the Mexico-Texas border are narrowing as the United States government ramps up to an expected six expulsion flights to Haiti Tuesday and Mexico began busing some away from the border. More than 6,000 Haitians and other migrants had been removed from an encampment at Del Rio, Texas, U.S. officials said Monday as they defended a strong response that included immediately expelling migrants to their impoverished Caribbean country and faced criticism for using horse patrols to stop them from entering the town. That was enough for some Haitian migrants to return to Mexico while others struggled to decide on which side of the border to take their chances.

[A.2] DHS to investigate treatment of migrants

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post (Print) - Felicia Sonmez) Reach: 356k

Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas traveled Monday to the makeshift camp in Del Rio, Tex., where nearly 15,000 border-crossers have arrived, and he was quickly pulled into an escalating controversy over the treatment of the mostly Haitian migrants by U.S. agents. Secretary Mayorkas told reporters in Del Rio that DHS would look into the incident. He has directed DHS's internal oversight office to send personnel to the camp and oversee agents' conduct "full-time." Border Patrol chief Raul Ortiz said he made the decision to deploy the horse patrol agents to "find out if we had any individuals in distress, and be able to provide information and intelligence as to what the smuggling organizations were doing in and around the river." Tensions at the camp have been building after thousands of migrants were crossing the river daily last week, overwhelming U.S. capacity. Secretary Mayorkas said thousands would be relocated away from Del Rio to other Border Patrol sectors with more capacity to process them.

[A.3] Biden administration seeks to lift U.S. refugee cap to 125,000

September 20, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

President Biden's administration wants to nearly double the number of refugees admitted to the United States to 125,000 in the upcoming fiscal year starting on Oct. 1 in keeping with a campaign promise, according to a statement from the State Department. The State Department will consult with DHS and Congress to lift the cap, which was set at 62,500 for the 2020 fiscal year ending this month, the statement said. The plan to dramatically increase refugee admissions comes at a time when tens of thousands of Afghan refugees are on U.S. military bases awaiting resettlement in the United States. Many still at risk were left behind in the chaotic final days of the withdrawal of U.S. forces.

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] The scene as thousands of migrants camp at U.S.-Mexico border

September 20, 2021 (The Washington Post - Paulina Villegas) Reach: 356k

Thousands of mostly Haitian migrants are crossing the Rio Grande into the United States, and nearly 15,000 are sleeping under a highway bridge in deteriorating unsanitary conditions, overwhelming local and federal authorities.

[B.2] Migrant surge continues to test authorities in south Texas

September 20, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Quinn Owen) Reach: 22.5m

As the Biden administration continues to grapple with a surge of Haitian migrants on the border, images have surfaced showing the tactics used by the U.S. Border Patrol agents riding horses to control the crowd around the river.

[B.3] Former Border Patrol chief warns agency losing ability to know 'who and what is entering'

September 20, 2021 (Fox News - Jon Brown) Reach: 58.8m

Former U.S. Border Patrol Chief Rodney Scott sent a letter to Senate leadership warning that the agency is losing its ability to police the southern border amid an unprecedented surge in illegal immigration.

[B.4] Homeland Security Asks for Military Help to Move Illegal Immigrants from Del Rio

September 21, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

DHS requested the assistance of the U.S. military to transport illegal immigrants, many of Haitian origin, from a crowded holding area under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas.

[B.5] Mayorkas Concerned Haitians Receiving 'False Information' U.S. Border Is Open

September 20, 2021 (Newsweek - Alexandra Hutzler) Reach: 24.6m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said officials are worried that Haitians are getting "false information" about migrating to the U.S. More than 10,000 people, predominantly from Haiti, have recently crossed the Rio Grande river and are camping out under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas.

[B.6] Texas Border Patrol discovers hotel room packed with illegals in suspected human smuggling operation

September 20, 2021 (Fox News - Bradford Betz) Reach: 58.8m

Texas Border Patrol agents discovered a hotel room in which 10 illegal immigrants were staying while they waited to be smuggled deeper into the U.S.

[B.7] Five migrants found in abandoned vehicle

September 21, 2021 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A suspected smuggler abandoned a vehicle loaded with migrants near the Rio Grande, according to the U.S. Border Patrol. Agents patrolling the Rio Grande on Sept. 15 observed multiple people loading into a silver sport utility vehicle.

[B.8] Border Patrol agents find migrants using storm drain to enter Texas illegally

September 21, 2021 (KWTX-TV - CBS DFW) Reach: 457k

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol agents responding to a hotel used for human smuggling discovered migrants using a storm drain to illegally enter the United States.

[B.9] Confined to U.S. border camp, Haitian migrants wade to Mexico for supplies

September 20, 2021 (Los Angeles Times - Molly Hennessy-Fiske) Reach: 618k

Migrants confined to a U.S. border camp say they have been forced to traverse the Rio Grande daily to buy food because they're not allowed to cook in the camp and the U.S. has failed to provide any real sustenance. The camp has grown during the last week to more than 14,000.

[B.10] CNN reporter speaks to migrants sheltering under bridge at border

September 20, 2021 (CNN) Reach: 151m

[Video] CNN's Rosa Flores visits border town Del Rio, Texas, where thousands of migrants are sleeping in the dirt in huts waiting to get processed by U.S. immigration.

[B.11] Facing possible expulsion to Haiti, some migrants leave Del Rio, Texas, encampment

September 20, 2021 (El Paso Times - Lauren Villagran) Reach: 36.8k

Some Haitians began leaving an encampment in Del Rio, Texas, on Monday, heading south for Mexico as conditions deteriorated and the Biden administration made good on its threat to expel the migrants to Haiti.

[B.12] Haitian migrants cross back into Mexico as deportation flights begin

September 20, 2021 (New York Post - Mark Moore) Reach: 47.6m

Thousands of Haitian migrants have begun streaming back across the Rio Grande River to Mexico after the Biden administration said it will step up deportation flights to return them to the Caribbean nation.

[B.13] Over 2 Dozen GOP Governors Call on Biden to Meet and Solve US Southern Border Crisis

September 20, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

In a joint letter to the White House on Monday, 26 Republican governors requested a meeting with President Biden to consider solutions to the ongoing crisis at the southern border.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] By the numbers: Haitian emigration

September 20, 2021 (Axios - Stef W. Kight) Reach: 6.4m

The number of Haitians crossing the U.S.-Mexico border had been rising even before their country's president was assassinated in July and the island was struck by an earthquake a month later.

[C.2] U.S.-Mexico Border Crisis Tear Gas Thrown at Migrants, Kids As San Ysidro Crossing Closes

September 20, 2021 (TMZ) Reach: 20.2m

Tensions are at a boiling point at the U.S.-Mexico border in California where migrants have started to clash with border agents.

Border Wall

[D.1] Abbott boosts border wall funding, calls for redistricting Texas

September 20, 2021 (Bond Buyer - Richard Williamson) Reach: 1.9k

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has nearly doubled spending on border security, including using state funds for a wall along the Rio Grande. House Bill 9, which Gov. Abbott signed Friday in Fort Worth, provides \$1.8 billion in state funding for border security over the next two years, including \$750 million for the border wall.

Travel

[E.1] U.S. land border to remain closed to Canadians, even as rules set to change for all foreign air passengers

September 21, 2021 (Grand Forks Herald - Forks Herald) Reach: 25.8k

The United States has announced that it will extend its land border closure with Canada and Mexico for another 30 days.

[E.2] Land border remains closed to visitors from Canada for another month

September 20, 2021 (Times Union - Rebekah F. Ward) Reach: 65.9k

Most foreign citizens will continue to be barred from crossing into the U.S. by land from Canada and Mexico through Oct. 21, White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Jeff Zients said on a call with reporters Monday.

[E.3] Biden to open U.S. to international air travel -- but not to Canadian drivers

September 20, 2021 (Buffalo News - Jerry Zremski) Reach: 129k

The Biden administration's de facto ban that prevents most Canadians from driving into the United States — extended into its 19th month, until Oct. 21, on Monday — now seems like a policy built on a contradiction.

[E.4] U.S. to relax travel restrictions for vaccinated foreign air travelers in November

September 20, 2021 (Reuters News)

The United States will reopen in November to air travelers from 33 countries including China, India, Brazil and most of Europe who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the White House said on Monday, easing tough pandemic-related restrictions that started early last year.

[E.5] Psaki Criticized Over Reasoning for Why Migrants Don't Need Vaccine Proof But Travelers Do

September 20, 2021 (Newsweek - Alexandra Hutzler) Reach: 24.6m

White House press secretary Jen Psaki is facing criticism over her latest comments on why migrants aren't required to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Trade

[F.1] Europe Mulls French Request to Delay Trade, Tech Talks With U.S.

September 21, 2021 (Bloomberg - Alberto Nardelli) Reach: 36.9m

The European Union is discussing a possible delay of upcoming trade talks with the U.S. following French outrage over a canceled Australian submarine contract that was scuttled in favor of a new defense pact with Washington and the U.K.

[F.2] Biden Has Bigger Priorities Than U.K. Trade Deal, Johnson Says

September 20, 2021 (Bloomberg - Kitty Donaldson) Reach: 36.9m

Joe Biden has too many domestic priorities to find time to negotiate a trade deal with the U.K., Prime Minister Boris Johnson said ahead of a meeting with the American president in Washington on Tuesday.

[F.3] Johnson accepts UK trade deal not a priority for Biden

September 20, 2021 (The Independent - Powered by Dow Jones - ANDREW WOODCOCK POLITICAL) Reach: 48.2m

Boris Johnson has accepted that the UK will not get a quick trade deal with the U.S. in an embarrassing admission as he prepares for his first White House meeting with President Biden.

[F.4] Trump sanctions on Iran decimated regime's global trade: report

September 20, 2021 (Fox Business) Reach: 13.1m

Trump administration sanctions on Iran decimated the hardline regime's trade with the world's largest economies, knocking it from \$46 billion in 2019 to \$28 billion in 2020, according to a non-public report sent by the Biden administration to Congress earlier this month.

[F.5] Homebuilder Lennar warns of supply chain constraints, shares fall

September 20, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

Lennar Corp. said on Monday it expects supply chain challenges in the homebuilding industry to continue and forecast fourth-quarter deliveries below analyst estimates.

[F.6] CBP stops shipments of counterfeit COVID-19 vaccine cards bound for Texas

September 20, 2021 (San Antonio Express-News - Antonio Express-News) Reach: 111k

CBP stopped five shipments containing a total of 1,683 counterfeit COVID-19 vaccination cards and 2,034 fake Pfizer vaccine stickers at the Port of Cincinnati since August 16, according to a news release.

[F.7] How 26,000 counterfeit products are seized and destroyed at JFK Airport

September 20, 2021 (Business Insider - Victoria Barranco) Reach: 66.8m

[Video] The sale and shipment of counterfeit goods is now a multibillion-dollar industry. The funds from counterfeits have been linked to criminal organizations and bombings. A CBP officer at JFK Airport explained how he's stopping and destroying fakes.

Workforce

[G.1] 'Extremely troubling': Investigation launched into border agents on horseback seen chasing migrants

September 20, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility has launched a formal investigation into Border Patrol agents after footage emerged showing them on horseback, menacingly using what appeared to be whips on migrants seeking asylum along the U.S.-Mexico border.

[G.2] U.S. to probe incidents involving border agents on horseback dispersing Haitians

September 20, 2021 (CBS News - Camilo Montoya-Galvez) Reach: 21.7m

DHS on Monday pledged to "swiftly" conduct an investigation into what it called "extremely troubling" footage of Border Patrol agents on horseback aggressively dispersing Haitian migrants, saying the internal probe could lead to disciplinary actions.

[G.3] CBP Officer Won't Be Charged for Carrying Gun During Rally Supporting Capitol Rioters

September 20, 2021 (Newsweek - Zoe Strozewski) Reach: 24.6m

An officer from CBP was arrested for carrying a gun during a rally at the U.S. Capitol on Saturday, but he will not face charges for the offense.

[G.4] DHS knew migrant 'disaster' was coming and did nothing: Brandon Judd

September 20, 2021 (Fox News Video) Reach: 9.1m

[Video] National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd criticized President Biden's immigration agenda on 'The Story.'

Opinion

[I.1] Immigration dysfunction

September 21, 2021 (The Washington Post (Print)) Reach: 356k

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Washington Post wrote that "The sight of federal officers from the Western hemisphere's wealthiest country corralling and deporting migrants from the hemisphere's poorest one is a wrenching tableau, and nothing for Americans to be proud of."

[I.2] EDITORIAL: How America got to the Haitian migrant crisis in Del Rio and how we get out

September 20, 2021 (Houston Chronicle) Reach: 303k

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Houston Chronicle wrote that "The solution [to the migrant issue] that appeals to many is a perfectly tuned balance of security, efficiency and humanity,

which is nothing but a pipe dream until this country passes comprehensive immigration reform and provides more resources, such as immigration judges, that would allow people to have their claims promptly considered and either receive relief or be deported."

[I.3] U.S. shouldn't punish Haitians at the border. This country is to blame for their misery | Opinion

September 20, 2021 (Miami Herald - Brian Concannon) Reach: 126k

In this opinion piece, Brian Concannon wrote that "The Biden administration's response to last week's arrival of Haitians in Del Rio, Texas — a massive, illegal expulsion airlift — may reduce some criticism from immigration opponents, but it will not reduce the arrivals of Haitians at our borders."

[I.4] What one photo from the border tells us about the evolving migrant crisis

September 20, 2021 (The Washington Post - Philip Bump) Reach: 356k

In this opinion piece, Philip Bump wrote that "Photographer Paul Ratje was standing in the Rio Grande when he captured a remarkable image: a Border Patrol agent mounted on horseback, grabbing the shirt of a migrant unlucky enough to be within reach. Every detail is evocative and revealing. Nor is it possible to ignore the historical echoes suggested by a White officer of the law apprehending a fleeing Black man."

Immigration

[J.1] U.S. Flies Haitian Migrants Home in Bid to Manage Del Rio Border Crisis; As authorities attempt to regain ...

September 20, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Alicia A. Caldwell) Reach: 37.8m

The Biden administration has begun sending many of the approximately 16,000 migrants who have overwhelmed this small city in recent days to their home country of Haiti, including some who haven't lived in the impoverished island nation for years.

[J.2] Migrants on school buses? Texas town feels caught in the middle

September 21, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

Many residents of the Texan border town of Del Rio have been saying for months that they feel abandoned by the federal government as border arrests hit 20-year highs.

[J.3] Church leaders saddened by Senate official's ruling against immigration reform

September 21, 2021 (Crux - John Lavenburg) Reach: 279k

Now that passing immigration reform measures in the budget reconciliation package may be off the table, immigration advocates fear a divided Congress won't stray from party lines to pass immigration reform through traditional means.

[J.4] Local organizations work to help Haitian migrants at the border

September 21, 2021 (KRON-TV - Dan Thorn) Reach: 1.7m

Thousands of migrants, most of them from Haiti, are waiting for their chance to seek asylum in the U.S. and escape from poverty, violence and instability in their home countries. Those migrants are

now being forced out in a massive expulsion effort from the U.S. government, which says our border is not open, but many immigration advocates feel differently.

[J.5] U.S. releases some Haitian immigrants in Texas

September 21, 2021 (Texas News Today) Reach: 307k

U.S. immigration officials released dozens of Haitians from detention on Monday in Del Rio, Texas, a small border town that has been talked about due to the influx of immigrants wanting to enter the United States.

[J.6] Haitian journey to Texas border starts in South America

September 21, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

Nearly all Haitians reach the U.S. border on a well-worn route: Fly to Brazil, Chile or elsewhere in South America.

[J.7] Mexico Cracks Down on Migrants Amid Haitian Surge

September 21, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

Authorities in Mexico have started blocking buses of migrants from reaching communities on the U.S.-Mexico border and plan to start deporting Haitians back to their home country.

[J.8] Haitian immigrants overtake Border Patrol bus, South Texas sheriff says

September 21, 2021 (KIII-TV - Michael Gibson) Reach: 211k

A group of migrants was involved in an escape attempt aboard a border patrol transport bus Monday afternoon, according to Kleberg County Sheriff Richard Kirkpatrick.

[J.9] 20,000 Haitians gather in Colombia for possible migration to U.S.

September 20, 2021 (NBCNEWS.com - Julia Ainsley) Reach: 41.0m

U.S. officials are tracking large groups of Haitians in Latin America, including more than 20,000 in Colombia, who like the thousands now massed on the Texas border may soon try to reach the U.S., according to an internal document obtained by NBC News.

[J.10] Record levels of unaccompanied children cross U.S.-Mexico Border

September 20, 2021 (Deming Headlight - Deming Headlight) Reach: 10.6k

The U.S. Border Patrol, El Paso Sector, has encountered record levels of unaccompanied children crossing the U.S.-Mexico border this fiscal year to date.

[J.11] EXPLAINER: Biden uses Trump-era tool against Haiti migrants

September 20, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The Biden administration is relying on a contested Trump-era policy as it disperses thousands of Haitian migrants along the U.S.-Mexico border in and around the small South Texas city of Del Rio.

[J.12] The Biden Administration Is Fighting In Court To Keep A Trump-Era Immigration Policy

September 20, 2021 (National Public Radio - Scott Neuman) Reach: 46.1m

As the Biden administration moves quickly to expel migrants camped under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, its plan depends on a controversial Trump-era policy put in place in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic to speed up removals.

[J.13] Dems, backers face uphill immigration path after Senate blow

September 21, 2021 (Associated Press - By ALAN FRAM) Reach: 10.4m

Senate Democrats launched an uphill fight to rescue their drive to help millions of immigrants remain legally in the U.S., their pathway unclear and the uncertainty exposing tensions between party leaders and progressive groups demanding bold results.

DHS

[K.1] DHS asks Pentagon to help move migrants from Del Rio, Texas

September 20, 2021 (The Hill - Ellen Mitchell) Reach: 19.0m

DHS has asked the Pentagon to help move migrants awaiting asylum processing in Del Rio, Texas, to other facilities, the Department of Defense's top spokesman said Monday.

[K.2] DHS chief pushes back on claim whips used against Haitian migrants

September 20, 2021 (New York Post - Samuel Chamberlain) Reach: 47.6m

DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas denied Monday that Border Patrol agents used whips to prevent Haitian migrants from crossing the Rio Grande to reach an encampment set up under a Texas bridge where thousands of other migrants have gathered.

[K.3] DHS chief says agency will continue repatriating Haitians arriving at U.S.-Mexico border

September 20, 2021 (Miami Herald - Jacqueline Charles) Reach: 126k

Haitian migrants continued to wade through the Rio Grande on Monday to cross into the United States from Mexico as DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas traveled to this border city to warn that repatriations will continue despite a recent court ruling.

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/21/2021 9:17:36 PM
To: MILLER, TROY A (b) (6), (b) (7)(C); HUFFMAN, BENJAMINE C (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: Del Rio PAG
Attachments: DRAFT - DHS fact sheet on supporting Del Rio migrant population (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).docx; PAG Horse Patrol Incident Sept 20 2021 (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).docx

Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner,

Attached PAG Horse Patrol Incident is has been sent ot DHS for clearance; attached for your reference.

In addition, the other PAG/Fact Sheet is the current fact sheet working it's way through DHS now – I also asked OPA about a message to the workforce about this and (b) (6) at DHS is suggesting we do something like that starting with the core messaging in the PAG we sent for approval. AC (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) will get more details on what she's thinking because we also have a video script for B1 to address the workforce. I just think with all the coverage on the news etc we need to hear from leadership. More to come.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Command Suite Executive Staff
DHS/CBP
Cel (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
✉:

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 4:34 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: RE: Del Rio PAG

Yes, attached is the latest fact sheet draft that's also working its way through DHS. It focuses on the care aspect, not the violence we're encountering, and I think we'll have to address that separately. To be clear, I absolutely agree we need to address it, and as Chief pointed out, it's getting out through (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) anyway.

On the second point (b) (6) at DHS is suggesting we do something like that starting with the core messaging in the PAG we sent for approval. I'll get more details on what she's thinking because we also have a video script for B1 to address the workforce.

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 3:04 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: Del Rio PAG

AC,

It is our understanding that you have USBP's input on the overall Del Rio PAG. For ease of reference, attached is the latest SITREP that highlights all the lines of effort for Del Rio. (b) (5)

(b) (5)

Additionally, can we look into developing an internal message to the workforce acknowledging the ongoing situation in Del Rio, yesterday's incident, and aC1's understanding that everyone is doing their very best in a difficult situation. I feel this type of internal communication is needed to help address workforce morale.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Command Suite Executive Staff

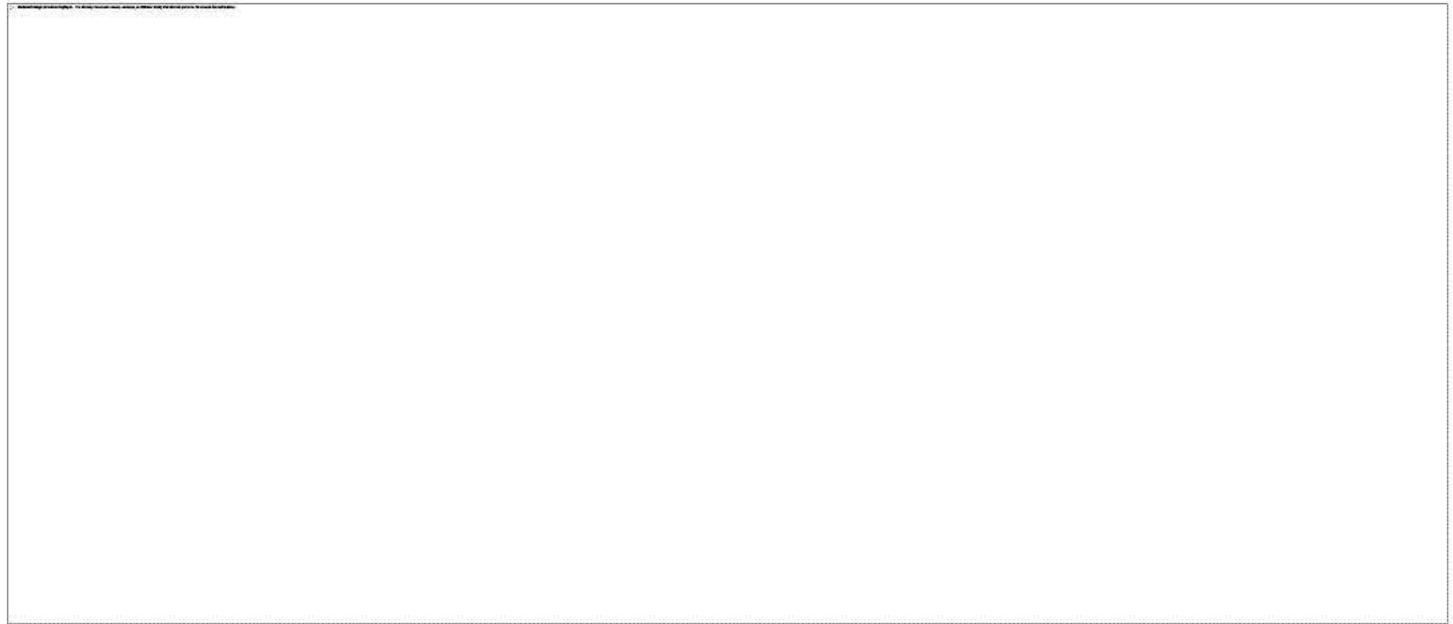
DHS/CBP

Cell (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

☒:

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 3/21/2022 10:08:54 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: March 21, 2022



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | TRAVEL | TRADE |
WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS |

March 21, 2022

Executive Summary

Media outlets over the weekend reported that the Biden administration is rescinding Title 42 and that many Russians trying to enter the U.S. are not being allowed into the country while Ukrainians trickling into the U.S. are receiving a warm welcome.

Newsweek reported that DHS is discontinuing a policy expanded under former President Trump that called for the expedited removal of some migrants who were already in the United States. The document to be published Monday in the Federal Registry comes as hundreds of thousands of migrants continue to try to cross the border every month. The expanded program allowed for the expedited removal of any noncitizen who was encountered anywhere in the country.

Meanwhile, Reuters reported that Russians trying to enter the United States at the Mexican border are frustrated they are not getting in like Ukrainians are, despite leaving their homeland over the invasion of Ukraine. U.S. officials have let dozens of Ukrainians through this week but Russians remain in limbo, prompting some to camp on the pavement alongside a barbed-wire border fence, defying warnings from Mexican authorities to leave.

In other news, the New York Times reported that of the more than 3 million Ukrainians who have fled their war-torn country, very few have come to the United States. The absence of a clear signal from Washington on how many it is willing to accept and questions about whether Europeans will get preferential treatment over refugees from Asia, Africa and the Middle East have created deep

uncertainty, leaving displaced Ukrainians to make their way to the border and hope for help from private sponsors.

Top News

[A.1] Biden Rescinds Title 42, Trump-Era Rule for Expedited Removal of Migrants

March 18, 2022 (Newsweek - Katie Wermus) Reach: 19.9m

DHS is discontinuing a policy expanded under former President Trump that called for the expedited removal of some migrants who were already in the United States. DHS said in a statement to Newsweek that the agency "conducted a thorough review of the July 2019 expedited removal designation," and that recession "was consistent with the Department's need to prioritize its limited enforcement resources ... by utilizing expedited removal as a border enforcement tool for certain recent entrants." The document to be published Monday in the Federal Registry comes as hundreds of thousands of migrants continue to try to cross the border every month. The expanded program allowed for the expedited removal of any noncitizen who was encountered anywhere in the country.

[A.2] Stuck at Mexico border, anti-war Russians sweat their futures as Ukrainians enter U.S.

March 19, 2022 (Reuters - Daina Beth Solomon) Reach: 49.3m

Russians trying to enter the United States at the Mexican border are frustrated they are not getting in like Ukrainians are, despite leaving their homeland over the invasion of Ukraine. U.S. officials have let dozens of Ukrainians through this week but Russians remain in limbo, prompting some to camp on the pavement alongside a barbed-wire border fence, defying warnings from Mexican authorities to leave. More than 3 million Ukrainians have become refugees, according to the United Nations, most of them in countries bordering Ukraine. Thousands of Russians have also left their country, according to media reports. Some Ukrainians crossing in Tijuana have been granted permission to stay in the United States for a year.

[A.3] Ukrainians Are Trickling Into the U.S. to Warm Welcomes

March 19, 2022 (The New York Times - Miriam Jordan) Reach: 181m

Of the more than three million Ukrainians who have fled their war-torn country, very few have come to the United States. The absence of a clear signal from Washington on how many it is willing to accept and questions about whether Europeans will get preferential treatment over refugees from Asia, Africa and the Middle East have created deep uncertainty, leaving displaced Ukrainians to make their way to the border and hope for help from private sponsors. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken has said that the U.S. priority is to help European countries that are inundated with refugees, most of whom may prefer to stay in Europe, close to family and their home country. But there is growing pressure on the Biden administration to find direct pathways for displaced Ukrainians to come to the United States.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] 115 Migrants, 3 Unaccompanied Children Found in Fleeing Tractor-Trailer in Texas near Border

March 20, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Laredo Sector Border Patrol agents interdicted a human smuggling incident involving a tractor-trailer. After the driver attempted to flee, agents eventually found 115 migrants, including three children, locked inside the trailer.

[B.2] 100 Migrants from 10 Countries Apprehended in Single Arizona Border Crossing

March 19, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Yuma Sector Border Patrol agents apprehended a group of 100 migrants who illegally crossed the border earlier this week. The migrants came to the U.S. from 10 different countries.

[B.3] Multiple Migrant Groups Busted near Border in Remote West Texas Sector

March 19, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 4.9m

Big Bend Sector Border Patrol agents apprehended multiple migrant groups attempting to sneak into the U.S. interior with being arrested. Agents teamed up with Texas law enforcement to make arrests of camouflage-wearing migrants hiding in the brush.

[B.4] 20 undocumented migrants wearing cammo found walking on ranch at border

March 20, 2022 (KABB-TV - Andrea Carden) Reach: 309k

A group of 20 undocumented migrants wearing camouflage clothing was found walking on a ranch near the border. Border Patrol agents found the migrants on Sunday, March 13, walking in the brush on a ranch west of Laredo. Officials followed the foot trail on horseback and came upon the large group.

[B.5] Affidavit: EMS worker tried to smuggle migrants with ambulance

March 20, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Zach Davis) Reach: 115k

A man attempted to use an ambulance to smuggle migrants through a border checkpoint, including one he claimed was posing as a local medical patient under the name "Jessica Cisneros," according to an arrest affidavit.

[B.6] VALLEY BRIEFS: U.S. citizen caught allegedly smuggling 8 migrants

March 19, 2022 (Imperial Valley Press - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 69.4k

El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents conducting anti-smuggling operations arrested a U.S. citizen allegedly attempting to transport eight undocumented individuals on March 12, according to CBP release.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Migrant surge continues in Florida Keys. More than 50 land over last four days

March 20, 2022 (Miami Herald - Omar Rodríguez Ortiz) Reach: 171k

The surge of migrants braving the sea for a shot at freedom in South Florida continues with 56 people landing in the Florida Keys alone over the last four days. Three groups of 15 Cuban migrants were detained in the Keys in less than 24 hours, CBP Division Chief said Sunday night in an email.

[C.2] 2 More Groups Of Migrants Reach Florida Keys

March 20, 2022 (CBS Miami) Reach: 649k

Border Patrol's Miami Sector reports two more groups of migrants have reached the Florida Keys. According to Chief Patrol Agent Walter Slosar, agents apprehended 10 migrants from Cuba.

[C.3] 15 Cuban migrants were on an island east of Key West, Customs and Border Patrol said

March 18, 2022 (The Miami Herald - Powered by Dow Jones - David J. Neal) Reach: 4.8m

For the second consecutive day and the fourth time in six days, a group of migrants from Haiti or Cuba reached the Keys Saturday.

[C.4] Third group of migrants in a week lands in the Keys near Islamorada

March 18, 2022 (South Florida Sun-Sentinel - Powered by Dow Jones - David Goodhue) Reach: 1.9m

For the third time in a week, migrants arrived on the shores of the Florida Keys, according to the U.S. Border Patrol.

[C.5] Abandoned 35-foot panga boat washes ashore in San Clemente

March 19, 2022 (The Mercury News - Laylan Connelly) Reach: 4.0m

A 35-foot panga boat washed ashore in north San Clemente early on Saturday, March 19, with authorities investigating it as likely evidence of human smuggling. The empty boat was pushed into the shore break as passersby on the beach path and surfers on the sand stopped at the unusual sight.

[C.6] How are migrants traveling to South Florida? The pictures of their boats tell the story

March 19, 2022 (Florida Keys Keynoter - Florida Keys Keynoter)

Boats barely seaworthy and often homemade — many still just offshore, beached or wedged into the mangroves of the Keys — serve as floating monuments to the desperation of Cubans and Haitians escaping their homeland for South Florida.

[C.7] Sky Harbor airport sees more migrants; Nonprofits working to address transportation

March 20, 2022 (The Arizona Republic - Powered by Dow Jones - Rafael Carranza) Reach: 3.9m

Transportation problems continue to cause bottlenecks and delays in Arizona as federal immigration agencies and community nonprofits work to release migrants and asylum seekers arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Travel

[E.1] How Does The US Global Entry Scheme Work?

March 19, 2022 (Simple Flying - Mark Finlay) Reach: 3.9m

Now may be a good time to sign up for the U.S. Global Entry Scheme. The U.S. Global Entry Scheme is a CBP program that allows pre-cleared low-risk individuals to enter the United States without speaking with a CBP officer.

[E.2] Higgins urges full reopening of border

March 18, 2022 (Niagara Gazette - Niagara Rick Pfeiffer) Reach: 11.0k

With Canada preparing to drop COVID-19 testing requirements for visitors to enter the country, Congressman Brian Higgins (D-Buffalo/Niagara Falls) is renewing his call for the northern border to completely re-open.

[E.3] Is travel back?

March 21, 2022 (MarketWatch - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 23.0m

Many people are curious when travel will come back. This is a difficult question to answer because in many ways it already has — travel is nearly back to pre-pandemic levels and has been for months. The number of passengers who entered TSA checkpoints in January and February of 2022 was down only 19% from the same period in 2019.

Trade

[F.1] Germany calls for new talks on transatlantic trade deal

March 20, 2022 (Reuters) Reach: 49.3m

Germany's finance minister has called for fresh talks over a free trade agreement between the European Union and the United States, a newspaper reported on Sunday, aiming to revive discussions halted by former President Trump.

[F.2] Fresh pressure over steel tariffs as Trade Secretary packs bag for crunch US talks

March 18, 2022 (Mirror.co.uk - Powered by Dow Jones - Ben Glaze) Reach: 38.2m

Cabinet Minister Anne-Marie Trevelyan is due to meet her American counterpart in Baltimore this week -and Labour wants her to win a reprieve for British steelmakers.

[F.3] U.S. Importers Are Trying to Ship Around Potential Labor Disruption; The existing contract with longshore ...

March 20, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Berger) Reach: 35.1m

U.S. importers are already starting to reset their supply chains to avoid disruptions ahead of potentially contentious contract talks this summer between West Coast dockworkers and the companies that manage the flow of goods through ports.

[F.4] Manufacturers With Ties to Russia Struggle to Unwind; Russian-linked motorcycle, cable makers in the U.S. ...

March 20, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Austen Hufford) Reach: 35.1m

Manufacturers with Russian ties are working to figure out how to survive, after sanctions leveled on Russia over recent weeks curb the flow of goods and money between the country and Western markets.

[F.5] Americans Can Eat Caviar Guilt-Free — None Of It Comes From Russia

March 19, 2022 (Forbes.com - Powered by Dow Jones - Chloe Sorvino) Reach: 58.3m

Punishments against Putin's war are now clamping down on products like caviar and vodka that once were considered Russian delicacies in the U.S. but went dosvedanya — goodbye — a long time ago.

[F.6] Chip Sanctions Challenge Russia's Tech Ambitions; Losing access to some top-end chips from Asia over the ...

March 19, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jiyoung Sohn) Reach: 35.1m

An international tech blockade threatens to deprive Russia of sophisticated semiconductors needed to power advanced weaponry and cutting-edge technologies like 5G, artificial intelligence and robotics, experts say.

[F.7] India's oil imports from US to rise, amid criticism for Russian purchases

March 19, 2022 (Reuters - Sanjeev Miglani) Reach: 49.3m

India's oil imports from the United States will rise by 11% this year, officials said on Saturday as the severely energy-deficient country looks to secure supplies from producers around the world, including heavily sanctioned Russia.

[F.8] US looking for world's help in stopping shipments to Russia

March 18, 2022 (Chicago Tribune - Powered by Dow Jones - Ana Swanson) Reach: 7.6m

The United States, in partnership with its allies, has hit Russia with some of the most sweeping export restrictions ever imposed, barring companies across the world from sending advanced technology in order to penalize President Vladimir Putin for his invasion of Ukraine.

[F.9] U.S. warns servicing or refueling some Russian-owned planes may violate trade restrictions.

March 18, 2022 (The New York Times - Ana Swanson) Reach: 181m

The Commerce Department said on Friday that it had identified 100 commercial and private aircraft that had violated U.S. export controls by flying into Russia and that their owners, operators and servicers were at risk of substantial jail time, fines, loss of export privileges or other restrictions.

[F.10] Here Are the U.S. Top 10 Imports From Russia as Tariffs Are Set to Rise

March 18, 2022 (MarketWatch) Reach: 23.0m

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill on Thursday to suspend normal trade relations with Russia and its ally Belarus, opening the door for large tariff increases on imports of key commodities and raw materials.

[F.11] Pressed to choose sides on Ukraine, China trade favors the West

March 21, 2022 (Reuters - David Lawder) Reach: 49.3m

President Biden's warning of "consequences" for any aid China may give to Russia's Ukraine war effort could force Chinese President Xi Jinping to choose between a longstanding lucrative trade relationship with the West and a growing strategic partnership with Moscow.

Workforce

[G.1] Biden administration reportedly asking for 'volunteers' to help border patrol

March 20, 2022 (Fox News Channel - Fox Report Weekend) Reach: 7.8m

[Video] Victor Davis Hanson analyzed ideological reasons behind the sudden shift for volunteers to help the border patrol.

[G.2] The Homeland Security Department Would See a Staffing Surge Under a New Bipartisan Bill

March 19, 2022 (Government Executive)

A new bipartisan measure would require DHS to increase its hiring, seeking to reverse years of understaffing at U.S. ports of entry. The Securing America's Ports of Entry Act would require CBP to hire at least 600 additional officers per year until the agency meets its staffing goals.

[G.3] Former Border Patrol Chief: Chaos at Border Putting Cartels in Control, Leading to More Human Trafficking

March 19, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 11.8m

The chaotic influx of illegal immigrants into the United States at the southern border has given cartels the green light to human trafficking, sex trafficking, and creating routes to funnel lethal drugs, says former Border Patrol Chief Rodney Scott.

[G.4] Border Patrol union fears agents getting railroaded in DHS probe of 'whipping' Haitian migrants

March 19, 2022 (The Washington Times - Stephen Dinan) Reach: 2.4m

With the investigation into the alleged "whipping" of Haitian refugees dragging on, several agents remain sidelined from field duty and fellow agents fear the department is setting them up as fall guys to fulfill President Biden's demand for someone "to pay."

Opinion

[I.1] Opinion: Biden must stop using 'public health' excuse to immediately expel migrants

March 19, 2022 (Houston Chronicle: Web Edition - Powered by Dow Jones - Medha D. Makhoulf) Reach: 13.0m

In this opinion piece, Medha D. Makhoulf wrote that "The Title 42 order is a stain on the Biden administration's promise to revitalize the nation's commitment to advancing human rights. Media reports on Saturday suggest the administration is listening. If true, that's welcome news."

[I.2] Biden's 'cloak of woke' trade policy

March 19, 2022 (The Hill) Reach: 15.8m

In this opinion piece, Jerry Haar wrote that "if the United States is to maintain, strengthen and expand its role as a champion of American competitiveness, it needs to pursue an agenda emphasizing both market openness and trade law enforcement; sensible industrial policies; innovation and entrepreneurship; consumer-centric policies; and skills upgrading and workforce development. Nothing less will do."

[I.3] EDITORIAL: New Guard leadership is not enough. Abbott should scrap Operation Lone Star.

March 18, 2022 (Houston Chronicle) Reach: 303k

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the Houston Chronicle wrote that "Relying on a border wall being constructed ad hoc on private property and state-owned land, as well as thousands of National Guardsmen and Department of Public Safety troopers milling around South Texas, the [Lone Star] operation revealed yet again that [Texas Gov.] Abbott is merely a politician running for re-election, not a public servant focused on solving a particularly knotty problem. In other words, a poseur."

Immigration

[J.1] Biden admin considering ways to fast-track bringing Ukrainian refugees to US

March 18, 2022 (ABC News - Conor Finnegan) Reach: 23.0m

The Biden administration is considering ways to fast-track bringing Ukrainian refugees to the U.S. amid the historic surge across Europe of Ukrainians fleeing Russia's war, according to U.S. officials.

[J.2] Ukrainian Americans struggle to get fleeing relatives into United States

March 20, 2022 (The Washington Post (Print) - Maria Sacchetti) Reach: 838k

A trickle of Ukrainians is making it to the United States to reunite with relatives, for medical care, or on tourist visas, even as many of them remain torn between craving safety for their families and feeling drawn to the mission of defeating the Russians.

[J.3] Ukraine refugees: Why the US has allowed so few

March 19, 2022 (CNN International) Reach: 35.5m

Many Ukrainians have fled their country since Russia's invasion with nearly 2 million pouring into neighboring Poland and hundreds of thousands going to other nearby countries. But only the smallest trickle has come to the U.S. as refugees. Why haven't more been allowed? It's a story of red tape and a broken immigration system.

[J.4] DHS will 'address an individual's claim' after Ukrainian refugees reportedly turned away at border

March 18, 2022 (New York Post - Callie Patteson) Reach: 51.3m

Ukrainian refugees seeking asylum in the U.S. will not be turned away, DHS Secretary Mayorkas declared after reports emerged that border officials were using the Title 42 public health authority to refuse entry to Eastern European refugees along the southern border.

[J.5] Jen Psaki says Ukrainian refugees are stuck at the border because they need to file PAPERWORK: Charity sets up website for Americans to host families

March 18, 2022 (Daily Mail - Stephen M. Lepore) Reach: 85.5m

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, when questioned as to why the United States has let in just seven Ukrainian refugees compared to the hundreds of thousands welcomed by other countries, claimed it was because they needed to file for the proper programs.

[J.6] Russians Are Blocked At Us Border, Ukrainians Are Admitted

March 18, 2022 (Associated Press - ELLIOT SPAGAT) Reach: 432k

About three dozen would-be asylum seekers from Russia found themselves blocked from entering the U.S. on Friday while a group of Ukrainians flashed passports and were escorted across the border.

[J.7] As Ukrainians quickly cross U.S. border, Russians find barriers

March 18, 2022 (PBS) Reach: 11.2m

About three dozen would-be asylum seekers from Russia found themselves blocked from entering the U.S. on Friday while a group of Ukrainians flashed passports and were escorted across the border.

[J.8] Russian siblings denied U.S. entry despite having legal documentation

March 19, 2022 (KXTV-TV - Regina Yurrita) Reach: 908k

Russian families argue that immigration officials are turning them away, even after showing proper documentation and not posing a health risk at the southern border.

[J.9] Russians opposed to war seeking asylum in States

March 18, 2022 (The San Francisco Chronicle - Powered by Dow Jones - Deepa Fernandes) Reach: 2.6m

A group of Russians, 19 adults and five children camped out at the San Ysidro border gate, hoping to be allowed into the United States to stake claims of asylum.

[J.10] Ukrainians only: Racial disparities in U.S. border policies grow more obvious

March 18, 2022 (The San Diego Union-Tribune: Web Edition - Powered by Dow Jones - Kate Morrissey) Reach: 2.4m

Three Ukrainians — a married couple and a man traveling alone — walked up to the San Ysidro Port of Entry earlier this week to request asylum. In doing so, they walked past a group of roughly 25 Russians, mostly families, who had been waiting overnight or longer on the sidewalk in the hopes of doing the same thing after fleeing the wrath of the same man — Russian President Vladimir Putin.

[J.11] EXCLUSIVE: Border Patrol Facilities in West Texas Again Exceed Capacity

March 18, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 4.9m

A source within CBP says Border Patrol detention facilities within the Del Rio Sector of Texas are again dangerously overcrowded. On Friday, one facility, designed to hold 500 migrants, contains at least 2,000 mostly Cubans. The typically single adult detainees are being processed and most likely will be released into the United States, according to the source.

[J.12] Watchdog recommends relocation of detainees from ICE facility, citing unsanitary conditions and staff shortages

March 18, 2022 (CBS News - Camilo Montoya-Galvez) Reach: 22.9m

A federal government watchdog on Friday recommended the immediate relocation of all immigrant detainees from a for-profit ICE detention center in New Mexico, citing unsanitary conditions, staff shortages and security lapses detected during an inspection.

[J.13] U.S. Immigration Agency, Its Watchdog Spar on Detention Facility

March 18, 2022 (Bloomberg BNA - Bloomberg Law) Reach: 774k

DHS's watchdog is urging the agency to shut down a New Mexico immigration detention facility, citing "egregious conditions" that the agency disputes.

[J.14] Haitian migrants flock to Florida

March 19, 2022 (The Arizona Daily Star - Powered by Dow Jones - FREIDA FRISARO) Reach: 756k

Haitian migrants are reaching Florida's shores in large numbers as human smuggling operations ramp up, outpacing last year's migration waves.

[J.15] Title 42 anniversary marks headaches for Biden, stalemate with lawmakers

March 20, 2022 (The Hill - Rafael Bernal) Reach: 15.8m

As the Biden administration oversees the two-year anniversary of Title 42, it has given little sign it intends to lift the Trump-era policy that cites the pandemic as a reason to summarily expel asylum-seekers, even amid increasing pressure from members of its own party.

[J.16] Mexico's migration institute suspends operations in Tapachula after 'violent' incident

March 19, 2022 (Reuters) Reach: 49.3m

Mexico's National Migration Institute said on Friday it has temporarily suspended operations in the city of Tapachula, in Chiapas, after some staff were injured in what it called a "violent" incident involving migrants.

DHS

[K.1] D.C. Digest: Lankford, other Republicans continue to blast Biden border chief

March 20, 2022 (Tulsa World - Randy Krehbiel) Reach: 85.4k

U.S. Sen. James Lankford and several other Republicans continued their attacks on DHS Secretary Mayorkas and the Biden administration's immigration policies, and in particular, their handling of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 2/2/2022 11:16:07 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: February 2, 2022



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | OF INTEREST |

February 2, 2022

Executive Summary

The Washington Post reported that coronavirus infections in federal immigration detention centers have surged to record highs, increasing pressure on the Biden administration from advocates to release migrants or at least ensure that they are given booster shots. ICE officials have said most detainees are new arrivals apprehended at the southwest border and many are infected before being booked into custody. But medical experts and lawyers said the virus is also spreading inside the facilities and that booster shots are not widely available.

Meanwhile, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported that asylum seekers in the recently reinstated "Remain in Mexico" program at the San Diego-Tijuana border crossed north for court hearings for the first time on Tuesday. Their introduction to U.S. immigration court was marred by technological snafus and general confusion on the part of officials about procedures for the program's reboot with added complications from the ongoing pandemic — as well as ongoing issues that were apparent in the program's earlier version.

In other news, Reuters reported that a USTR official said on Tuesday that China has failed to meet its commitments under a two-year "Phase 1" trade deal that expired at the end of 2021, and discussions are continuing with Beijing on the matter. In the deal signed in January 2020, China pledged to increase purchases of U.S. farm and manufactured goods, energy and services by \$200 billion above 2017 levels during 2020 and 2021. Through November, China had met only about 60% of that goal, according to trade data compiled by Peterson Institute for International Economics.

Top News

[A.1] With covid surging in detention centers, advocates push to release migrants

February 2, 2022 (The Washington Post (Print) - Maria Sacchetti) Reach: 356k

Coronavirus infections in federal immigration detention centers have surged to record highs, increasing pressure on the Biden administration from advocates to release migrants or at least ensure that they are given booster shots. More than 3,100 detainees were fighting infections late last week, about 14 percent of the detained population and well past the peak of 2,100 last May, according to the nonprofit Vera Institute of Justice, which tracks the issue. ICE officials have said most detainees are new arrivals apprehended at the southwest border and many are infected before being booked into custody, where they are tested, quarantined and offered medical care, including vaccines. But medical experts and lawyers said the virus is also spreading inside the facilities and that booster shots are not widely available. The ACLU filed a new lawsuit this week seeking booster shots for five immigrants at risk of death because of the virus. The immigrants said they asked for booster shots and were either denied or ignored.

[A.2] 'Remain in Mexico' hearings restart in San Diego with technological hurdles

February 1, 2022 (San Diego Union-Tribune - Kate Morrissey) Reach: 206k

Asylum seekers in the recently reinstated "Remain in Mexico" program at the San Diego-Tijuana border crossed north for court hearings for the first time on Tuesday. Their introduction to U.S. immigration court was marred by technological snafus and general confusion on the part of officials about procedures for the program's reboot with added complications from the ongoing pandemic — as well as ongoing issues that were apparent in the program's earlier version. Immigration Judge Guy Grande, who heard some of the hearings, recognized on the record in a hearing the "logistical problems this program continues to present." Court staff struggled to set up a videoconference for one of the courtrooms, which had limited attendance under COVID-19 protocols. Once it was set up, the audio glitched at times, slowing down the proceedings. Transportation guards did not know at first where they were supposed to take asylum seekers who needed to receive a special screening because they told the judges that they were afraid to be in Mexico.

[A.3] U.S. trade official says China failed to meet 'Phase 1' commitments

February 1, 2022 (Reuters - Andrea Shalal) Reach: 37.3m

China has failed to meet its commitments under a two-year "Phase 1" trade deal that expired at the end of 2021, and discussions are continuing with Beijing on the matter, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Sarah Bianchi said on Tuesday. In the deal signed by former President Trump in January 2020, China pledged to increase purchases of U.S. farm and manufactured goods, energy and services by \$200 billion above 2017 levels during 2020 and 2021. Through November, China had met only about 60% of that goal, according to trade data compiled by Peterson Institute for International Economics senior fellow Chad Bown. The U.S. Census Bureau is expected to release final 2021 trade data for goods and services on Feb. 8, which will provide specifics on the shortfall.

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] Rollovers and bailouts injure migrants who led South Texas border agents on chases

February 1, 2022 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 181k

Several Border Patrol vehicle pursuits have resulted in bailouts and rollovers involving migrants and smugglers in the past few days in South Texas, CBP reports.

[B.2] Border Patrol agents disrupt human smuggling attempts

February 1, 2022 (ValleyCentral.com) Reach: 299k

The Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol agents disrupted three migrant smuggling attempts that resulted in 16 arrests.

[B.3] Exclusive: Group of 170 Mostly Nicaraguan Migrants Cross Border into Texas

February 1, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.4m

In one large group, more than 170 migrants crossed the Rio Grande near the small West Texas community of Normandy. The group crossed the river early Monday morning and quickly surrendered to the Border Patrol after walking through a Pecan orchard.

[B.4] EXCLUSIVE: Large Migrant Family Rescued by Texas National Guard at West Texas Border Crossing

February 1, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.4m

Texas National Guardsmen working border security along the Rio Grande border with Mexico rescued a migrant family from drowning.

[B.5] Yuma Sector Border Patrol agents rescue two migrants inside canal

February 1, 2022 (KYMA-TV - Jacqueline Aguilar) Reach: 245k

Two migrants from a group of six who jumped into the Salinity Canal were rescued Sunday by Yuma Sector Border Patrol agents.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] CBP officers seize more than \$195K destined to Nuevo Laredo

February 2, 2022 (Laredo Morning Times - Cesar Rodriguez) Reach: 12.2k

A man was arrested for attempting to smuggle more than \$195,000 out of the country via a Laredo international bridge, states an arrest affidavit.

[C.2] U.S. Customs seizes 243 pounds of pork bologna at El Paso land ports

February 1, 2022 (Deming Headlight - Headlight staff reports) Reach: 26.8k

CBP agriculture specialists assigned to the Paso Del Norte and Ysleta border crossings seized 243 pounds of prohibited pork bologna on two separate unrelated incidents.

Border Wall

[D.1] Texas Butterfly Park To Close Indefinitely As Conspiracy Theorists Intensify Attacks

February 1, 2022 (HuffPost - HuffPost Josephine HarveyReporter) Reach: 24.0m

A South Texas butterfly sanctuary will close indefinitely due to safety concerns after it was repeatedly targeted by right-wing conspiracy theorists who baselessly accused it of aiding human traffickers. The butterfly conservatory pushed back against Trump administration efforts to erect sections of a U.S.-Mexico border wall near its 100-acre nature preserve in Mission, Texas.

Trade

[F.1] Canada Lumber Set to Pay Less U.S. Duties as Trade Spat Drags On

February 1, 2022 (Bloomberg - Jen Skerritt) Reach: 35.5m

The U.S. is setting duties on Canadian softwood lumber that would effectively lower the punitive tariffs on most producers as the long-simmering trade dispute drags on.

[F.2] U.S. engaged in 'robust' talks with Kenya, more to say in coming weeks - USTR

February 1, 2022 (Reuters) Reach: 37.3m

The U.S. government is engaging in robust talks with Kenya as part of its drive to expand equitable and inclusive U.S. trade investment on the African continent, Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Sarah Bianchi said on Tuesday.

[F.3] Business News: FTC to Review Activision Acquisition

February 1, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Brent Kendall) Reach: 30.9m

Microsoft Corp.'s proposed acquisition of Activision Blizzard Inc. will be reviewed in the U.S. by the Federal Trade Commission, a person familiar with the matter said, placing the fate of the roughly \$75 billion deal in the hands of an agency whose leader questioned acquisitions by technology companies.

[F.4] \$55,000 in illegally imported erectile dysfunction pills seized in Missouri, feds say

February 1, 2022 (Charlotte Observer - Mariah Rush) Reach: 126k

Shipments containing thousands of erectile dysfunction pills were seized over the course of two days in St. Louis, Missouri, customs officials say. According to a Feb. 1 news release, CBP officials stopped three shipments on Jan. 29 and 30.

[F.5] 'Global Criminal Enterprise': More Counterfeit Driver's Licenses From China Seized In Memphis 'Daily' As Fake IDs On The Rise

February 1, 2022 (The Daily Wire - Leif Mahieu) Reach: 6.1m

According to CBP, fake American driver's licenses, typically shipped from southern China, are being seized in Memphis, Tennessee, every day with intended destinations all across the United States.

Workforce

[G.1] Judd: This is the 'worst' and 'scariest' situation US border has ever been in

February 2, 2022 (Fox Business Network) Reach: 14.7m

[Video] National Border Patrol Council President Brandon Judd responded to President Biden's focus on 'root causes' of the border crisis on 'Morning with Maria.'

[G.2] Federal agent hurt when ATV collides with Border Patrol SUV

February 1, 2022 (San Diego Union-Tribune - Karen Kucher) Reach: 206k

A Border Patrol agent riding an all-terrain vehicle near the U.S.-Mexico border was injured early Tuesday when the ATV collided with an SUV driven by another agent, officials said.

[G.3] Republicans insist on release of report on alleged 'whippings' at the border

February 1, 2022 (Fox Business Network) Reach: 14.7m

[Video] Rep. Scott Perry, R-Penn., discussed the photos depicting alleged whippings by Border Patrol agents and a request for President Biden to release the investigation report.

[G.4] Ex-border agent says Biden administration is hurting morale, security of country

February 1, 2022 (EverythingLubbock - Christina Aguayo) Reach: 336k

A recent visit to the border by DHS Secretary Mayorkas revealed tensions between Border Patrol agents and the Biden administration.

[G.5] Border Patrol agents confront Homeland Security secretary in contentious meeting

February 1, 2022 (Axios - Erin Doherty) Reach: 5.2m

U.S. Border Patrol agents grilled DHS Secretary Mayorkas at meetings last week on immigration policy, staffing concerns and COVID-19, among other topics, according to audio leaked from the meetings.

[G.6] Leaked audio and video show Border Patrol agents confronting Homeland Security secretary at meetings

February 1, 2022 (CNN International) Reach: 25.0m

DHS Secretary Mayorkas was met with concern and frustration during meetings with Border Patrol agents at several locations along the southern border last week, according to sources familiar with the discussions and leaked audio and video.

[G.7] Feds raid home of agent with Homeland Security

February 1, 2022 (Detroit Free Press - Powered by Dow Jones - Tresa Baldas) Reach: 5.8m

The recent federal raid of the home of a DHS agent involves allegations of misconduct of some sort, according to an ICE spokesperson.

Opinion

[I.1] Expanding injustice: administration must end Title 42, not expand its use

February 2, 2022 (New York Daily News) Reach: 6.2m

In this opinion piece, the editorial board of the New York Daily News wrote "No hearing, no ability to plead an asylum case as guaranteed by U.S. law [regarding Title 42], just immediate expulsion and

the offloading of our humanitarian responsibilities on another country, one which has already stepped up and received nearly two million Venezuelan refugees in the past five years."

[I.2] DeSantis is right about the cost of illegal immigration

February 1, 2022 (Florida Times-Union) Reach: 66.1k

In this opinion piece, Jason Richwine wrote that "Although illegal immigration poses many challenges, the increase in state expenditures is perhaps the most immediate one."

[I.3] If the U.S. Doesn't Set the Digital Trade Agenda, China Will

February 1, 2022 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Robert B. Zoellick) Reach: 30.9m

In this opinion piece, Robert B. Zoellick wrote "Despite his talk about "extreme competition" with China, President Biden is abandoning the fight over who will set the ground rules for the future digital economy."

[I.4] The US should take note of potential trade deal between Ecuador and China

February 1, 2022 (The Hill - Daniel F. Runde) Reach: 16.3m

In this opinion piece, Ryan C. Berg and Daniel F. Runde wrote that "It is now up to the U.S. to develop a regional trade and development agenda that meets Ecuador's needs and competes with China."

Immigration

[J.1] Removal flights to Colombia spur Venezuelan fears of harsher immigration treatment in the U.S.

February 1, 2022 (Miami Herald - Antonio Maria Delgado) Reach: 5.3m

For thousands of Venezuelans hoping to reach the U.S.-Mexico border, recent news that Washington has decided to turn back those who have resided in Colombia is only the most recent sign that the path to the United States is disappearing.

[J.2] AG joins suit over Biden's Central America immigration program

February 1, 2022 (The Montana Standard - Tom Kuglin) Reach: 116k

Montana joined Texas, Alaska, Florida, Indiana, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma in asking the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas to find the Central American Minors Program, or CAM Program, unconstitutional.

[J.3] "Immigration policy is consistent with what Biden promised on the campaign trail," White House says in ...

February 1, 2022 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 178k

The White House on Tuesday defended its immigration policy after criticism issued by Andrea Flores, a former official who until recently was involved in the management of the border with Mexico.

[J.4] Texas Arrests Illegal Aliens for Trespassing—Democrats Urge DOJ to Shut It Down

February 1, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 12.0m

A group of 50 Democrats in the Texas House of Representatives is urging DHS and the DOJ to investigate Operation Lone Star, a border security initiative launched by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott in March 2021.

[J.5] Watch Live: Freedom Caucus Holds Hearing on Biden's Border Policies After Record-Breaking Year of Illegal Migration

February 1, 2022 (Breitbart News Network - Ashley Oliver) Reach: 5.4m

The House Freedom Caucus held a hearing Tuesday to analyze how President Biden's border policies have affected migration at the southern border after Biden's first year in office ended with record-breaking numbers of illegal migrant apprehensions.

[J.6] NGA Chair Ducey: Biden Administration's Southern Border Policy 'Disconnected From Reality'

February 1, 2022 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 12.0m

Republican Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey on Monday called the Biden administration's southern border policy "disconnected from reality."

[J.7] West Virginia AG Morrisey: Border crisis is 'horrific catastrophe'

January 31, 2022 (The Center Square - Bethany Blankley) Reach: 220k

Even in West Virginia, more than 1,000 miles away from the U.S. border with Mexico, state Attorney General Patrick Morrisey said he sees firsthand the impact the border crisis is having on the heartland.

Of Interest

[L.1] 'Robot dogs' to help agents patrol Southwest border

February 1, 2022 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 181k

They're four-legged and weigh 100 pounds. But instead of a muzzle and fur, these have bolts, gadgets and cameras and will be deployed on the Southwest border to help CBP officials.

[L.2] Advocate shares 'war stories' from front lines of immigration debate

February 1, 2022 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 181k

One of El Paso's better-known migrant advocates is taking a step back after seven years on the front lines of the immigration debate. Linda Rivas is resigning as executive director of Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center so she can spend more time with her family.

[L.3] Deplorable conditions, unclear mission: Texas National Guard troops call Abbott's rushed border operation a disaster

February 1, 2022 (The Texas Tribune - James Barragán) Reach: 1.7m

Many Guard members say that doubts about the effectiveness of Operation Lone Star's mission have compounded their dissatisfaction with its hardships, and some of them are beginning to plan their departure from the service.

Message

From: CBP PUBLICAFFAIRS (b) (7)(E)
Sent: 9/30/2021 10:35:56 AM
Subject: CBP Daily News Brief: September 30, 2021

TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS | OF INTEREST |

September 30, 2021

Executive Summary

The Hill reported that the Biden administration on Wednesday said it would craft a new memo rescinding former President Trump's Remain in Mexico policy, an effort to respond to a court decision ordering them to reinstate the program. DHS on Wednesday announced it would uphold that injunction "in good faith," but the agency plans to again rescind MPP once the injunction is lifted. DHS said it has ongoing high-level diplomatic discussions with Mexico and a task force to restore the infrastructure to implement MPP in the meantime.

Meanwhile, ABC News reported that DHS on Wednesday announced the formation of the Law Enforcement Coordination Council -- an effort to "institutionalize best practices in law enforcement." The LECC, chaired by Secretary Mayorkas, is the "first-ever" department-wide body that will serve as a governing organization for the department's agencies like CBP and ICE Enforcement, Secretary Mayorkas said. The commission being announced Wednesday was not influenced by photos of border patrol agents on horseback pursuing migrants attempting to cross the southern border, Secretary Mayorkas said.

In other news, Breitbart reported that with less than 48 hours left in FY2021, the Border Patrol has already surpassed the total number of migrant apprehensions made in any year along the southwest border since the agency's inception in 1924. A source within CBP notes the unofficial apprehension record shows more than 1,646,000 for the year as of Wednesday. The total reflects arrests made within the nine southwest Border Patrol Sectors from California to Texas.

Top News

[A.1] Biden administration moves to scrap Remain in Mexico

September 29, 2021 (The Hill - Rebecca Beitsch) Reach: 19.0m

The Biden administration on Wednesday said they would craft a new memo rescinding former President Trump's Remain in Mexico policy, an effort to respond to a court decision ordering them to reinstate the program. The Supreme Court in August upheld a lower court decision requiring the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to re-implement what is formally known as the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP). DHS on Wednesday announced it would uphold that injunction "in good faith," but the agency plans to again rescind MPP once the injunction is lifted. "A new memorandum terminating MPP will not take effect until the current injunction is lifted by court order," reads the DHS announcement. "In issuing a new memorandum terminating MPP, the Department intends to address the concerns raised by the courts with respect to the prior memorandum." DHS said it has ongoing high-level diplomatic discussions with Mexico and a task force to restore the infrastructure to implement MPP in the meantime.

[A.2] New DHS commission will look at best law enforcement practices: Mayorkas

September 29, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Luke Barr) Reach: 22.5m

DHS on Wednesday announced the formation of the Law Enforcement Coordination Council -- an effort to "institutionalize best practices in law enforcement," DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said in an interview with ABC News. The LECC, chaired by Mayorkas, is the "first-ever" department-wide body that will serve as a governing organization for the department's agencies like CBP, and ICE Enforcement, Secretary Mayorkas said. During his previous stint at the department starting in 2009, best practices for law enforcement training and use-of-force policies have been a subject of Secretary Mayorkas' portfolio. The commission being announced Wednesday was not influenced by photos of border patrol agents on horseback aggressively pursuing migrants attempting to cross the southern border, Secretary Mayorkas said.

[A.3] EXCLUSIVE: Border Patrol Breaks All-Time Migrant Apprehension Record in 2021

September 29, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.8m

With less than 48 hours left in Fiscal Year 2021, the Border Patrol has already surpassed the total number of migrant apprehensions made in any year along the southwest border since the agency's inception in 1924. A source within CBP notes the unofficial apprehension record shows more than 1,646,000 for the year as of Wednesday. The total reflects arrests made within the nine southwest Border Patrol Sectors from California to Texas. According to CBP, the previous record stood since 2000 when 1,643,679 were arrested. The source says the final apprehension number will increase by at least 10,000 when the fiscal year officially closes on September 30 and is reported near mid-October.

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] 15 arrested after migrant search in Hillsboro Beach

September 29, 2021 (South Florida Sun Sentinel - Angie DiMichele) Reach: 139k

Fifteen migrants on a Hydra-Sport boat that landed in Hillsboro Beach Wednesday afternoon were arrested after an hours-long search for those who fled.

[B.2] Agents on horseback find missing hiker after 16-hour multi-agency search at Big Bend National Park

September 29, 2021 (BorderReport - Fernie Ortiz) Reach: 128k

The U.S. Border Patrol Horse Patrol Unit helped find an experienced hiker who became lost at Big Ben National Park on Monday.

[B.3] Migrants arrested after using drainage system to enter country, hide

September 29, 2021 (ValleyCentral.com - Samantha Garza) Reach: 360k

Border Patrol agents stationed in Brownsville and McAllen found migrants using the water drainage systems to hide and enter the country.

[B.4] Ag Commissioner Miller: Surge at border could usher in disease

September 29, 2021 (RFD-TV) Reach: 140k

The Texas Ag Commissioner says that the surge at the border puts American livestock at risk for disease.

[B.5] Texas state troopers arrest thousands of migrants crossing the border. Critics call it unconstitutional.

September 29, 2021 (USA Today Online - Rick Jervis)

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott reaffirmed his commitment to Operation Lone Star on Sunday. However, his critics say Operation Lone Star blatantly disregards the U.S. Constitution, which assigns immigration enforcement to the federal government, and calls to mind attempts by states to become more involved in federal immigration, such as Arizona's SB 1070.

[B.6] Texas county to sue Biden over 30K Haitian migrants crossing border

September 29, 2021 (New York Post - Emily Crane) Reach: 47.6m

The Texas county overwhelmed by as many as 30,000 illegal immigrants in recent weeks plans to file a joint lawsuit with other cities against the Biden administration over its handling of the border crisis.

[B.7] Border counties to sue Biden for 'failure to enforce the laws'

September 29, 2021 (Fox News - Caitlin McFall) Reach: 58.8m

The county in Texas that witnessed the flood of 30,000 migrants earlier this month has said it will unite with neighboring counties to sue the Biden administration and push action at the southern border.

[B.8] Loaded Gun, Drugs Seized at California Checkpoint near Border

September 29, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.8m

El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents assigned to an immigration checkpoint seized nearly 38 pounds of cocaine during an inspection. In a second incident at the same checkpoint, agents arrested an armed suspect found to be transporting cocaine, fentanyl and methamphetamine.

[B.9] Border Patrol Agents Catch Previously Deported Killer Sneaking Back into Texas

September 29, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.8m

Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol agents arrested a migrant who had been convicted by a Florida court for homicide. The convicted killer illegally re-entered the U.S. with a group of five other migrants.

[B.10] Mexican government sends 70 migrants back to Haiti by plane

September 29, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 177k

Mexico's government sent 70 Haitian migrants back to Haiti on Wednesday in what it described as a "voluntary return" flight, days after the United States cleared thousands of Haitian migrants from a camp at the Mexican border in Del Rio, Texas.

[B.11] Mexico returns Haitian migrants on flight to Haiti

September 29, 2021 (The Associated Press - Unknown) Reach: 10.4m

Mexico began flying Haitian migrants back to their homeland Wednesday, sending 70 people to Port au Prince.

[B.12] Area Border Patrol Agents bust migrant smugglers in several incidents

September 30, 2021 (El Paso Herald-Post) Reach: 36.9k

El Paso Sector Border Patrol Agents working in Southern New Mexico and West Texas have already had a busy week that included disrupting multiple smuggling schemes and apprehending a Mexican national convicted of assault with a deadly weapon.

[B.13] Bangladeshi man who ran hotel in Mexico for migrant smugglers gets 46 months in prison

September 29, 2021 (BorderReport - Julian Resendiz) Reach: 128k

A man from Bangladesh will spend almost four years behind bars for his role in a scheme to smuggle migrants into the United States, the Department of Justice said.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Cuban migration to South Florida shows no sign of abating as 10 more land in the Keys

September 29, 2021 (Miami Herald - David Goodhue) Reach: 126k

Ten men migrating from Cuba arrived in the Florida Keys Tuesday morning and will be sent back to their home country in the coming days, according to the U.S. Border Patrol.

[C.2] Cuban Migrants on Homemade Boats Found in Florida Keys 2 Days in a Row

September 29, 2021 (NBC Miami) Reach: 1.0m

A group of Cuban migrants on a homemade boat that was part of a smuggling operation were intercepted by U.S. Border Patrol agents in the Florida Keys early Wednesday, the second day in a row that agents have stopped a smuggling vessel in the area, officials said.

[C.3] 16 Cuban migrants found near Key West, the second landing along island chain in 2 days

September 29, 2021 (Miami Herald - David Goodhue) Reach: 126k

A group of 16 men migrating from Cuba arrived on a homemade blue raft in the Lower Florida Keys Wednesday morning. This was the second group of people migrating from Cuba to land in the island chain in two days, according to the U.S. Border Patrol.

[C.4] Border agents seize \$228K in undeclared currency at Ambassador Bridge

September 29, 2021 (MLive.com) Reach: 4.3m

Border Patrol agents have seized \$228,000 in undeclared U.S. currency at the Canadian border. CBP's Office of Field Operations said \$200,000 was discovered by officers during a series of outbound commercial vehicle inspections near the Ambassador Bridge port of entry early Tuesday morning.

[C.5] Federal officials seize \$200k in undeclared cash at Ambassador Bridge

September 29, 2021 (Radio.com - Wwj Newsroom) Reach: 6.0m

Federal officers seized a huge amount of undeclared cash at the Canadian border this week. While conducting outbound inspections at the Ambassador Bridge port of entry on Tuesday, CBP agents discovered a driver transporting \$200,000.

[C.6] U.S. pledges up to \$500 million to prevent African swine fever

September 29, 2021 (Reuters - Unknown) Reach: 976k

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on Wednesday pledged up to \$500 million to prevent the spread of the fatal pig virus African swine fever after Haiti and the Dominican Republic recently confirmed outbreaks. CBP is increasing inspections for illegal pork on flights from Haiti and the Dominican Republic and making sure airplane garbage is properly disposed of to prevent transmission of the disease.

Border Wall

[D.1] Fake border signs to be removed; Wall contractor says feds told them to put them up

September 29, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 128k

"No trespassing" signs that were placed on border levee construction sites without government authorization are to be taken down, workers with border wall contractor SLSCO told Border Report on Wednesday afternoon.

Travel

[E.1] Couple marries on border of US and Canada so bride's family can witness nuptials

September 29, 2021 (Independent Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Chelsea Ritschel) Reach: 48.2m

A couple exchanged wedding vows on the U.S.-Canadian border so that the bride's family could be present for the nuptials. The Border Patrol was informed ahead of time of the nuptials.

[E.2] Northern border representatives ask Homeland Security for border reopening plan

September 29, 2021 (Watertown Daily Times - N. Y. Times) Reach: 16.3k

As the nation's land borders remain closed to nonessential traffic, a contingent of northern border state representatives is pushing the Biden administration to at least develop a plan for reopening.

[E.3] Man detained at MIA after he walks on wing of plane from Colombia, police say

September 29, 2021 (Miami Herald - Carli Teproff) Reach: 126k

When flight 920 from Cali, Colombia, landed at Miami International Airport Wednesday night, a passenger exited the plane and walked on the wing, Miami-Dade police said. CBP agents immediately took the unidentified man into custody.

Trade

[F.1] U.S., Europe Team Up to Address Chip Shortage, Tech Issues; New trade and technology council seen as ...

September 29, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Yuka Hayashi) Reach: 37.8m

U.S. and European Union officials agreed to join forces in an effort to boost the semiconductor supply chain and maintain leadership in emerging technologies.

[F.2] EU, U.S. Divided on Steel-Duties Solution as Deadline Nears

September 29, 2021 (Bloomberg - Eric Martin) Reach: 36.9m

The European Union and U.S. are still divided over their dispute regarding Trump-era metals tariffs and is waiting for Washington to provide more details on proposed quotas as a deadline to reach an agreement nears.

[F.3] US, EU deepen alliance to boost 'underpin' of global economies: semiconductors

September 29, 2021 (Fox Business - Caitlin McFall) Reach: 13.1m

The U.S. and European Union pledged Wednesday to deepen its alliance for the sake of advancing common priorities like artificial intelligence, trade challenges and the "underpin" to global economies: semiconductors.

[F.4] Trade, tech talks between US and EU open in Pittsburgh

September 29, 2021 (Associated Press) Reach: 28.5m

The United States and the European Union agreed Wednesday to carry on the work of 10 expert-level panels to explore and recommend solutions to a variety of trade disputes and challenges.

[F.5] U.S.-EU officials pledge more coordination on tech and trade at Pittsburgh meeting

September 29, 2021 (Politico) Reach: 20.4m

Top U.S. and EU officials Wednesday laid out plans to more closely coordinate their responses to emerging technologies and pressing trade threats, marking the end of a highly anticipated summit intended to reset the trans-Atlantic alliance.

[F.6] EU Backs US Tech Trade Declaration After French Concerns

September 29, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.8m

European Union governments committed to a joint EU—U.S. declaration on technology cooperation on Wednesday, just in time for a key transatlantic meeting, after France threatened to block it unless it was watered down, EU diplomats said.

[F.7] Data-Privacy Impasse Hangs Over U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Summit; Companies including Google urge ...

September 29, 2021 (WSJ Pro Cybersecurity - Powered by Dow Jones - David Uberti) Reach: 37.8m

Companies and trade groups urged the U.S. and the European Union to strike a deal to ease trans-Atlantic data flows as officials from Washington and Brussels met in Pittsburgh Wednesday. They said a new agreement is key to the economic ties and digital innovation the summit aims to advance.

[F.8] Solar firms warn requested tariffs on imports from Asia could decimate industry

September 29, 2021 (Washington Examiner - Jeremy Beaman) Reach: 6.0m

Solar firms are warning that petitions for new tariffs on imports of solar cells and modules from Asia have hurt business and threaten to upend the industry at a time when it needs all hands on deck to meet demand for renewable energy.

[F.9] Port Logjams Reach Savannah as Container Ships Idle off Georgia Coast; The flotilla of vessels exceeds 20 ...

September 29, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Paul Page) Reach: 37.8m

The Port of Savannah, Ga., the fourth-largest U.S. gateway for seaborne imports, is trying to clear a backlog of more than 20 container ships that has grown in the waters outside the port, in the latest logjam to hit the country's swamped supply chains.

[F.10] More Fake COVID Vaccination Cards Seized by Chicago Officials

September 29, 2021 (WMAQ-TV) Reach: 4.0m

More than 40 counterfeit coronavirus vaccination cards were seized Monday by Chicago officials at O'Hare International Airport for the second time this September. CBP officers working at the International Mail Facility found fake COVID vaccine cards from two packages, originally coming from China, officials said.

[F.11] Biden team's changing approach to antitrust law

September 29, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

Former lawyers with the Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice give their take on what the agencies are up to under the new administration, including what they say are some concerning signs for companies.

[F.12] Alaska seafood shippers who objected to \$350 million in federal fines lose a round in court

September 29, 2021 (Anchorage Daily News - Alex DeMarban) Reach: 36.6k

A federal judge on Tuesday sided against Alaska seafood shippers who say they and other companies have wrongly been hit with more than \$350 million in penalty notices from CBP for alleged violations of the Jones Act.

[F.13] U.S. Trade Body Rules Against Import of IQOS Heat-Not-Burn Tobacco Devices; Philip Morris International says ...

September 29, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Jennifer Maloney) Reach: 37.8m

Altria Group Inc. and Philip Morris International Inc. must halt imports and sales of their IQOS heated tobacco device, the U.S. International Trade Commission ruled Wednesday in a patent case brought by rival R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

[F.14] U.S. News: Federal Trade Commission Weighs Stronger Online Privacy Safeguards

September 29, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - John D. McKinnon) Reach: 37.8m

The Federal Trade Commission is considering strengthening online privacy protections, including for children, in an effort to bypass legislative logjams in Congress.

[F.15] U.S. trade officials delay decision on new solar tariffs

September 29, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 45.2m

The U.S. Commerce Department on Wednesday asked a group of anonymous domestic solar manufacturers for additional information before it would consider a request to impose duties on panels produced in three Southeast Asian countries.

Workforce

[G.1] Whistleblower: Unvaccinated Border Patrol agents given deadline to get job or face being fired

September 29, 2021 (Fox News - Breck Dumas) Reach: 58.8m

CBP agents have been put on official notice by the Biden administration that they must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Nov. 1 or face being fired, according to a whistleblower who sounded the alarm to House Judiciary Committee ranking member Rep. Jim Jordan.

[G.2] Del Rio Residents Back Border Patrol Agents Targeted By Biden: 'Don't Lie About Them'

September 29, 2021 (The Daily Wire - Tim Pearce) Reach: 5.9m

Local residents in Del Rio, Texas are standing by CBP agents under investigation for allegedly mistreating migrants illegally crossing into the U.S. from Mexico.

[G.3] Abbott: I'll 'Absolutely' Hire Any Border Patrol Agents Fired over Vax Mandate

September 29, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Ian Hanchett) Reach: 5.8m

On Wednesday's broadcast of Fox News Radio's "Guy Benson Show," Texas Gov. Greg Abbott stated that he would be "honored" to hire any Border Patrol agents who are fired or have to resign due to vaccine mandates from the Biden administration.

[G.4] Biden Border Pick's Nomination in Motion as Democrat Drops Hold

September 29, 2021 (Bloomberg Government - Ellen M. Gilmer) Reach: 43.9k

The Biden administration's nominee to lead CBP will finally get a hearing after a top Senate Democrat resolved a dispute over information related to DHS's role in last year's protests in Portland, Oregon.

[G.5] The border control mess awaiting Biden's nominee

September 29, 2021 (Politico - TINA SFONDELES) Reach: 20.4m

Sen. Ron Wyden announced he is lifting his hold on President Biden's nominee for CBP commissioner, Tucson, Arizona, Chief of Police Chris Magnus, after a phone call with DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

Opioid

[H.1] Arizona community seeing more drug overdoses than COVID-19 deaths, fentanyl seizures spike

September 29, 2021 (Fox News - Stephanie Bennett) Reach: 58.8m

Pinal County, Sheriff Mark Lamb said his team is struggling to keep up with the recent influx of illegal M-30 fentanyl pills coming over the U.S.-Mexico border.

Opinion

[I.1] The U.S. Has a Way Back on Pacific Trade; And if Washington doesn't take it, the Indo-Pacific would likely ...

September 29, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Tim Groser) Reach: 37.8m

In this opinion piece, Tim Groser wrote that "China's future choices and trade strategies will be fundamentally different if they aren't constrained by a muscular and successful U.S. economic strategy in the Indo-Pacific."

Immigration

[J.1] Biden Administration Will Keep Trying To End Trump-Era 'Remain In Mexico' Asylum Program Despite Court Order

September 29, 2021 (Forbes - Joe Walsh) Reach: 70.3m

Weeks after a judge ordered President Biden to restore a controversial Trump-era policy requiring asylum-seekers to wait in Mexico for their day in U.S. immigration court, the administration promised Wednesday to issue a new memo ending the policy — as Biden's immigration agenda faces court challenges, political acrimony and a surge in migration levels.

[J.2] Democrats block Miller-Meeks bill requiring negative COVID tests for migrants prior to release

September 29, 2021 (The Iowa Standard - Jacob Hall) Reach: 26.4k

Congresswoman Mariannette Miller-Meeks offered her REACT Act on Wednesday in the United States House of Representatives. Democrats, however, blocked the bill, which would require DHS to give a COVID test to everyone crossing the border illegally.

[J.3] DeSantis Names Public Safety Czar To Oversee Illegal Immigration

September 29, 2021 (Florida Patch.com) Reach: 39.7k

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration, claiming the president's "lax immigration policy" is allowing too many undocumented immigrants into Florida.

[J.4] Haitian community in Chicago mobilizes to provide relief for asylum-seekers at U.S. border

September 29, 2021 (Chicago Sun-Times - Elvia Malagón Sep) Reach: 2.9m

A group traveled last week from Chicago to the southern border to assess how to help Haitians seeking asylum.

[J.5] Refugee groups probe U.S. detentions in Canadian court

September 29, 2021 (Times Union - Rebekah F. Ward) Reach: 65.9k

News cameras have been trained on the southern border throughout the pandemic, following migrants who enter the U.S. only to find themselves expelled, after being barred on public health grounds from making asylum claims.

[J.6] Haitian migrants get help from Texas group rallying thousands of donations

September 29, 2021 (ABC News - Go.com - Kiara Alfonseca) Reach: 139k

Tired, anxious and awaiting a new place to call home, almost 30,000 migrants were found camping or attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border in Del Rio, Texas, DHS reported.

[J.7] About 4,600 Haitians have been expelled from the US since September 19, DHS says

September 29, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 12.8k

About 4,600 Haitians have been removed from the United States on repatriation flights from Texas to Haiti since Sept. 19, a DHS spokesperson told CNN on Wednesday.

[J.8] Panama warns of even bigger Haitian migrant surge to come

September 29, 2021 (Axios)

Panama foreign minister Erika Mouynes expressed frustration that the Biden administration seemed caught off guard by the Haitian migrant crisis because "we sounded the alarm when we should have."

[J.9] Undocumented immigrants are forced to choose between deportation and abortion because of the restrictive new abortion law in Texas

September 29, 2021 (Business Insider - Business Insider)

Since Texas rolled out its restrictive abortion law SB8, Texans have flocked to neighboring states to receive an abortion. But that option doesn't exist for a large swath of people. Undocumented immigrants and people without proper paperwork have been hit especially hard by the law, which went into effect on Sept. 1.

DHS

[K.1] DHS announces review of policing and de-escalation techniques after debunked claims of horseback agents 'whipping' migrants emerged

September 29, 2021 (Daily Mail - Morgan Phillips) Reach: 78.5m

DHS announced Wednesday that it will create a new agency to review use-of-force tactics and promote best practices among its agents, after photos last week of some chasing migrants on horseback stirred up controversy.

[K.2] DHS's Horseback Pursuit of Haiti Migrants Prompts Agency Review

September 29, 2021 (Bloomberg Law) Reach: 928k

DHS will conduct a broad review of its law enforcement work through a new council launched Wednesday, more than a week after images of Border Patrol agents and Haitian migrants prompted public outrage.

[K.3] New DHS council to review "best practices" for its law enforcement agencies

September 29, 2021 (Axios - Ivana Saric) Reach: 6.4m

DHS announced Wednesday that it will create a council to "promote best practices in its law enforcement activities." DHS said the new Law Enforcement Coordination Council will be the first unified law enforcement coordination body at DHS and will cover everything from training curricula to use of force policies.

Of Interest

[L.1] Grijalva calls for unused COVID vaccines to be donated to border communities

September 29, 2021 (Arizona Public Media - Alisa Reznick) Reach: 107k

Southern Arizona Congressman Raúl Grijalva says he wants the Biden administration to send unused vaccine doses across the border to communities with less of a supply.

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 12/20/2021 9:44:17 PM
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
CC: PDTaskings (b) (7)(E) PD TASKERS (b) (7)(E)
Subject: FW: [PLCY Draft] Illinois AG Raoul writes re: Haitian refugees (b) (7)(E)
Attachments: 21-3993 Raoul 9.23.21.pdf; Draft Response to The Honorable Kwame Raoul (PLCY Draft).docx

Good afternoon XD,

Forwarding for your review as the correspondence deals with T42 and the images of the BPAs on horseback and the Haitians. I reviewed and do not have any edits or comments. Due date is 11 am tomorrow.

Thank you,

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Office: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Mobile

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) On Behalf Of CBPTASKING
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 2:23 PM
To: IPLTasking (b) (7)(E)
Cc: CBPTASKING (b) (7)(E) OCC TASKING (b) (7)(E) OFO-TASKINGS (b) (7)(E)
(b) (7)(E) BPTasking (b) (7)(E) OS Taskings (b) (7)(E) PD TASKERS
(b) (7)(E)
Subject: [PLCY Draft] Illinois AG Raoul writes re: Haitian refugees (b) (7)(E)

Tasker Name	[PLCY Draft] Illinois AG Raoul writes re: Haitian refugees (b) (7)(E)
Lead Office(s)	IPL
Required Coordination	OCC, OFO, BP, OS, PD, PLEASE ADVISE
Product	Comments (using track changes) or Concurrence
Requestor	
Notes	
Due to CBP Tasking	NLT 11AM Tuesday December 21, 2022

Please advise ASAP if any other office needs to be added as a required coordinator

Required Coordinators - Please provide input to the lead office as soon as possible.

* Please note: if you receive a duplicate tasking from OC BRIEFING STAFF please cc them on your response to us. Thank you.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CBPTasking Unit Chief
Office of the Executive Secretariat
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/24/2021 2:02:52 PM
To: YUM STATION COMMAND GML (b) (7)(E) YUM EXEC STAFF GML
CC: (b) (7)(E) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: DHS Morning Briefing (9-24-21)
Attachments: DHS Morning Briefing (9-24-21).pdf

Good Morning!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. If you feel this is a suspicious-looking email, please report by using the Report Phish button option.



DHS MORNING BRIEFING

Prepared for the Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
By TechMIS
www.TechMIS.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

Editorial Note: The DHS Daily Briefing is a collection of news articles related to Department's mission. The inclusion of particular stories is not intended to reflect their importance, nor is it intended to endorse the political viewpoints or affiliations included in news coverage.

TO: Homeland Security Secretary & Staff
DATE: Friday, September 24, 2021 6:00 AM ET

Top News

[Biden administration directs border officials to suspend horse patrols in Del Rio migrant camp](#)

[DHS Secretary Mayorkas On Border Conditions And Next Steps For Surge Of Migrants](#)

[Biden administration defends handling of Haitians amid uproar](#)

[Migrant camp shrinks on US border as more Haitians removed](#)

[Many Haitian Migrants Are Staying In The U.S. Even As Expulsion Flights Rise](#)

[A senior U.S. diplomat to Haiti resigns, citing the Biden administration's 'inhumane' deportation policy](#)

[White House Says It Is Not Sending Haiti Migrants at Border to Guantanamo](#)

[House Republicans push for vote on bill to restrict illegal immigration](#)

[EPA completes rule to phase out gases used as refrigerants](#)

[CISA, NIST Issue Critical Infrastructure Control Systems Cybersecurity Performance Goals](#)

[Biden Cyber Officials Back Breach Incident Reporting Mandates](#)

[Lindsey Graham calls for 'incompetent' Mayorkas to resign amid border crisis](#)

[\[TX\] Texas Republicans back effort to impeach Biden over border policy, Afghanistan](#)

[\[TX\] Texas asks judge to rule DHS is violating 'Remain in Mexico' ruling](#)

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[\[SC\] SC authorities arrest one of Interpol's most wanted suspects](#)

[\[GA\] 21 Savage Turned Himself In To Police And Was Released On Bond. His Attorneys Claim There's An ICE Connection.](#)

[\[Iraq\] Ancient tablet acquired by Hobby Lobby going back to Iraq](#)

Citizenship and Immigration Services

[Tech firms' nightmare: Vanishing green cards](#)

[\[NY\] Undocumented Workers Who Power New York's Economy Finally Get Pandemic Aid](#)

[\[IN\] Officials Refute Wild Rumors About Situation At Camp Atterbury](#)

[\[IL\] Dozens of Afghan children arrive in Chicago after evacuation](#)

[\[WI\] Afghan evacuees at U.S. military base charged with domestic violence, sexual abuse of minors](#)

Customs and Border Protection

[Watchdog: CBP improperly targeted Americans as caravans approached border](#)

[Driver of a van carrying immigrants dies after eluding Border Patrol and crashing](#)

[Thousands Of Migrants Are Weighing Whether To Crossing Into The U.S.](#)

[Border Patrol union chief says Biden using 'whip' furor to deflect from handling of migrant crisis](#)

[\[TX\] Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signs bill easing prosecution of human smuggling suspects](#)

[\[TX\] Texas lawmakers sound the alarm on immigration crisis in Del Rio: The problem will 'spiral out of control'](#)

[\[TX\] How Haitian migrants are flooding the border in Texas with Big Tech's help](#)

[\[TX\] "We have to cross 14 countries": this was the journey of a Haitian immigrant from Chile to Austin](#)

[\[Mexico\] Surge of Haitian migrants at the U.S. border challenges Mexico, too](#)

Transportation Security Administration

[Unruly airplane behavior prompted harsher penalties and more enforcement. People are still acting out.](#)

[Delta has banned more than 1,600 unruly passengers. Now, it wants airlines to share ban lists.](#)

['Airports are terrifying': How TSA Cares helps people who need extra support at security](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[Tropical Storm Sam forms, forecast to become major Atlantic hurricane by Sunday](#)

[\[NY\] New York City braces for new round of flooding after summer of wild rains](#)

[\[CA\] Fawn Fire in Northern California quickly spreads, prompting evacuation](#)

[\[CA\] Woman arrested on suspicion of starting California blaze](#)

Federal Protective Service

Senators introduce bill to incentivize agencies to lease space they don't need

[CA] 4 California militia members plead guilty to conspiracy

Secret Service

Former military intelligence analyst: Biden admin buying Chinese drones 'poses national security threat'

[AL] Woman uses counterfeit bills at CVS in Prattville, police say

[FL] 2 Tampa men defrauded government of \$1 million in unemployment benefits

[FL] Credit card fraudster sentenced to eight years in prison

[OH] Dayton police officer released from hospital after being shot in line of duty

[OH] Police investigate counterfeit bills used during local pizza delivery

[MN] Olivia officials say counterfeit currency becoming more prevalent

Coast Guard

U.S. icebreaker gap with Russia a growing concern as Arctic 'cold war' heats up

[TX] Major US port target of attempted cyber attack

CISA/Cybersecurity

Officials urge Congress to consider fining companies that fail to report cyber incidents

[IA] Russian hackers deny an Iowa grain cooperative counts as 'critical'

[CA] UC San Diego Health sued over data breach that may have exposed records of 500,000 patients

Terrorism Investigations

[DC] January 6 committee issues first subpoenas for witness testimony to four Trump loyalists

[TN] Tennessee Kroger grocery store shooting leaves 1 dead, at least 12 injured, police say

National Security News

Diplomat overseeing "Havana Syndrome" response leaving after 6 months

Top nuclear policy appointee removed from Pentagon post: report

Congress considers permanent UFO investigation office

Blinken says U.S. soon will release new strategy for Indo-Pacific region

Biden hosts Indo-Pacific leaders as China concerns grow

[Cuba] In the middle of the migration crisis, the government is looking for a private contractor to reopen a camp at the Guantanamo base

[Turkey] Turkey builds a wall to keep out Afghan refugees

[Israel] House passes \$1B for Israel's Iron Dome after progressive dustup

[Russia] Milley: US should explore more military talks with Russia

[North Korea] North Korea says call to formally end Korean War is 'premature'

Top News

Biden administration directs border officials to suspend horse patrols in Del Rio migrant camp

The [Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 2:31 PM, Nick Miroff, 11773K] reports that the Biden administration has directed U.S. border officials to suspend patrols by agents on horseback in the Del Rio, Tex., migrant camp, White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters Thursday. Psaki said Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told civil rights leaders Thursday morning "We would no longer be using horses in Del Rio." "So that is something, a policy change that has been made in response," she said, describing the administration's reaction to anger from Democratic lawmakers, rights groups and others after images circulated widely of U.S. agents on horseback charging at migrants, including families, in an attempt to drive them back to Mexico, while cursing and swinging reins in the air. DHS had previously announced that the incident was under investigation and the agents recorded in video footage have been placed on administrative duties. DHS officials told reporters during a separate briefing Thursday the measure was temporary. "We'll prioritize other methods for identifying individuals who might be in medical distress," one official said during a conference call. Reporters were allowed to participate on the condition that none of the speakers could be named. Border Patrol union representatives did not immediately respond to requests for comment, but they have defended the agents' conduct, which they say was consistent with their training as federal law enforcement officers. DHS officials told reporters only about 4,000 migrants remain in the Del Rio camp Thursday morning, down from a peak of nearly 15,000 on Sept. 18. More than 1,400 migrants have been returned to Haiti so far, and 3,200 have been transferred to other areas of the border with more capacity to process them. The DHS officials said that migrants who cannot be expelled to Haiti under Title 42 of the U.S. public health code would be subject to standard immigration proceedings. Mayorkas told reporters Monday the Biden administration intends to empty the camp by the end of the month. [The Hill](#) [9/23/2021 1:43 PM, Rebecca Beitsch, 1776K] reports "We are increasing the frequency and number of the repatriation flights each day," DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told lawmakers Tuesday, when the department had expelled roughly 500 Haitians. "We are still under Title 42 because we are in a global pandemic, so we are still operationalizing that," White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said Thursday. [CBS News](#) [9/23/2021 2:33 PM, Camilo Montoya-Galvez, 2612K] reports the compilation of videos and photos sparked outrage among advocates for immigrants, Democratic lawmakers and top officials in the Biden administration, including Vice President Kamala Harris and DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, both of whom called the footage horrifying. Mayorkas told lawmakers on Wednesday the internal investigation should conclude by the end of next week and that he plans to make its findings public. [ABC News](#) [9/23/2021 2:34 PM, Quinn Owen, 37K] reports that while many were disturbed by what appeared to be aggressive behavior by the agents on horseback, Border Patrol agents who spoke to ABC News said their colleagues in the controversial photographs were following procedures. They said it's common practice for agents on horseback to use "long reins" to control the horse, apparently leading a photojournalist at the scene in Del Rio to describe them as "whips" being used by the agents.

Reported similarly:

[NPR](#) [9/23/2021 5:27 PM, Joe Hernandez]

[Axios](#) [9/23/2021 3:46 PM, Erin Doherty, 526K]

[FOX News](#) [9/23/2021 1:16 PM, Adam Shaw, 9251K]

[Univision](#) [9/23/2021 1:15 PM, Staff, 366K]

DHS Secretary Mayorkas On Border Conditions And Next Steps For Surge Of Migrants

[NPR](#) [9/23/2021 4:10 PM, Audie Cornish, Elena Burnett, Justine Kenin, 4917K] Audio: [HERE](#) reports NPR's Audie Cornish speaks with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas about the government's handling of refugees at the U.S.-Mexico border.

Biden administration defends handling of Haitians amid uproar

[The Hill](#) [9/23/2021 5:04 PM, Morgan Chalfant and Rebecca Beitsch, 1776K] reports the Biden administration on Thursday defended its handling of Haitian migrants at the U.S. southern border amid growing uproar among Democrats over the decision to expel Haitian nationals. The Department of Homeland Security said it has temporarily suspended the use of horse patrols in Del Rio, Texas, amid an investigation into border agents aggressively chasing Haitian migrants on horseback. The White House

insists that they are working to implement an “orderly and humane process” at the border and have pushed back against the notion that Haitian migrants are being treated differently than others at the border. “Our policy process has continued to be the same with Haiti as it is for anybody coming through an irregular migration across our border,” White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters during a briefing, noting that those who are not expelled under Title 42 are placed in detention or an alternative, including being released into the country with a notice to appear or register with authorities. The special envoy for Haiti resigned over what he described as “inhumane treatment” of Haitian migrants, claiming that his policy recommendations had been ignored or dismissed by the administration. The State Department vigorously pushed back on his assertions, saying that the envoy, Daniel Foote, had ample opportunity to raise concerns about migration but never did so. With Foote now out of his post, the administration says they have diplomatic officials focused on Haiti to address the ongoing situation. Psaki pointed to the recent confirmation of Brian Nichols as Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs. Career diplomat Michele Sison is also the ambassador to Haiti, though Biden has nominated her for a different role at the State Department. Numbers from Del Rio show the Biden administration is continuing to rapidly process the Haitian migrants, following a pledge from DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to increase “the frequency and number of the repatriation flights each day.” A DHS official told reporters Thursday that 1,400 people have been returned to Haiti, while a population of an estimated 14,000 Haitians living under the bridge in Del Rio has dwindled to just over 4,000. Also unclear is how the U.S. is handling the treatment of Haitians who already have residency in other countries, with many making the journey to the U.S. after living in Brazil and Chile.

Migrant camp shrinks on US border as more Haitians removed

The [AP](#) [9/24/2021 12:41 AM, María Verza and Juan Lozano, 302K] reports Haitian migrants waited to learn their fate at a Texas border encampment whose size was dramatically diminished from the almost 15,000 who gathered there just days ago in an effort to seek humanitarian protection in the U.S. but now face expulsion. Families milled around makeshift shelters held up with giant reeds under a bridge between Del Rio, Texas, and Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, as wind blew dust through the camp littered with plastic bottles and overflowing trash bags. Some migrants sat on plastic paint cans or the ground while others hung clothes to dry on the bamboo-like carrizo cane. About 3,000 remained late Thursday, the Department of Homeland Security said. The number peaked Saturday as migrants driven by confusion over the Biden administration’s policies and misinformation on social media converged at the border crossing trying to seek asylum. The administration recently extended protections for more than 100,000 Haitians already in the U.S. — many of whom left their homeland after its devastating 2010 earthquake — citing security concerns and social unrest in the Western Hemisphere’s poorest country. But it doesn’t apply to new arrivals. The United States and Mexico appeared eager to end the increasingly politicized humanitarian situation at the border that prompted the resignation of the U.S. special envoy to Haiti and condemnation from civil rights leader Rev. Al Sharpton and UNICEF after images spread widely this week of border agents maneuvering their horses to forcibly block and move migrants. Homeland Security said nearly 2,000 Haitians have been rapidly expelled on flights since Sunday under pandemic powers that deny people the chance to seek asylum. About 3,900 were being processed for possible return to Haiti or placement in U.S. immigration court proceedings. Others have been released in the U.S. with notices to appear in court or report to immigration authorities. Thousands have returned to Mexico. Authorities expect the camp will be empty in about two days, according to a U.S. official with direct knowledge who was not authorized to speak publicly. [FOX News](#) [9/23/2021 11:07 AM, Adam Shaw, 9251K] reports that on Wednesday, DHS confirmed that some migrants are being released into the interior, if they are not being removed under Title 42 public health protections. The Biden administration has been removing most single adults under the Center for Disease Control order, but only a sliver of migrant families - about 19% in August. A DHS spokesperson told Fox that those who were not being removed are either placed in “alternatives to detention,” detained at an ICE facility, or released into the U.S. with either a notice to appear in court or a notice to report to an ICE office. “The document an individual receives is dependent on facility space and resources available to process,” the spokesperson said. The DHS statement noted that Border Patrol will collect information such as fingerprints, phone numbers and an address, while also running background checks.

Reported similarly:

Univision [9/23/2021 12:22 PM, Jorge Cancino, 366K]

Many Haitian Migrants Are Staying In The U.S. Even As Expulsion Flights Rise

The AP [9/23/2021 6:12 AM, Elliot Spagat, Maria Verza, Juan A. Lozano and Sarah Blake Morgan, 4917K] reports Three hours after being freed from a giant migrant camp under an international bridge, Mackenson Veillard stood outside a gas station and took stock of his sudden good fortune as he and his pregnant wife waited for a Greyhound bus to take them to a cousin in San Antonio. The couple camped with thousands for a week under the bridge in Del Rio, Texas, sleeping on concrete and getting by on bread and bottled water. "I felt so stressed," Veillard, 25, said this week. "But now, I feel better. It's like I'm starting a new life." Many Haitian migrants in Del Rio are being released in the United States, according to two U.S. officials, undercutting the Biden administration's public statements that the thousands in the camp faced immediate expulsion to Haiti. Haitians have been freed on a "very, very large scale" in recent days, one official said Tuesday. The official, who was not authorized to discuss the matter and thus spoke on condition of anonymity, put the figure in the thousands. Many have been released with notices to appear at an immigration office within 60 days, an outcome that requires less processing time from Border Patrol agents than ordering an appearance in immigration court and points to the speed at which authorities are moving. The releases come despite a massive effort to expel Haitians on flights under pandemic-related authority that denies migrants a chance to seek asylum. A third U.S. official not authorized to discuss operations said there were seven daily flights to Haiti planned starting Wednesday.

A senior U.S. diplomat to Haiti resigns, citing the Biden administration's 'inhumane' deportation policy

The New York Times [9/23/2021 10:25 AM, Lara Jakes and Eileen Sullivan, 24635K] reports the diplomat, Daniel Foote, was appointed special envoy to Haiti in July, just weeks after President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated. The senior American envoy for Haiti policy has resigned, two U.S. officials said Thursday, in a letter that excoriated the Biden administration's "inhumane, counterproductive decision" to send Haitian migrants back to a country that has been racked this summer by a deadly earthquake and political turmoil. The diplomat, Daniel Foote, was appointed special envoy to Haiti in July, just weeks after President Jovenel Moïse was killed in his bedroom during a nighttime raid on his residence. Thousands of Haitians have since flocked to the Texas border, particularly in the past week, where they have crossed the Rio Grande into the United States and confronted Border Patrol agents on horseback before being deported. "I will not be associated with the United States' inhumane, counterproductive decision to deport thousands of Haitian refugees and illegal immigrants to Haiti, a country where American officials are confined to secure compounds because of the danger posed by armed gangs in control of daily life," Mr. Foote wrote in his stinging resignation letter to Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, dated Wednesday. He also blasted a "cycle of international political interventions in Haiti" that "has consistently produced catastrophic results," and he warned that the number of desperate people traveling to American borders "will only grow as we add to Haiti's unacceptable misery." The Wall Street Journal [9/23/2021 8:30 PM, Courtney McBride and Michelle Hackman] reports he characterized U.S. policy toward Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere, as flawed, accusing administration officials of distorting or ignoring his recommendations. Citing poverty, gang violence and government corruption, Mr. Foote wrote that the Haitian people "simply cannot support the forced infusion of thousands of returned migrants lacking food, shelter and money without additional, avoidable human tragedy." At a press conference Thursday, Secretary of State Antony Blinken thanked Mr. Foote for his service, while acknowledging policy disagreements. "I think we actually see eye to eye on the fundamental need to support the Haitian people, to buttress Haiti's democracy," the secretary said. "I very much respect him, respect his service, respect his passion," Mr. Blinken said of Mr. Foote. "But that doesn't mean that we can't and won't disagree on the right approach to take, the right policy to follow." State Department spokesman Ned Price on Thursday disputed Mr. Foote's characterization of events, saying administration officials had held "multiple senior-level policy conversations on Haiti, where all proposals, including those led by Special Envoy Foote, were fully considered in a rigorous and transparent policy process." He described Mr. Foote's claim that his recommendations were ignored as false, and said the administration conducts policy debates on an array

of issues. "It is unfortunate that, instead of participating in a solutions-oriented policy process, Special Envoy Foote has both resigned and mischaracterized the circumstances of his resignation," Mr. Price said. "He failed to take advantage of ample opportunity to raise concerns about migration during his tenure and chose to resign instead." Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman said that Mr. Foote's ideas had included U.S. military intervention in Haiti, a move she said "was a bad idea" and wouldn't solve the country's problems.

Reported similarly:

[Politico](#) [9/23/2021 9:34 AM, Nick Niedzwiadek and Jonathan Custodio, 1707K]

[Bloomberg](#) [9/23/2021 12:55 PM, Nick Wadhams and Justin Sink, 6400K]

[NPR](#) [9/23/2021 1:35 PM, L. Carol Ritchie, Michele Kelemen]

[AP](#) [9/23/2021 12:18 PM, Joshua Goodman, Matthew Lee, Danica Coto, Elliot Spagat, 49K]

[Reuters](#) [9/23/2021 7:06 AM, Daina Beth Solomon and Humeyra Pamuk, 5304K]

[The Hill](#) [9/23/2021 12:28 PM, Morgan Chalfant, 1776K]

White House Says It Is Not Sending Haiti Migrants at Border to Guantanamo

[Reuters](#) [9/23/2021 1:17 PM, Staff, 4947K] reports that the Biden administration has no plans to send any of the thousands of Haitian migrants caught crossing the U.S.-Mexico border to a special holding facility at the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, U.S. officials said on Thursday. The officials threw cold water on the idea of using the longtime facility for some of the Haitians gathered at the Texas border. The statement is a response to media speculation stirred by a U.S. government advertisement of a new contract to run the migrant center. U.S. authorities, on and off for decades, have temporarily housed and processed migrants apprehended at sea trying to get to the United States at the Migrant Operations Center at Guantanamo. The facility is located on the same military base where the United States operates a prison for foreign terrorism suspects captured after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on New York and Washington. The Guantanamo jail came to symbolize the excesses of the U.S. "war on terror" because of harsh interrogation methods in earlier years that critics say amounted to torture. The lesser-known migrants center once held thousands of Haitian "boat people" in the early 1990s but has been little used in recent years, though the U.S. government has continued to maintain it. Asked whether any Haitian migrants would be sent there from the U.S.-Mexico border, White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters: "There's never been a plan to do that." A bid solicitation from the Department of Homeland Security last week that asked private companies to apply to operate the migrant facility was a "typical, routine first step in a contract renewal, and unrelated to the Southwest Border," tweeted Marsha Espinosa, DHS assistant secretary of public affairs.

House Republicans push for vote on bill to restrict illegal immigration

The [Washington Times](#) [9/22/2021 8:00 PM, Mica Soellner, 381K] reports that House Republicans are seeking to force a vote on a bill that would curb illegal immigration by reinstating border security rules set forth by the Trump administration. Reps. Andy Biggs of Arizona and Matt Rosendale of Montana introduced a resolution on Wednesday that aims to gather support for consideration of Mr. Rosendale's bill, which would implement the border controls. The bill, dubbed the Remain in Mexico Act, would require the Department of Homeland Security to put migrant protection protocols in place. Those controls would allow the U.S. government to return some migrants to Mexico as they await their immigration proceedings. "MPP was one of the most effective tools in our arsenal to curb illegal immigration under the Trump administration," Mr. Rosendale said in a statement. "The Biden administration worked to undermine this policy since the moment he took office, and the result has been an unprecedented border crisis." The lawmakers must obtain the signatures of 218 members in order to force a vote on the resolution. If the resolution were to pass, it would then force a vote on the bill. The Republicans are likely to garner support from members of their party, but are expected to encounter Democratic opposition. However, a handful of Democrats including Reps. Henry Cuellar of Texas and Frederica Wilson of Florida, have broken with their party on the need to better secure the border and immigration. In a court filing on Monday, the Biden administration urged a federal appeals court to let it nix the Trump-era policy that requires some asylum seekers to return to Mexico as their cases are processed. If successful, the administration's move would

lift an injunction ordered by U.S. District Judge Matthew Kacsmaryk of Texas, who ruled that the policy should remain in place until border patrol has enough capacity to detain illegal immigrants at the border, as well as those already in the country unlawfully.

EPA completes rule to phase out gases used as refrigerants

The [AP](#) [2/23/2019 8:00 AM, Matthew Daly, 530k] reports that in what officials call a key step to combat climate change, the Environmental Protection Agency is sharply limiting domestic production and use of hydrofluorocarbons, highly potent greenhouse gases commonly used in refrigerators and air conditioners. The new rule, which follows through on a law Congress passed last year, is intended to decrease U.S. production and use of HFCs by 85% over the next 15 years, part of a global phaseout designed to slow global warming. HFCs are greenhouse gases that are thousands of times more powerful than carbon dioxide. They often leak through pipes or appliances that use compressed refrigerants and are considered a major driver of global warming. President Joe Biden has pledged to embrace a 2016 global agreement to greatly reduce HFCs by 2036. White House climate adviser Gina McCarthy, a former EPA administrator, said the new rule was “a win on climate and a win on jobs and American competitiveness.” The rule is expected to reduce harmful emissions by the equivalent of 4.5 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide by 2050, McCarthy said, a total similar to three years of emissions from the U.S. power sector. EPA Administrator Michael Regan said the phasedown is backed by a coalition of industry groups that see it as an opportunity to “supercharge” American leadership on domestic manufacturing and production of alternative refrigerants. The industry has long been shifting to the use of alternative refrigerants and pushed for a federal standard to avoid a patchwork of state laws and regulations. “This action reaffirms what President Biden always says — that when he thinks about climate, he thinks about jobs,” Regan said, echoing a Biden refrain about climate change. Transitioning to safer alternatives and more energy-efficient cooling technologies is expected to generate more than \$270 billion in cost savings and public health benefits over the next 30 years, Regan said. A pandemic relief and spending bill passed by Congress last December directs the EPA to sharply reduce production and use of HFCs. The measure won wide support and was hailed as the most significant climate change law in at least a decade. Besides targeting HFCs, the American Innovation and Manufacturing, or AIM, Act also promotes technologies to capture and store carbon dioxide produced by power and manufacturing plants and calls for reductions in diesel emissions by buses and other vehicles. The HFC provision was supported by an unusual coalition that included major environmental and business groups, including the National Association of Manufacturers, American Chemistry Council and the Air-Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute. The chemistry council represents major companies including Dow, DuPont, Honeywell, Chemours and Arkema. The administration said it also is taking other steps to ensure reductions in HFCs, including creation of an interagency task force to prevent illegal trade, production, use or sale of the climate-damaging gases. The task force will be led by the Department of Homeland Security, and EPA’s offices of Air and Radiation and Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. Working with the departments of Justice, State and Defense, the task force will “detect, deter and disrupt any attempt to illegally import or produce HFCs in the United States,” the White House said in a fact sheet. [CNN](#) [9/23/2021 10:49 AM, Ella Nilsen and Veronica Stracqualursi, 4876K] reports “It’s frankly, folks, a very big deal,” White House national climate adviser Gina McCarthy said. “HFCs are found in a range of appliances and other products, and they are thousands of times more potent than carbon dioxide is in terms of how intensely they warm the climate.” On a call with reporters, McCarthy and EPA chief Michael Regan likened the HFC reductions to cutting 4.5 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent by 2050, totaling nearly three years of US power sector emissions.

CISA, NIST Issue Critical Infrastructure Control Systems Cybersecurity Performance Goals

[HS Today](#) [9/23/2021 11:38 AM, Staff, 12K] reports that on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, the President signed a National Security Memorandum on Improving Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure Control Systems. The National Security Memorandum establishes a voluntary initiative intended to drive collaboration between the Federal Government and the critical infrastructure community to improve cybersecurity of control systems. It instructs the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to lead the development of preliminary cross-sector control system cybersecurity performance goals as well as

sector-specific performance goals within one year of the date of the National Security Memorandum. These goals are intended to provide a common understanding of the baseline security practices that critical infrastructure owners and operators should follow to protect national and economic security, as well as public health and safety. "Today, we are delivering on the first step of the President's National Security Memorandum (NSM) objectives to strengthen the cybersecurity of our Nation's critical infrastructure control systems," Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas and Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo said a joint statement. "DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), in coordination with the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), developed preliminary cybersecurity performance goals based on nine categories of best practices.

Biden Cyber Officials Back Breach Incident Reporting Mandates

Bloomberg [9/23/2021 12:42 PM, Rebecca Kern and Sophia Cai, 6400K] reports that the head of the U.S. cybersecurity enforcement agency "is a huge supporter" of bipartisan legislation to mandate that operators of critical infrastructure report data breaches to the government. Jen Easterly, director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, said she backs draft legislation from the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to require certain private companies, federal agencies and government contractors to report cyberattacks to the agency. The proposed legislation is partly in response to a surge of major cyberattacks that targeted government agencies and critical industries, including Colonial Pipeline Co. and meat producer JBS SA. The hacks increased pressure on the Biden administration to bolster U.S. cyber defenses and fueled calls for federal legislation to require companies to share incidents with the federal government to assist in response and recovery. The panel's chairman, Michigan Democrat Gary Peters, told Bloomberg that he hopes to incorporate feedback from the hearing and introduce the bill in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, similar legislation has been added to the must-pass defense authorization measure scheduled to pass the House this week. "The earlier that CISA, the federal lead for asset response, receives information about a cyber incident, the faster we can conduct urgent analysis and share information to protect other potential victims," Easterly said in written testimony for the committee's Thursday hearing. An increase in cyberattacks, particularly from ransomware, has hit the private sector particularly hard, which owns and operates 85% of critical infrastructure. Cyber incident reporting should be timely, Easterly said, "ideally within 24 hours of detection." A draft bill from Peters and top Republican Rob Portman, from Ohio, proposed a 72-hour time frame for reporting.

Lindsey Graham calls for 'incompetent' Mayorkas to resign amid border crisis

FOX News [9/24/2021 1:56 AM, Staff, 9251K] reports U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham told Martha MacCallum on "The Story" on Thursday night that the "most inhumane thing going on right now in America, is the men and women of the Border Patrol have been completely abandoned." GRAHAM: So, all I can say is what Biden has done is he surrendered the border to drug cartels, coyotes, and human smugglers, he's surrendered Afghanistan to the terrorists, the Taliban and Al Qaeda, and a major attack is going to come our way. Because the combination of allowing Afghanistan to fall back in terrorist's hands and having a completely open and broken border here in the United States, it's a matter of time that the terrorists come through the border to kill us. Here's what I want to say to the American people. The man on horseback is there to protect your family. The people rushing our border have put us all under siege. And I think the most inhumane thing going on right now in America is the men and women of the Border Patrol have been completely abandoned, demagogued, scapegoated and treated like dirt by elected officials and the Democratic Party and this administration. So, I'm not unhappy, I'm p---ed. Secretary Mayorkas needs to resign. He's completely incompetent. The border is not closed. It's been surrendered. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

[TX] Texas Republicans back effort to impeach Biden over border policy, Afghanistan

The Houston Chronicle [9/23/2021 1:00 AM, Benjamin Wermund, 183K] reports that two Texas Republicans have joined a House GOP effort to impeach President Joe Biden over his handling of the border, the withdrawal from Afghanistan and for extending the national eviction moratorium. It's more of a

political exercise than anything, as Democrats control both the House and Senate and Republican leaders including Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell have made clear Biden won't be impeached. The impeachment resolution has drawn the support of just four members of Congress so far, two of whom are Texans: U.S. Reps. Brian Babin of Woodville and Randy Weber of Friendswood - both of whom criticized the two impeachments of former President Donald Trump as political stunts. The resolution, led by U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs of Ohio, accuses Biden of breaking his oath of office and says the president has "Failed to secure the border," "Extended the moratorium on evictions despite publicly acknowledging it would 'not pass constitutional muster,'" and "Failed to act responsibly as Commander-in-Chief with regard to the withdrawal of United States forces from Afghanistan." "Since January 20, 2021, Joe Biden has done nothing but launch our nation into a state of retrograde and increased vulnerability while thwarting the rule of law at every turn," Babin said. "He has failed miserably at his duties as Commander-in-Chief and violated his oath of office to defend the U.S. Constitution." Babin and Weber both voted against former President Donald Trump's two impeachments and both Texans accused Democrats at the time of playing politics.

[TX] Texas asks judge to rule DHS is violating 'Remain in Mexico' ruling

The [Washington Times](#) [9/23/2021 4:16 PM, Stephen Dinan, 381K] reports Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton went back to court Thursday to ask a judge to order Homeland Security to reinstate the "Remain in Mexico" border policy, saying Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas appears to be slow-walking the court's order restoring the policy. Judge Matthew Kacsmayk ruled more than a month ago that Mr. Mayorkas's attempt to phase out the policy, officially known as the Migrant Protection Protocols, was done in defiance of the law. He ordered Mr. Mayorkas to work in good faith to restore the policy. Mr. Paxton said the intervening weeks have seen no progress, and he said it's time the judge gets involved in making it happen. "I have already sued this administration and won – yet they still think they are above the law and can continue shirking their responsibilities," the Republican state attorney general said. MPP was one of the key policies the Trump team used to solve the 2019 border surge. The policy allowed the Border Patrol to immediately push newly arrived illegal immigrants back across the border into Mexico to await their immigration court proceedings.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[SC] SC authorities arrest one of Interpol's most wanted suspects

The [AP](#) [9/23/2021 5:10 PM, Staff] reports a man suspected of murder in El Salvador was arrested Thursday in South Carolina. The Bluffton Police Department, with help from other agencies, arrested Erick Salvador Hernandez Bonilla, 23, on Lady's Island, WSAV-TV reported. Bonilla, wanted by the International Criminal Police Organization — also known as Interpol, faces six counts of murder and terrorist threat. Authorities said the charges are linked to Bonilla's MS13 gang-related activities in El Salvador. Details of the murder case were not released. Bluffton Police, working with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Marshal Service and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement apprehended Bonilla after a month-long investigation with help from an anonymous source, police said. "I am proud and grateful of the anonymous source who contacted the Bluffton Police Department and whose efforts resulted in a successful arrest of this dangerous suspect," Bluffton Police Chief Stephenie Price said.

[GA] 21 Savage Turned Himself In To Police And Was Released On Bond. His Attorneys Claim There's An ICE Connection.

[BuzzFeed](#) [9/23/2021 11:29 PM, Hamed Aleaziz, 5962K] reports Atlanta-based rapper 21 Savage turned himself in to local authorities Thursday night to face allegations of drug and weapons possession from a well-publicized incident in early 2019 when immigration officials arrested him in an operation with Georgia authorities. He was released on bond Thursday evening. The rapper, whose real name is She'ya Bin Abraham-Joseph, was taken into the custody of Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers on Feb. 3, 2019. He was later released on bond following international attention over the arrest. At the time, ICE

officials told local media that the rapper had been convicted of felony drug charges in 2014. His attorneys have said that the information was false, pointing out that the conviction was later vacated. ICE officials later dropped an aggravated felony charge against him in immigration court. Earlier this month, a local magistrate court judge signed a warrant authorizing his arrest on suspicion of felony drug possession and weapons possession in DeKalb County, where the rapper turned himself in on Thursday evening. His tour, which he is headlining along with J Cole, begins Friday in Miami. His attorneys claim that he was not aware of the warrant, which was sought by DeKalb County authorities on Sep. 7, until Thursday. The warrant cites allegations that, during a stop the evening of the ICE arrest, the rapper threw out a bottle that had liquid in it which later tested positive for codeine and that a handgun was found inside the car. Since the night of the arrest, the government has pursued his deportation only on the grounds that he had come from the UK at the age of 7 and overstayed a visa, according to Charles Kuck, managing partner of Kuck Baxter Immigration, who represents the rapper.

[Iraq] Ancient tablet acquired by Hobby Lobby going back to Iraq

The [AP](#) [9/23/2021 8:27 AM, Colleen Long, 2701K]

A 3,500-year-old clay tablet discovered in the ruins of the library of an ancient Mesopotamian king, then looted from an Iraqi museum 30 years ago, is finally headed back to Iraq. The \$1.7 million cuneiform clay tablet was found in 1853 as part of a 12-tablet collection in the rubble of the library of Assyrian King Assur Banipal. Officials believe it was illegally imported into the United States in 2003, then sold to Hobby Lobby and eventually put on display in its Museum of the Bible in the nation's capital. Federal agents with Homeland Security Investigations seized the tablet — known as the Gilgamesh Dream tablet — from the museum in September 2019. Months later, federal prosecutors in Brooklyn, New York, began a civil forfeiture court proceeding that resulted in the repatriation, which is scheduled for Thursday afternoon at a ceremony at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian that will include officials from Iraq. It's part of an increasing effort by authorities in the U.S. and around the world to return antiquities pilfered from their home countries. In years past, such items probably would never have made it back. The black market for these relics is vast, as are criminal networks and smugglers dealing in stolen items and falsifying ownership data. "By returning these illegally acquired objects, the authorities here in the United States and in Iraq are allowing the Iraqi people to reconnect with a page in their history," said Audrey Azoulay, director general of the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. "This exceptional restitution is a major victory over those who mutilate heritage and then traffic it to finance violence and terrorism." For the acting head of Homeland Security Investigations which found and investigated the origins of the tablet, the repatriation is personal. Steve Francis' parents were born in Iraq, part of a small sect known as Chaldean Iraqis who are Christian, and he was assigned to a U.S. Customs unit in 2003 that was sent to Iraq to help protect looted artifacts. "It's really special to me. I'm a Chaldean Iraqi and leading the agency that did this work," Francis said. "It is really something." Authorities are also repatriating a Sumerian Ram sculpture that was seized during a separate case.

Reported similarly:

The [Hill](#) [9/23/2021 8:53 AM, Rachel Scully, 1776K]

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Tech firms' nightmare: Vanishing green cards

[Axios](#) [9/23/2021 5:45 AM, Margaret Harding McGill, 526K]

Thousands of green cards are about to go to waste, leaving Google, Microsoft and other tech companies fuming — and pushing the Biden administration to ensure it doesn't happen again. Tech workers have waited years for green cards that will grant them permanent legal status in the U.S. — but because of pandemic-related processing delays, they will have to wait even longer. The U.S. makes a certain number of family-based and employment-based green cards available each fiscal year. 260,000 employment visas were available this year, rather than the typical 140,000, thanks to a pandemic-related drop in applications for family-based visas in 2020. Unused family cards from one year are added to the next year's count of employment cards. The catch: Processing those extra applications has gone slowly. An

administration official this summer warned of a 100,000-application backlog that would not be filled by the Sept. 30 fiscal year end. Extra green cards that haven't been granted in one year don't carry over to the next. Google and Microsoft are among the companies that have been urging federal officials to find a way to save the roughly 80,000 remaining employment-based green cards set to expire Sept. 30.

[NY] Undocumented Workers Who Power New York's Economy Finally Get Pandemic Aid

Bloomberg [9/23/2021 8:53 AM, Amy Yee, 6400K] reports that thousands of undocumented immigrants who lost their jobs working as cooks, delivery workers, day laborers, nannies and in other essential jobs are finally getting pandemic unemployment aid. New York state has approved applications for nearly half of a \$2.1 billion fund — the biggest of its kind — to help workers excluded from government aid during the pandemic. The state is starting to disburse \$550 million this week from the landmark Excluded Workers Fund (EWF). Since opening on August 1, it has received more than 163,000 applications, mostly from undocumented immigrants. New York is hoping that supporting these workers can help revive the state's battered economy. Forty-two percent of New York City small businesses shuttered as of April, and unemployment was at 10.2% in August, about double the national average of 5.2%. Tourism, which isn't expected to fully recover for another three to four years, lost billions last year. More than 500,000 undocumented people live in New York City, followed by Long Island, Hudson Valley and other parts of New York. The Fiscal Policy Institute (FPI) estimates that giving \$850 million of the EWF — the amount approved earlier this month — to excluded workers would boost New York City's economy by \$600 million, Long Island by \$70 million and Westchester by \$35 million.

[IN] Officials Refute Wild Rumors About Situation At Camp Atterbury

Northeast Indiana Public Radio [9/23/2021 5:25 PM, Mitch Legan] reports the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is denying rumors circulating about happenings at Camp Atterbury. Earlier this week, WIBC radio host Jason Hammer made shocking claims on air about the situation at Camp Atterbury, where roughly 7,000 Afghan evacuees are undergoing final health and safety checks before being settled across the country. Hammer said Monday he received a text from a National Guard member at the camp who said the FBI had been called in to deport members of the Taliban who had been caught in the vetting process. He went on to say the people at the camp were routinely engaging in violence, and that 47 were unaccounted for. DHS spokesperson Lorie Dankers said the claims were false, and that the only people who have left the base are those who have completed their health and safety checks. As of last week, that number was 25. Dankers did not provide an updated figure. "Some individuals (who have completed the vetting process) have decided to continue [the] resettlement process outside of Camp Atterbury," Dankers wrote in an email. "Intelligence, law enforcement and counterterrorism professionals conduct screening and security vetting before the Afghan guests are allowed into the United States. This includes reviews of both biographic and biometric data." "There is some confusion regarding the number of Afghan guests who arrived with government-issued identification," Dankers said. "The vast majority of arrivals present some form of identification or documentation demonstrating their identity. Approximately 76 percent of guests at Camp Atterbury have presented some form of documentation or identification. It is important to note more than 22 percent of our guests are age nine and younger, suggesting that many of those may not have a government-issued IDs."

[IL] Dozens of Afghan children arrive in Chicago after evacuation

The AP [9/23/2021 10:43 AM, Staff, 495K] reports that dozens of Afghan children have arrived in Chicago as refugees evacuated from Afghanistan during the U.S. withdrawal continue to reach American cities, officials said. The unaccompanied Afghan minors - children who traveled without a parent or legal guardian - arrived Wednesday at Chicago O'Hare International Airport, weeks after the U.S. ended its longest war. Nubia Willman, director of the city's Office of New Americans, said 75 Afghan minors had been expected to arrive in Chicago. She said at least 500 Afghans are expected to be resettled in the city, the Chicago Sun-Times reported. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security confirmed that a flight of Afghan children from Qatar had arrived Wednesday in Chicago. An agency spokesperson said the minors will be reunited with a vetted relative or will remain in the custody of the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement. The children will receive COVID-19 vaccines if they are eligible for it, according to DHS. A

spokesman for Mayor Lori Lightfoot said the city's Office of Emergency Management and Communications along with the Department of Aviation were working with state and federal officials to assist the children. "They have given up their homes, their families, their lives as they know them for a chance to survive," Lightfoot spokesman Cesar Rodriguez said in the statement posted on Twitter.

[WI] Afghan evacuees at U.S. military base charged with domestic violence, sexual abuse of minors

The Washington Times [9/23/2021 12:26 PM, Stephen Dinan, 381K] reports one Afghan evacuee being held at an American military base in Wisconsin tried to coerce two young boys into having sex with him, while another tried to strangle his wife, federal officials said in charging documents unsealed this week. The men, Bahrullah Noori and Mohammad Haroon Imaad, were arraigned Thursday and entered pleas of "not guilty." Both boys said Mr. Noori had been "doing this kind of thing for the last couple of weeks," and they'd been told not to say anything or he would beat them, an FBI agent said in an affidavit. Mr. Noori was indicted on multiple charges of attempted sex with a juvenile between 12 and 15, including one by force. In separate charges, Mr. Imaad, 32, is accused of assaulting his wife by trying to strangle or suffocate her. More broadly, security experts have complained about the massive numbers involved in the airlift, warning that there's little chance to do significant vetting.

Customs and Border Protection

Watchdog: CBP improperly targeted Americans as caravans approached border

Politico [9/23/2021 9:05 AM, Daniel Lippman, 1707K] reports that U.S. Customs and Border Protection improperly targeted American citizens that the agency suspected were involved with a 2018-19 migrant caravan with intrusive additional inspections, according to a new Department of Homeland Security inspector general's report. The inspector general also found that a Customs and Border Protection official asked the Mexican government in December 2018 to block 14 U.S. citizens from entering Mexico as the caravan approached the U.S. border even though it had "no genuine basis" to do so. The report, dated Sept. 20 but not yet publicly released, documents one instance where CBP officials placed "lookouts" — electronic alerts that lead to more intrusive inspections when crossing the U.S. border — on 15 Americans who had previously crossed the border with or were connected via social media to someone who CBP suspected might be planning violence at the border. But CBP didn't have any information that those 15 Americans were involved in planning any of the violence or were present at an intrusion into the U.S. CBP officials also improperly shared the "sensitive information" of other U.S. citizens with the Mexican government, according to the DHS watchdog. The CBP officials involved, the inspector general said, "were not forthcoming about the disclosures, did not follow CPB policies on sharing information with foreign entities and did not retain communication records." It noted that CBP's only written guidance on when to place lookouts hasn't been updated since 1990, 13 years before the Department of Homeland Security was established. Spokespeople for DHS and CBP didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on if any employees will be subject to disciplinary action. CNN [9/23/2021 6:38 PM, Geneva Sands, 4876K] reports the report looks back at 2018 when thousands of migrants gathered and traveled from Central America through Mexico seeking to enter the US, a migration movement known as the "migrant caravan." CBP was concerned that members of the migrant caravan could overwhelm CBP's resources and hinder its ability to process the legitimate flow of trade and travel. At the time, there was heated political rhetoric around the issue with then-President Donald Trump claiming in a series of tweets, just weeks ahead of the 2018 midterm elections, that he would declare a "national emergency" over migrant caravans moving north toward the US. To coordinate its response to the caravan, CBP implemented "Operation Secure Line" from October 2018 through February 2019, which included an intelligence section that gathered information about the number and travel patterns of migrants moving toward the border and researched social media and news articles to identify potential migrant caravan organizers, according to the inspector general. In early 2019, journalists, attorneys and migrant caravan supporters raised concerns that CBP was harassing people over their work on the migrant caravan, prompting the inspector general investigation.

Reported similarly:

Washington Times [9/23/2021 5:00 PM, Stephen Dinan, 381K]

Driver of a van carrying immigrants dies after eluding Border Patrol and crashing

Univision [9/23/2021 4:57 AM, Staff, 366K] reports that an Ecuadorian citizen was killed and nine other immigrants were injured when the truck in which they were traveling crashed down a highway in New Mexico, after evading a Border Patrol checkpoint and trying to escape from the authorities. According to the official account, the truck that the Ecuadorian was driving, a black SUV, circumvented the checkpoint after which several Border Patrol vehicles came out in pursuit. Officers located the Acura approximately six miles north of the checkpoint and attempted to bring the vehicle to a stop near the mile marker 19, but the driver did not stop and "continued for approximately half a mile until it lost control and crashed." Several of the occupants of the truck were "expelled from the vehicle", which ended up catching fire. Border Patrol agents immediately called for emergency medical services, removed the remaining four occupants from the burning vehicle and provided assistance, the CBP bulletin indicates. A forensic doctor arrived at the scene and declared the driver dead. So far her identity is unknown. Two of the injured were airlifted to University Medical Center in El Paso, Texas, and seven people were taken to Mimbres Memorial Hospital in Deming, New Mexico. A few hours later, five of the people who were taken to Mimbres Memorial Hospital were airlifted to University Medical Center for further medical care. CBP said the incident is being investigated by Homeland Security Investigations and the New Mexico State Police and reviewed by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Professional Responsibility and the New Mexico Office of the Medical Investigator.

Thousands Of Migrants Are Weighing Whether To Crossing Into The U.S.

NPR [9/23/2021 4:06 PM, Carrie Kahn, 4917K] Audio: HERE reports Haitian migrants camped on the Mexican side of the U.S. border are debating making the crossing north to face possible deportation to Haiti — or release into the U.S. for immigration hearings.

Border Patrol union chief says Biden using 'whip' furor to deflect from handling of migrant crisis

FOX News [9/23/2021 2:55 PM, Adam Shaw, 9251K] reports the head of the Border Patrol union is accusing the Biden administration of using a controversy over agents on horseback blocking Haitian migrants to "deflect" from its own handling of the crisis at the border, while saying the furor is "completely and totally demoralizing" for agents. "They know that what is taking place under the bridge is very embarrassing to them so they are trying to deflect," Brandon Judd, head of the National Border Patrol Council, told Fox News in an interview. "That's the administration trying to deflect off themselves for their failures which led to the catastrophe that's taking place under the bridge." Agents were surged to the area to tackle the wave, which saw more than 14,000 migrants camped under the bridge last week, and led to the administration increasing deportation flights. Judd has said previously that Border Patrol warned the administration about the potential crisis months ago, but no action was taken. DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas appeared to initially refute the claims being made by some in the media on Monday as she stood alongside Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz – who noted the use of long reins and how they are necessary to control the horse. But by Tuesday, after the White House weighed in, Mayorkas said the images "troubled me profoundly." The agents involved have since been shifted to desk duty as the investigation continues. Judd said he was not surprised by Mayorkas' change in attitude. Later, on Thursday afternoon, the White House announced that Mayorkas had told civil rights leaders that Border Patrol use of horses was being suspended in the Del Rio Sector.

[TX] Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signs bill easing prosecution of human smuggling suspects

FOX News [9/23/2021 11:45 AM, Ronn Blitzer, 9251K] reports that Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed a bill that broadens the scope of who can be charged with human smuggling, while raising the stakes for offenses covered under the previous law. The bill, SB 576, removes the requirement for an offender to be seeking monetary gain when transporting another person for the purpose of hiding from or fleeing an officer. It also adds ways that a person can violate the statute. "This all makes it easier to arrest and to prosecute human smugglers. This law also increases criminal penalties for human smuggling, especially

when payment is involved in that process," Abbott said at a Wednesday news conference. The new law amends a previous statute by making it a third-degree felony to help or direct more than one person "To enter or remain on agricultural land without the effective consent of the owner." It also bumps smuggling a person "For pecuniary benefit" up from a third-degree felony to second degree. This raises the maximum jail time for the offense from 10 years to 20. "Any operation that imposes stiffer fines or jail time for individuals is a deterrent, and we appreciate the assistance that we can get," Border Patrol agent Jesse Moreno told BorderReport.com. Moreno said he has seen 30 or more people living in quarters meant for four or five. The Department of Homeland Security said that as of Wednesday they had deported 1,719 people back to Haiti. Border Patrol agents have told Fox News that those being removed are generally single men and women, while family units and women claiming to be pregnant are being released.

[TX] Texas lawmakers sound the alarm on immigration crisis in Del Rio: The problem will 'spiral out of control'

FOX News [9/23/2021 12:45 PM, Amy Nelson, 9251K] reports that Tony Gonzales and August Pfluger shared their firsthand accounts of the ongoing crisis in Del Rio as thousands of migrants are waiting to get into the United States. On "America's Newsroom," Gonzales said it's like a hurricane has hit the community. Gonzales, who represents Del Rio, said Border Patrol and law enforcement are doing everything they can to mitigate the crisis. He said the latest numbers as of Thursday morning show roughly 4,400 migrants waiting under the International Bridge and another 2,000 still waiting in Mexico to cross into the U.S. He told Fox News' Dana Perino that the crisis is continuing to get worse and noted that Del Rio isn't the only community being impacted. "These are the type of things that are happening every single day throughout, not only in Del Rio, but other sectors as well," Gonzales said. "Meanwhile, the El Paso agents caught \$2 million worth of narcotics." "This is a problem that is continuing to grow, continuing to spiral out of control, and expelling migrants that do not qualify for asylum is part of that solution." President Biden pledged Tuesday to get the situation "Under control," but critics maintain that the crisis continues to threaten Americans' safety. Pfluger visited the Del Rio border Saturday and reported seeing 15,000 migrants waiting to enter the country. "It's clear that it's a crisis," Pflueger said.

[TX] How Haitian migrants are flooding the border in Texas with Big Tech's help

FOX News [9/23/2021 9:00 AM, Staff, 9251K] reports that for the final leg of his journey from Chile to the United States, Haitian migrant Fabricio Jean followed detailed instructions sent to him via WhatsApp from his brother in New Jersey who had recently taken the route to the Texas border. His brother wired him 20,000 pesos for the trip, then meticulously mapped it out, warning him of areas heavy with Mexican immigration officials. What Jean didn't expect was to find thousands of Haitian migrants like himself crossing at the same remote spot. Migrants use platforms like Facebook, YouTube WhatsApp to share information, with the latter being the most popular. Online messages touting the Mexican town of Ciudad Acuña, across from Del Rio, started after President Joe Biden took office and began reversing some of the Trump administration's immigration policies. Facebook Inc., which owns WhatsApp, allows people to exchange information about crossing borders, even illegally, but its policy bars posts that ask for money for services that facilitate human smuggling. Haitians began crossing there this year, but their numbers ballooned after a Biden administration program that briefly opened the door to some asylum seekers ended, said Nicole Phillips, of the San Diego-based Haitian Bridge Alliance, which advocates for Haitian migrants. Once it ceased in August, people panicked, and the messages recommending Ciudad Acuña "went viral," Phillips said. Interviews with dozens of Haitian migrants, immigration attorneys and advocates reveal a phenomenon produced partly by confusion over the Biden administration's policies after authorities recently extended protections for the more than 100,000 Haitians living in the United States. In extending protections for Haitians this spring, the Biden administration cited security concerns and social unrest in the Western Hemisphere's poorest country. Despite Biden's announcement to turn Haitian immigrants around, many families continue to be released into the US. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said the temporary protections were limited to those residing in the U.S. before July 29 - but that condition was often missing in posts, leading Haitians outside the United States to believe they, too, were eligible. "I want to make sure it is known that this is not the way to come to the United States," he said.

[TX] “We have to cross 14 countries”: this was the journey of a Haitian immigrant from Chile to Austin

Univision Austin [9/23/2021 10:54 AM, Staff, 366K] reports that many Haitian immigrants who have been camping since last week under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, are being released in the United States, according to two government officials. One of them is living in the Austin area and spoke about his journey across borders. The Haitian immigrant, who did not want to be identified, said that he left Haiti 4 years ago and was living in Chile. However, a few weeks ago he made the decision to cross the border with his pregnant wife. “To get here it was very hard because we have to cross 14 countries, from Chile to Mexico,” said the man. According to him told Univision 62, the man has a brother in Round Rock and that is why he came to this area. Likewise, he indicated that he has an appointment with an immigration agent in about 2 months and after that he hopes to apply for asylum in order to remain in this country. “Everyone wants to come to the United States and when the president says that migrants can now cross, one says now you have to come. In Chile we work, but there is a chaos of papers. Many people do not have paper to do their paperwork. If you have a boy or a girl in Haiti, you cannot bring them to live together with their family,” he explained. All this occurs at the same time that dozens of Haitians are being deported back to their country of origin, at a time of economic and social instability in that country due to an earthquake in August and the assassination of its president in July. With the large number of Haitians under the international bridge in Del Rio, Texas, the Biden administration announced the repatriation of hundreds of these immigrants. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) confirmed late Wednesday that 1,401 Haitian migrants who were in a makeshift camp at the border crossing have been deported.

[Mexico] Surge of Haitian migrants at the U.S. border challenges Mexico, too

The Washington Post [9/23/2021 7:04 PM, Kevin Sieff and Paulina Villegas, 11773K] reports as the United States denies entry to thousands of Haitians who have arrived at the southern border, Mexico is reckoning with its own dilemma over what to do with the migrants massing on its side of the Rio Grande. Its response reflects the continuous pressure applied by the United States to keep migrants far away from U.S. soil and the country’s own increasingly conservative immigration policy. Francisco Garduño Yáñez, commissioner of Mexico’s National Immigration Institute, said this week that Mexican authorities will ferry Haitians “by air and ground” back to the country’s southern border, so that migrants who have claimed asylum can “continue their process” in the states where they first filed their cases. Mexican authorities will also “support them with their safe return to their country of origin,” he said. He did not offer details. On Thursday morning, the crowd of Haitians in Ciudad Acuña, across the Rio Grande from Del Rio, Tex., had dwindled from several thousand to a few hundred. Mexican police and national guard members rounded up Haitians staying in area motels and plazas. After authorities had done little to stop Haitian migrants as they transited north through Mexico this month, it appeared they were now attempting to prove — above all to the United States — that they would not tolerate the arrival of undocumented immigrants at Mexico’s northern border. The country’s immigration agency boasted of its new enforcement operations. In Mexico, unlike in the United States, migration is rarely politically divisive. In 2016, thousands of Haitians arrived at Mexico’s northern border and were mostly permitted to stay there. Many lived in an area that was renamed “Little Haiti.” Their arrival prompted little antagonism. Reuters [9/24/2021 2:05 AM, Daina Beth Solomon, 5304K] reports Mexican officials are urging Haitians on the Texas border trying to reach the United States to give up and return to Mexico’s frontier with Guatemala to request asylum, even as discontent grows over the treatment meted out to the beleaguered migrants. Up to 14,000 mostly Haitians were camped just north of the Rio Grande river this month as they attempted to enter the United States, but hundreds retreated to Mexico after U.S. officials began sending planes of people back to Haiti. Pressure is growing on U.S. President Joe Biden to tighten the border, and Mexico’s National Migration Institute (INM) is starting to return migrants to the southern Mexican city of Tapachula so they can file asylum applications there.

Transportation Security Administration

Unruly airplane behavior prompted harsher penalties and more enforcement. People are still acting out.

The [Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 7:10 PM, Lori Aratani, 11773K] reports that high-profile incidents involving airline passengers insulting and attacking crew members or refusing to wear masks in defiance of federal requirements risk eroding public confidence in air travel, witnesses and lawmakers said Thursday during a hearing to examine the effects of unruly passengers on the aviation system. Federal agencies have stepped up efforts to quash such behavior, but even as the Federal Aviation Administration said Thursday that the rate of reported incidents has declined since the start of this year, it conceded that such occurrences remain unacceptably high. The hearing before the House subcommittee on aviation is Washington's latest response to a sharp rise in mask-related incidents and bad behavior on airplanes. It comes after stepped-up enforcement and increased fines, with lawmakers this week questioning whether changes have deterred conflicts. On Thursday, Rep. Rick Larsen (D-Wash.), chairman of the subcommittee, said incidents have put the safety of front-line workers, passengers and the aviation system at risk. "As the nation works to get to the other side of the covid-19 pandemic, the surge in public air rage incidents has exacerbated the already-tenuous workforce situation in our aviation sector and eroded confidence in air travel," he said. Added Rep. Garret Graves (La.), the top Republican on the subcommittee: "It needs to be a civil experience for everyone on the plane, and obviously there are additional safety considerations for being tens of thousands of feet up in the air in a metal airplane when thinking about this." The FAA said this week it has received 4,385 reports of unruly passenger incidents, most of which involve masks. The numbers have prompted both chambers on Capitol Hill to voice concerns about airplane behavior. Earlier this month, the Transportation Security Administration — which enforces a mask mandate in transportation settings — doubled fines for those who refuse to comply.

Reported similarly:

[The Hill](#) [9/23/2021 10:53 AM, Mychael Schnell, 1776K]

Delta has banned more than 1,600 unruly passengers. Now, it wants airlines to share ban lists.

[CBS News](#) [9/23/2021 7:49 PM, Kathryn Krupnik, Allison Elyse Gualtieri, 2612K] reports that more than 1,600 people have been banned by Delta Airlines since the federal government has required airplane passengers to wear masks — and now, the company wants other airlines to share their ban lists. The number of people on those internal lists, separate from the federal no-fly list, topped 4,000 as of May, though the figure has likely increased since. That number does not include passengers banned by American and Southwest airlines, as those companies do not release their data. "We've also asked other airlines to share their "no fly" list to further protect airline employees across the industry — something we know is top of mind for you as well. A list of banned customers doesn't work as well if that customer can fly with another airline," said a memo reviewed by CBS News that was sent to flight attendants Wednesday. Delta also said they've submitted more than 600 banned names to the Federal Aviation Administration. The agency said earlier this week that it had received 4,385 reports from airlines this year about unruly passengers, including 3,199 reports involving passengers refusing to comply with federal mask requirements. Those requirements will be in place until January, the Transportation Security Administration announced last month. Representatives of the FAA met this week with representatives of the airlines to discuss ways to reduce unruly behavior, and asked the airlines to commit to more action. The FAA had earlier asked airports to work with local law enforcement on criminal prosecutions. The airlines started enforcing federal mask mandates in June 2020, and the FAA implemented its zero-tolerance policy regarding unruly behavior in January. The agency has initiated 789 investigations into passengers so far in 2021, a sharp spike from the 183 investigations it initiated in 2020.

'Airports are terrifying': How TSA Cares helps people who need extra support at security

[USA Today](#) [9/23/2021 6:01 AM, Melissa Yeager, 6282K]

When Jim Macklin last flew through Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport in June, he booked a flight with Southwest Airlines. Needing help to navigate the airport, he highlighted one word on his reservation: blind. It was Macklin's first time traveling since his diagnosis of Stargardt disease, a rare genetic condition that causes macular degeneration. He hasn't completely lost his vision but his eyesight has deteriorated to the point where he cannot navigate the labyrinth of an airport without assistance. Unsure how he would find his gate, he flagged down someone in a uniform when he arrived curbside at Sky Harbor. The person

helped him get where he needed to go, but Macklin is one of many travelers who might have felt less anxiety if they had known of a Transportation Security Administration program designed to make trips through airport security less stressful. The TSA screening process can induce anxiety in even the most seasoned travelers. Remembering what's allowed, what's not. Taking off shoes. Taking out laptops. Separating 3-ounce liquids into a plastic bag. Getting hands swabbed. Standing in an X-ray machine. Navigating crowds of people in a noisy, packed environment. A medical condition or sensory issue could make the process even more taxing. Recognizing that, the Transportation Security Administration launched TSA Cares in 2012. People who might need extra support through security, whether due to a disability, medical condition or other circumstance, can call in advance to let the agency know. The program is generally open to any passenger who believes they would benefit from extra support navigating security and is available nationwide. Some of the most common requests are from people with autism, those who use a wheelchair or scooter, travelers with cognitive disabilities and passengers with diabetes.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Tropical Storm Sam forms, forecast to become major Atlantic hurricane by Sunday

The [Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 11:59 AM, Matthew Cappucci, 11773K] reports that newly formed Tropical Storm Sam has all the makings of an eventual monster as it rolls through the central tropical Atlantic. Forecast to become a major hurricane, it comes barely a week after the historic peak of Atlantic hurricane season, with roughly half the season left to go. There are some models that suggest that Sam could cruise well into Category 4 territory, whipping up winds in excess of 130 mph as it swings west toward the Leeward Islands. Most forecast simulations project the storm to make a right-hand turn and curve northward over the open Atlantic before reaching the Lesser Antilles, but it will be an extremely close call. A few models do show the possibility of it becoming a threat in the northern Caribbean. Meteorologists are also tracking multiple additional systems in the Atlantic, including the remnants of Odette, which have been swirling around the North Atlantic for nearly a week now. There are some signs it could regenerate and acquire tropical or subtropical characteristics. Another tropical wave soon to emerge off the coast of Africa could gradually develop as well, becoming something to watch in the next week or so. The season so far has featured 18 named storms, including six hurricanes and three major hurricanes. If three more storms form, the National Hurricane Center's list of storm names will be exhausted, and it will be forced to use a supplementary list developed by the World Meteorological Organization for any additional storms. [USA Today](#) [9/23/2021 11:47 PM, Susan Miller, 6282K] reports Tropical Storm Sam was expected to take a west to west-northwest track across the central Atlantic over the weekend, Accuweather said. Whether it makes landfall is still uncertain, but forecasters urged Bermuda, the Bahamas and the U.S. East Coast to stay vigilant. "Sam could approach the northern Leeward Islands by Tuesday of next week as a major hurricane," Miller said, noting the storm's maximum sustained winds could be at least 111 mph, the threshold for a Category 3 hurricane. Sam is the 13th named storm to form in the Atlantic since Aug. 11, according to Colorado State University hurricane researcher Phil Klotzbach. Only one other hurricane season on record has had 18 named storms by Sept. 23, he said: 2020 had 23 named storms by that date. So far this year there have been six hurricanes and three major hurricanes: Grace, Ida and Larry.

Reported similarly:

[Reuters](#) [9/23/2021 11:13 AM, Staff, 5304K]

[NY] New York City braces for new round of flooding after summer of wild rains

The [Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 2:06 PM, Matthew Cappucci, 11773K] reports that on the night of Sept. 1, a dire flash flood emergency was issued for New York, with scores of water rescues occurring as rising floodwaters killed at least 50 people in the Northeast. The top-tier flooding event, due to the remnants of Hurricane Ida, dropped staggering rain totals approaching the double digits in spots. It capped off a summer punctuated by relentless rounds of flooding. Similar scenes unfolded in July when back-to-back deluges flooded the New York subway. A National Weather Service balloon launch found record

atmospheric moisture during that event. Now residents in the Big Apple are preparing for yet another potential flood event, with flash flood watches up for the city of 8 million. The heaviest rains will accompany a band of thunderstorms along a cold front that will sweep through the region Thursday night into Friday morning. The downpours will not be as extreme as those three weeks ago but could still drop one to two inches of rain in a short time. "The rainfall combined with wet antecedent conditions in a short period of time will lead to increased potential for flash flooding," the National Weather Service wrote. A ribbon of high PWATs, or precipitable water values, is aiming toward New York like a fire hose. PWATs describe how much moisture is present in a column of atmosphere and is available for clouds to tap into to produce rainfall. PWATs exceeding two inches are moving into the region. The atmosphere is like a soggy sponge, and it won't take much to squeeze that moisture out of the sky. The bulk of the rain is expected through early Friday.

Reported similarly:

[Univision](#) [9/23/2021 10:22 AM, Staff, 366K]

[CA] Fawn Fire in Northern California quickly spreads, prompting evacuation

[FOX News](#) [9/23/2021 3:45 PM, Bradford Betz, 9251K] reports northern California authorities have ordered evacuations in response to a new wildfire spreading in the area. The Shasta County Sheriff's Office issued a mandatory evacuation order because of the Fawn Fire burning in the unincorporated Mountain Gate area north of the city of Redding at the far north end of the Central Valley. The fire has grown to more than 1 square mile since it started Wednesday afternoon and was just 5% contained. Statewide, more than 9,000 firefighters remained assigned to 10 large, active wildfires, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. California fires have burned 3,671 square miles this year, destroying more than 3,200 homes, commercial properties and other structures.

[CA] Woman arrested on suspicion of starting California blaze

The [AP](#) [9/23/2021 8:20 PM, Staff, 49K] reports a woman has been arrested on suspicion of starting a Northern California wildfire that spread rapidly, burning homes and prompting evacuation orders Thursday in a rural community, authorities said. Workers at a nearby quarry reported seeing a woman acting strangely and trespassing in the area in Shasta County where the Fawn Fire was sparked Wednesday afternoon, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said in a statement. Later Wednesday, Alexandra Souverneva walked out of the brush near the fire line and approached firefighters and told them she was dehydrated and needed medical help, Cal Fire said. Souverneva, 30, was taken out of the area for evaluation and treatment. During an interview with Cal Fire and law enforcement, officers came to believe Souverneva, of Palo Alto, was responsible for setting the fire, officials said. She was arrested and booked into the Shasta County Jail. It wasn't immediately known if she has an attorney.

Reported similarly:

[San Francisco Chronicle](#) [9/23/2021 6:29 PM, Andres Picon, Dominic Fracassa, 495K]

Federal Protective Service

Senators introduce bill to incentivize agencies to lease space they don't need

The [Federal News Network](#) [9/23/2021 1:44 PM, Jory Heckman, 49K] reports that a bipartisan group of members from the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee is introducing a bill to incentivize agencies to lease space they don't need. The Saving Money and Accelerating Repairs Through Leasing Act would create a pilot program that would allow agencies to sublease underutilized real estate to "any person or entity at fair market value," including another federal, state or local government agency. The bill allows agencies to use rent payments to help fund capital projects and facilities maintenance. The legislation would give agencies more options to deal with underutilized space across more than 130,000 civilian federal buildings in the United States. The SMART Leasing Act would require the General Services Administration to certify that subleases conducted through the pilot would

not have any negative impact on the mission of agencies leasing the space, and that the terms of the sublease protect the interests of the country. The pilot outlined in the bill would cap the number of agency subleases to six per year, and would run through 2024. At that point, GSA would advise Congress on whether to extend or expand the program. Senators modeled the bill after a similar program used by NASA, which has generated millions of dollars in revenue for the agency to use on capital projects and facilities maintenance.

[CA] 4 California militia members plead guilty to conspiracy

The [AP](#) [9/23/2021 3:48 PM, Staff] reports four members of an alleged California militia group have pleaded guilty to conspiring to obstruct justice in the case of a federal guard who was fatally shot in Oakland more than a year ago, federal prosecutors said. The men — followers of the “boogaloo” movement, a concept embraced by a loose network of gun enthusiasts and militia-style extremists — are accused of conspiring to destroy communications and other records about the May 29, 2020, killing of federal security officer David Patrick Underwood and attempted murder of his partner by one of their members. In April, a federal grand jury indicted Jessie Alexander Rush, 29, of Turlock; Robert Jesus Blancas, 33, of Castro Valley; Simon Sage Ybarra, 23, of Los Gatos; and Kenny Matthew Miksch, 21, of San Lorenzo, on charges of conspiracy to obstruct justice. Miksch on Monday became the fourth member of the so-called Grizzly Scouts to plead guilty to conspiring to obstruct justice. Rush and Ybarra pleaded guilty to a single charge of conspiracy to obstruct justice last week and Blancas last month, according to recent plea agreements with the Northern District of California U.S. Attorney’s Office that were announced Monday.

Secret Service

Former military intelligence analyst: Biden admin buying Chinese drones ‘poses national security threat’

[FOX News](#) [9/23/2021 3:03 PM, Joshua Q. Nelson, 9251K, Neutral, Primary] Video: [HERE](#) reports former military intelligence analyst Brett Velicovich said on Thursday that the report of federal agencies buying Chinese drones “poses a national security risk.” Federal law enforcement agencies in the Biden administration are reportedly purchasing surveillance drones from China that have previously been labeled a potential national security threat by the Pentagon. The U.S. Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have recently acquired surveillance drones from the Shenzhen-based company DJI, around the same time the Defense Department deemed products from the Chinese company to be a potential national security threat, according to an Axios report. “The American people especially need to look at what this administration does, and not what they say, because they are clearly full of it if they don’t stop this illegal activity immediately,” Velicovich told “Fox & Friends.” Velicovich argued that the purchase of Chinese-made drones is not only hypocritical to the Biden administration’s stance on reducing America’s reliance on technology, but it was also made illegal by the Department of Justice in 2019 when specific legislation was passed banning the purchase of drones and components made in China. The former military intelligence analyst added that there is “no denying at this point that this technology poses a national security risk.” “I mean, the cybersecurity vulnerabilities are very, very well documented. The Biden administration has even come out and made dramatic unprecedented statements saying that the tech poses a national security risk,” he said.

[AL] Woman uses counterfeit bills at CVS in Prattville, police say

[ABC3340](#) [9/23/2021 11:00 AM, Jeff Wyatt, Neutral, Secondary] reports the Prattville Police Department is looking for a woman they say is passing counterfeit money. According to a news release, the woman in the photo used two fake \$100 bills at the CVS on Cobbs Ford Road in Prattville to purchase a PayPal card. This happened just after 5:30 P.M. on August 26, 2021.

[FL] 2 Tampa men defrauded government of \$1 million in unemployment benefits

The [Tampa Bay Times](#) [9/23/2021 10:32 AM, Josh Fiallo, 346K, Positive, Secondary] reports two Tampa men pleaded guilty Wednesday to making fraudulent unemployment claims that netted them over \$1 million in benefits during 2020. Kary Stevenson, 47, and Corey Quinn, 35, conspired to commit access device fraud and aggravated identity theft, the U.S. Attorney's Office in Tampa said in a news release. Each man could receive up to seven years in federal prison — five years for the conspiracy charge and two years for identity theft. Plea agreements describe how the pair collected the money, obtaining the personal information of strangers and making unemployment claims in the strangers' names. They had the benefits deposited into bank accounts and used debit cards to withdraw money from ATMs or to make purchases at stores. The U.S. Department of Labor estimated that Stevenson and Quinn defrauded the U.S. government of at least \$1.01 million. Helping in the investigation were the Department of Labor, the U.S. Secret Service and the Tampa Police Department. The U.S. Attorney General established the COVID-19 Fraud Enforcement Task Force in May 2020 to help prevent pandemic-related fraud but it was not clear whether the task force was involved in this case.

[FL] Credit card fraudster sentenced to eight years in prison

[My Sun Coast](#) [9/23/2021 10:28 AM, Staff, 23K, Positive, Secondary] reports a Miami man was sentenced to eight years in federal prison Wednesday for credit card fraud that victimized stores in four states, including Sarasota County. Andre Moore, 37, pleaded guilty June 8 to credit card fraud and aggravated identity theft. The judge in U.S District Court in Tampa also ordered Moore to pay \$650,145.03 in restitution and to forfeit \$3,110.55, related to the counts on which he was convicted. According to court documents, Moore stole the identities of more than 100 individuals. Between September 2019 and May 2020, Moore used those stolen identities to make more than \$650,000 in purchases at retail stores in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Texas. Moore used fraudulent driver licenses and ID cards to open store credit card accounts under the stolen identities and to re-open dormant store credit card accounts. Moore made thousands of dollars in purchases during the COVID-19 pandemic, including using the stolen accounts to purchase items that were scarce early on in the pandemic. Further, Moore committed the fraud while living under a fake identity and, upon his federal arrest, lied about his name and identity to both federal agents and the Court. This case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service, the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, and the Winter Park Police Department.

[OH] Dayton police officer released from hospital after being shot in line of duty

[WDTN](#) [9/23/2021 5:05 PM, Josh Goad, 10K, Neutral, Secondary] reports Officer Thadeu Holloway has been released from the hospital after being shot in the left side of his head by a suspect Tuesday. Dozens of law enforcement cruisers lined Main Street outside of Miami Valley Hospital to wish the injured officer well as he continues his recovery. Holloway was shot Tuesday after stopping a Antwaine Deon Lowe for possibly using a counterfeit bill at a Dollar General in Dayton. The encounter escalated when Lowe punched the officer, Holloway then tased the suspect, who fell and pulled a gun shooting one round at Holloway's head. The officer shoot back five times, striking Lowe and leaving him in critical condition. During a news conference Wednesday the department said that the suspect was in serious condition but was stable. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

[OH] Police investigate counterfeit bills used during local pizza delivery

[WKBN 27 First News](#) [9/23/2021 3:32 PM, Patty Coller, 20K, Neutral, Secondary] reports police in Warren are investigating after someone gave a pizza delivery driver counterfeit money. According to a police report, officers were called Tuesday to the Pizza Hut on Market Street where the manager said a driver delivered a pizza to an address on the 2000 block of N. Feederlee SE at about 8 p.m. and the person gave him two \$20 bills. When the driver returned to the restaurant, it was discovered that the money was fake. The bills were taken as evidence. The investigation is ongoing.

[MN] Olivia officials say counterfeit currency becoming more prevalent

[KEYC](#) [9/23/2021 8:46 PM, Staff, 9K, Neutral, Secondary] reports the Olivia Police Department says counterfeit money is becoming a huge issue in the city. The department says it has taken a handful of reports regarding counterfeit currency being passed at local businesses over the past few weeks. So far,

\$20 worth of fake bills have been confiscated, and the department is asking local area businesses to be vigilant in checking any and all paper currency.

Coast Guard

U.S. icebreaker gap with Russia a growing concern as Arctic 'cold war' heats up

The [Washington Times](#) [9/22/2021 8:00 PM, Mike Glenn, 381K] reports that a Seattle-based Coast Guard cutter is almost halfway through a months-long voyage that took it through the ice-choked Northwest Passage north of Canada and will eventually result in a circumnavigation of North America once it transits through the Panama Canal and returns home. The mission of the USCGC Healy, a 420-foot medium ice breaker, was to stage military exercises alongside allies like Canada and carry out high-latitude scientific research. Another assignment was to demonstrate a U.S. presence in the Arctic amid long-term warming trends that are reducing the ice and dramatically increasing maritime traffic in the region. One problem for American strategists seeking to make a statement: By itself, the 22-year-old Healy represents exactly 50% of the U.S. Coast Guard's "fleet" of active polar icebreakers. Russia, by contrast, boasts dozens and is building more, and other states vying for influence and resources in the Arctic also outpace the U.S. The USCGC Polar Star, also based in Seattle, is a heavy icebreaker and even older. It was commissioned in 1976. A third USCG heavy icebreaker, the Polar Sea, is being cannibalized to provide parts for its sister ship. For years, Coast Guard officials have been pleading with Congress to help them bulk up its icebreaker fleet to ensure continued access to the polar regions. With both Russia and China making a concerted push for influence in the Arctic, the lagging American presence is even more glaring in light of the new Pentagon strategy of focusing on "great-power" rivals. "We absolutely need to be up in the Arctic and down in Antarctica on a more persistent basis than we are today. Great power competition is alive and well there," Adm. Karl Schultz, commandant of the Coast Guard, told the House Homeland Security Committee at a hearing this summer.

[TX] Major US port target of attempted cyber attack

The [Hill](#) [9/23/2021 8:16 PM, Olafimihan Oshin, 1776K] reports the Port of Houston, a major U.S. port, was targeted in an attempted cyber attack last month, the Port shared in a statement on Thursday. "The Port of Houston Authority (Port Houston) successfully defended itself against a cybersecurity attack in August," the statement reads. "Port Houston followed its Facilities Security Plan in doing so, as guided under the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA), and no operational data or systems were impacted as a result." The attempted hack involved a password management program called ManageEngine ADSelfService Plus, according to The Associated Press. In a joint statement last week, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency along with the FBI and the U.S. Coast Guard said that the vulnerability in the software creates a serious threat to critical infrastructure companies, defense contractors, and others. This comes as some major U.S. companies such as Colonial Pipeline and JBS USA have experienced similar ransomware cyberattacks in 2021. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) told the newswire that the attack was "concerning," saying that the country needs to "push back against these nation-state actors who continue to probe and to commit these crimes against our public and private sector entities."

Reported similarly:

[Axios](#) [9/23/2021 9:54 PM, Fadel Allassan, 526K]

[Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 6:40 PM, Alan Suderman, 11773K]

CISA/Cybersecurity

Officials urge Congress to consider fining companies that fail to report cyber incidents

The [Hill](#) [9/23/2021 4:44 PM, Maggie Miller, 1776K] reports the nation's top cybersecurity officials on Thursday urged Congress to consider passing legislation that would fine organizations if they failed to report cybersecurity incidents to the federal government, part of an effort to do more to confront a recent

spree of attacks. Jen Easterly, the director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), testified in favor of taking the more hardline stance to encourage incident reporting during a hearing held by the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, which is considering bipartisan mandatory cyber reporting legislation. “I know some of the language talks about subpoena authority,” Easterly said, referring to the committee’s draft legislation. “My personal view is, that is not an agile enough mechanism to allow us to get the information that we need to share as rapidly as possible to prevent other potential victims from threat actors, so I think we should look at fines.” Both Federal Chief Information Security Officer Christopher DeRusha and National Cyber Director Chris Inglis testified alongside Easterly on Thursday, with both agreeing that further enforcement mechanisms were needed to encourage cyber incident reporting to the federal government.

Reported similarly:

[Washington Times](#) [9/23/2021 10:28 AM, Ryan Lovelace, 381K]

[IA] Russian hackers deny an Iowa grain cooperative counts as ‘critical’

The [Washington Post](#) [9/23/2021 7:54 AM, Joseph Marks, 11773K] reports that during a June faceoff with Russian President Vladimir Putin, President Biden threatened retaliation if Russian hacking gangs don’t steer clear of U.S. critical infrastructure. Now Biden’s commitment is being debated amid a ransomware attack gumming up operations at an Iowa grain cooperative – an operation that’s small, yet still part of the critical agriculture sector. And Blackmatter, the Russian criminal hacking gang that hacked New Cooperative in Fort Dodge, Iowa, has even appeared to mock the cooperative’s claim it counted as critical infrastructure in an online chat, warning “everyone will incur losses.” (Analysts at Recorded Future observed and screenshotted the chats.) Agriculture is one of 16 sectors the Department of Homeland Security has officially listed as critical. Others include health care, financial services and energy. But here’s the problem: New Cooperative doesn’t look particularly critical to the casual observer. It manages only a small portion of the Iowa corn market. And the cooperative quickly developed workarounds such as using paper sale tickets that limited any broader impacts that might affect food prices, as Jacob Bogage reports. That puts the Biden administration in an awkward spot. On one hand: The attack is less damaging than dozens of other ransomware hacks that have hit schools and small businesses in recent months without prompting any significant attention from the federal government. On the other hand: It represents a direct provocation from one of the United States’ toughest adversaries. U.S. officials say Russia-based ransomware gangs don’t work on behalf of the Russian state but operate with the Kremlin’s tacit approval. “A lot of people probably had the same reaction, that New Cooperative doesn’t really look like critical infrastructure. But it’s not my call. The government has declared it critical infrastructure,” Allan Liska, director of threat intelligence at the cybersecurity firm Recorded Future, told me.

[CA] UC San Diego Health sued over data breach that may have exposed records of 500,000 patients

The [San Diego Union Tribune](#) [9/23/2021 9:59 PM, Mike Freeman, 302K] reports UC San Diego Health faces a lawsuit over a data breach last winter that potentially exposed sensitive information from nearly a half-million patients, employees and others connected with the health care system. Lawyers representing an El Cajon cancer patient filed legal action this week in San Diego federal court alleging negligence, breach of contract, and violation of California consumer privacy and medical confidentiality laws. It seeks class-action status and unspecified damages for all individuals whose personal and medical information may have been compromised. “Patients should trust that their most private medical results will not be made public, and that their medical visits will not leave them at risk for identity theft,” said San Diego Attorney Jason Hartley, who is working with lead counsel Stueve Siegel Hanson of Kansas City. “This breach was preventable — had UC San Diego Health had the right data protection protocols in place.” The lawsuit names the Regents of the University of California doing business as UC San Diego Health. A university spokesperson declined to comment on pending litigation. In July, the health care system announced on its website that hackers had used a phishing scam to gain unauthorized access to certain email accounts over a four-month period from Dec. 2, 2020, through April 8. That opened the door to potential access to a wide range of personal and medical data. At the time, UC San Diego Health didn’t

say how many people were affected due to an ongoing investigation, which included reporting the breach to the FBI and working with external cybersecurity experts. That probe is now complete. Beginning Sept. 7, UC San Diego Health began notifying the 495,949 individuals affected by the breach on a rolling basis where contact information is available, according to the spokesperson.

Terrorism Investigations

[DC] January 6 committee issues first subpoenas for witness testimony to four Trump loyalists

CNN [9/23/2021 11:22 PM, Ryan Nobles and Annie Grayer, 4876K] reports the select committee investigating the January 6 riot at the US Capitol issued its first round of subpoenas Thursday, targeting close aides and allies of former President Donald Trump. The subpoenas come as the select committee seeks to investigate efforts the Trump White House took to potentially overturn the 2020 presidential election and how the spread of misinformation fueled the anger and violence that led to the Capitol insurrection. The four subpoenas are going to former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows, former deputy chief of staff Dan Scavino, former adviser Steve Bannon and Kash Patel, a former chief of staff to then-acting Secretary of Defense Christopher Miller who had also served as an aide to Republican Rep. Devin Nunes. The former Trump staffers are being issued subpoenas for private depositions and records. All document requests are due by October 7. The committee requests that Patel and Bannon appear on October 14, while Scavino and Meadows have been requested to appear before the committee on October 15.

[TN] Tennessee Kroger grocery store shooting leaves 1 dead, at least 12 injured, police say

FOX News [9/23/2021 5:39 PM, Bradford Betz , David Aaro, 9251K] reports police in Tennessee responded Thursday after at least a dozen people were shot at a Kroger supermarket, including at least one who was killed. The shooter, whose identity remained unknown, also was dead of what was believed to be a self-inflicted gunshot wound, police said. The shooting happened in Collierville, Tennessee, about 30 miles east of downtown Memphis. Collierville police Chief Dale Lane said responding officers and a SWAT team entered the supermarket and went aisle to aisle to rescue employees – some of whom were hiding in the store's freezer. "I've been involved in this for 34 years and I've never seen a scene like this," Lane said, calling it "the most horrific event in Collierville history." Police said 44 employees were in the store at the time of the shooting, though it was unclear how many customers were inside. Lane said an image circulating on social media, showing someone on the store's roof, was later determined to be that of a Kroger employee. The Collierville Police Department originally received a call regarding an active shooter at Kroger at around 1:30 p.m., authorities said. Kroger employee Brignetta Dickerson said she was working the cash register Thursday when shots rang out.

Reported similarly:

NPR [9/23/2021 4:43 PM, Jonathan Franklin]

USA Today [9/23/2021 6:10 PM, Katherine Burgess, Dima Amro, Jeanine Santucci, 6282K] Video: [HERE](#)

National Security News

Diplomat overseeing "Havana Syndrome" response leaving after 6 months

CBS News [9/23/2021 11:34 AM, Olivia Gazis, Sophie Reardon, and Tori Powell, 2612K] reports that Ambassador Pamela Spratlen, the senior official leading the State Department's response to cases of "Havana Syndrome" reported by U.S. diplomats, is leaving her post after six months in the role, the department confirmed Wednesday. "Ambassador Spratlen earlier this year agreed to return to the Department to take on the role, created by Secretary Blinken, of Senior Advisor of the Health Incidents Response Task Force," a State Department spokesperson said. Spratlen had "reached the threshold of hours of labor" permitted under her status as a retired ambassador, the official said, adding her replacement would be named "soon." "We thank her for her service and invaluable contributions to the efforts of the Task Force," the spokesperson said. Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources

Brian McKeon will continue to oversee the task force's efforts. Spratlen's departure comes amid simmering frustration among diplomats who have been affected by "Havana Syndrome," the mysterious neurological illness with symptoms that can include vertigo, nausea and intense headaches. Victims have complained of inattention by the department to their cases and lingering skepticism among its medical staff. Earlier this month, Secretary of State Antony Blinken held a call with affected employees, who have also complained they continue to face hurdles in accessing medical care and benefits. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

Top nuclear policy appointee removed from Pentagon post: report

The Hill [9/23/2021 10:34 AM, Monique Beals, 1776K] reports that the Pentagon has removed one of its top political appointees as the Biden administration looks to solidify its nuclear weapons policies moving forward. Leonor Tomero, the deputy assistant secretary of Defense for nuclear and missile defense, was asked by Pentagon officials to resign, a move first reported by Politico. Tomero had only been in her role for eight months and was responsible for overseeing the Biden administration's Nuclear Posture Review. The president is expected to release that review, which details its strategy surrounding nuclear weapons, in early 2022, the news outlet reported. This strategy could involve cutting back on the country's use of nuclear weapons or modernizing the U.S. nuclear force against the wishes of progressive lawmakers. Some advocates for nuclear disarmament suggested Tomero's departure was the result of her efforts to challenge current nuclear policies, The Washington Post reported. Nuclear weapons expert Jeffrey Lewis told the Post her departure signals a "no tolerance" policy at the Pentagon for new ideas. "People wonder why we don't learn from failures like Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. The reason is simple: People who point out alternatives to current national security policies are systematically driven out of positions of authority," Lewis, who is also a professor at the Middlebury Institute for International Studies, told the Post. An anonymous Pentagon official denied that Tomero's views contributed to her ousting. "This was a reorganization decision to more appropriately align our organization with policy objectives," the official said to the Post. "This was not a difference in opinion or policy." At a press briefing Wednesday, Pentagon press secretary John Kirby said he would not discuss personnel issues, but insisted their focus was on "protecting our security interests." "It's natural with any new administration — this one's not excepted — that we would want to reevaluate the organizational structure and make changes where we think is appropriate to support the secretary's priorities," he said. The Hill has reached out to the Pentagon for more information.

Congress considers permanent UFO investigation office

The Washington Times [9/23/2021 8:00 AM, Sean Salai, 381K] reports that Congress is considering setting up a permanent UFO investigation office primarily focused on terrestrial threats. Section 1652 of House Bill HR. 4350, referring to the "Establishment of [an] Office to Address Unidentified Aerial Phenomena," states: "Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, shall establish an office within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to carry out, on a Department-wide basis, the mission currently performed by the Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon Task Force as of the date of the enactment of this Act." Consumed by more pressing budgetary matters, the House on Wednesday postponed further proceedings on the bill, delaying a final decision. The House bill and its Senate companion make it clear that the federal government's interest in UAPs — the official Department of Defense term for UFOs — strictly concerns possible foreign espionage activities rather than extraterrestrials. On June 25, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence published an unclassified preliminary assessment of UAPs, evaluating a growing number of sightings in recent years as a potential security threat. Prepared for the congressional intelligence and armed services committees, the document noted that it came in response to a Senate request in the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 "to submit an intelligence assessment of the threat posed by unidentified aerial phenomena (UAP) and the progress the Department of Defense Unidentified Aerial Phenomena Task Force (UAPTF) has made in understanding this threat." Out of 144 reported incidents of UFOs, the report explained away only one as a weather balloon, leaving the remainder of the sightings unresolved.

Blinken says U.S. soon will release new strategy for Indo-Pacific region

Reuters [9/23/2021 11:41 AM, Staff, 5304K] reports that U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken told foreign ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) on Thursday that Washington would soon release a new comprehensive strategy for the wider Indo-Pacific region. The Biden administration is hoping to pivot from the crisis in Afghanistan to focus on its main national security priority of countering a rising China. Speaking at the start of a meeting with his counterparts in the 10-nation bloc on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, Blinken said the U.S. strategy would emerge "this fall" and "builds on our shared vision for a free, open, interconnected, resilient and secure region." "It will reflect Southeast Asia's importance to the Indo-Pacific region and the critical role that ASEAN plays in determining the region's future," he added.

Biden hosts Indo-Pacific leaders as China concerns grow

The AP [9/24/2021 12:11 AM, Aamer Madhani, 11773K] reports President Joe Biden is set to host the first in-person gathering of leaders of an Indo-Pacific alliance known as "the Quad" on Friday, wrapping up a tough week of diplomacy in which he faced no shortage of criticism from both allies and adversaries. Biden's meeting with leaders from India, Japan and Australia at the White House gives the U.S. president a chance to put the spotlight on a central aim of his foreign policy: turning greater attention to the Pacific in the face of what the U.S. sees as China's coercive economic practices and unsettling military maneuvering in the region. The four leaders' talks are also expected to center on climate, COVID-19 response and cyber security. Before the summit, the Japanese and Indian governments welcomed a recent announcement that the U.S., as part of a separate new alliance with Britain and Australia, would equip Australia with nuclear-powered submarines. It's a move that will allow Australia to conduct longer patrols and give it an edge on the Chinese navy. But the announcement infuriated France, which accused the Biden administration of stabbing it in the back by squelching its own \$66 billion deal to provide diesel-powered submarines.

[Cuba] In the middle of the migration crisis, the government is looking for a private contractor to reopen a camp at the Guantanamo base

Univision [9/23/2021 6:14 AM, Staff, 366K] reports that the Biden administration has published an offer seeking a private contractor to operate a migrant detention center at the Guantanamo naval base, on the eastern tip of the island of Cuba. According to the call, the center that exists there has a capacity of 120 people and "will have an estimated daily population of 20 people", but "the service provider will be responsible for maintaining on site the necessary equipment to erect temporary housing facilities for populations that exceed 120 and up to 400 migrants, in a surge event " The mentioned equipment, specifies the call, includes tents and cots, that "the contractor must be able to have them assembled and ready with little notice." However, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has wanted to make it clear that this movement in Guantánamo does not mean that they are thinking of transferring Haitian migrants to the base. In a statement sent to NBC News, DHS said it "is not [shipping] and will not send Haitian nationals who are on the southwestern border to the Migration Operations Center (MOC) at Guantanamo Bay. The MOC has been used for decades to process migrants intercepted at sea for resettlement in third countries. The recently published Request for Information (RFI) is a typical and routine first step in the renewal of a contract, and is not related to the southwestern border. "

[Turkey] Turkey builds a wall to keep out Afghan refugees

CBS News [9/23/2021 2:12 PM, Pinar Sevinclidir, 2612K] reports that some of the refugees fleeing the Taliban's brutality in Afghanistan are taking an arduous route across neighboring Iran to try and cross into Turkey. We met a family in the Turkish border city of Van who made it out of Afghanistan the night before the capital fell to the Taliban. "I don't have money, I don't have food, I don't have dresses, nothing," said the mother. Her family doesn't want to be identified, given how they made it into Turkey without permission, but they told CBS News that they blame the United States and its chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan for their plight. More than 2 million Afghans have already taken refuge in neighboring Pakistan and Iran, but those countries have closed their borders to new arrivals. Now the Turkish government is working to stop a potential influx of Afghans by building a wall along its border. On the

other side of that wall is Iran, which shares another border with Afghanistan. The Afghans who survive the trek through Iran to the Turkish border, which can take weeks, will now be met with a wall of concrete slabs 10 feet high. The Biden administration has asked Congress for funding to help rehome 95,000 Afghan refugees by September 2022, and Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said this month that he expected at least 50,000 to be resettled in the U.S. "Recent polling shows strong public support in the U.S. for welcoming refugees, especially Afghan civilians who helped the U.S. war effort in their country." "This is a very unique political moment for President Biden to reset the way that the American public sees the immigration system, much less the United States' role in refugee resettlement," suggested Noorani. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

[Israel] House passes \$1B for Israel's Iron Dome after progressive dustup

Politico [9/23/2021 2:17 PM, Andrew Desiderio, 1707K] reports the House on Thursday overwhelmingly passed a bill to replenish Israel's Iron Dome missile defense system, just two days after it was pulled from a government funding package over objections from progressive lawmakers. The bill passed by a vote of 420-9, with eight Democrats and one Republican voting against it, plus two Democrats voting present. But for the majority party, the episode served to further expose the its internal strife over the U.S.-Israel relationship, with progressives demanding a policy doctrine that takes into account the plight of Palestinians and pushes back on Israel's retaliatory offensives in Gaza. Lawmakers who support the security funding sought to highlight the defensive nature of the Iron Dome system, which has proven to be effective in intercepting rockets that would otherwise harm civilians in Israel. Ahead of the House vote, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke with Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz, according to a readout from the Israeli government. Gantz "thanked Secretary Austin for the continued support of the U.S. administration and the Pentagon for the processes to equip Israel with the means necessary to defend itself and its citizens." The Hill [9/23/2021 2:31 PM, Cristina Marcos, 1776K] reports the debate over the Iron Dome funding once again laid bare the internal Democratic divisions over Israel, which have repeatedly flared since they took over the House majority two years ago. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) spoke with the Israeli foreign minister on Tuesday and assured him that lawmakers would address the Iron Dome funding, despite its removal from the bill to prevent a government shutdown on Oct. 1. Funding for the Iron Dome, which is designed to help Israel defend itself from rocket attacks launched by terrorist groups like Hamas in Gaza, has long enjoyed bipartisan support. Democratic members of the House Appropriations Committee sought to stress that the funding is purely for defensive purposes and cannot be used by Israel for procurement of offensive weapons.

[Russia] Milley: US should explore more military talks with Russia

The AP [9/24/2021 12:00 AM, Lolita C. Baldor, 11773K] reports the U.S. should explore ways to expand its military contacts with the Russians, potentially to include allowing observers from each country to watch the other's combat exercises, in a broad effort to increase transparency and reduce the risk of conflict, the top U.S. military officer said Thursday. Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, met in Finland for six hours Wednesday with his Russian counterpart, Gen. Valery Gerasimov, chief of the Russian General Staff. Speaking to two reporters traveling with him back to the U.S., Milley said that military contacts between the two great powers are currently largely limited to senior leaders such as the defense secretary, the chairman and the supreme allied commander for Europe. But he said the U.S. might look into allowing the military service chiefs to form stronger relationships with their Russian counterparts — which is currently not allowed. That way, for example, naval leaders could reach out to avoid conflict when there are tensions at sea. "We need to put in place policies and procedures to make sure that we increase certainty, to reduce uncertainty, increase trust to reduce distrust, increase stability to reduce instability in order to avoid miscalculation and reduce the possibility of great power war," Milley said. "That's a fundamental thing that we should try to do, and I am going to try to do it."

[North Korea] North Korea says call to formally end Korean War is 'premature'

The Washington Post [9/23/2021 9:00 PM, Michelle Ye Hee Lee, 11773K] reports North Korea said Friday it was "premature" to declare a formal end to the Korean War, a reference to renewed efforts by South Korean President Moon Jae-in to put the agreement back on the table amid stalled nuclear negotiations

with Pyongyang. In a statement issued via state media, North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Ri Thae Song said Moon's calls for the end-of-war declaration carried no guarantee it would lead to the withdrawal of "U.S. hostile policy toward" North Korea. Sustained fighting in the Korean War ended with an armistice agreement in 1953, but the two Koreas remain technically at war. In his speech at the United Nations General Assembly meeting this week in New York, Moon again called for an end-of-war declaration, which he views as a way to move forward in denuclearization talks. Moon proposed that the two Koreas, along with the United States and China, come together for the declaration. The AP [9/23/2021 9:31 PM, Hyung-Jin Kim, 11773K] reports North Korean Vice Foreign Minister Ri Thae Song dismissed Moon's call as premature so long as U.S. policies were unchanged. "It should be clearly understood that the declaration of the termination of the war is of no help at all to stabilizing the situation of the Korean Peninsula at the moment but can rather be misused as a smokescreen covering up the U.S. hostile policy," Ri said. He said American weapons and troops deployed in South Korea and its vicinity and regular U.S. military drills in the region "all point to the U.S. hostile policy toward (North Korea) getting vicious day by day." North Korea has also long described U.S.-led economic sanctions as proof of U.S. hostility against the North.

{End of Report} [RETURN TO TOP](#)

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/20/2021 2:00:11 PM
To: YUM STATION COMMAND GML (b) (7)(E) YUM EXEC STAFF GML
(b) (7)(E)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: DHS Morning Briefing (9-20-21)
Attachments: DHS Morning Briefing (9-20-21).pdf

Good Morning!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. If you feel this is a suspicious-looking email, please report by using the Report Phish button option.



DHS MORNING BRIEFING

Prepared for the Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
By TechMIS
www.TechMIS.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

Editorial Note: The DHS Daily Briefing is a collection of news articles related to Department's mission. The inclusion of particular stories is not intended to reflect their importance, nor is it intended to endorse the political viewpoints or affiliations included in news coverage.

TO: Homeland Security Secretary & Staff
DATE: Monday, September 20, 2021 6:00 AM ET

Top News

[US launches mass expulsion of Haitian migrants from Texas](#)

[Mayorkas warns Haitian migrants not to attempt journey to US, mass expulsion begins](#)

[Haiti Protests Mass Deportation of Migrants as US Faces Overwhelming Arrivals in Del Rio](#)

Top News (Sunday Talk Shows)

[Director of the National Institutes of Health Dr. Francis Collins on Vaccine Boosters, Mandates \(FOX News Sunday With Chris Wallace\)](#)

[Dr. Anthony Fauci on FDA Decision on COVID Vaccine Booster Shots \(ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos\)](#)

[Dr. Anthony Fauci: People Shouldn't Get COVID Boosters Without FDA Approval \(CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper\)](#)

[Dr. Anthony Fauci on Future of COVID-19 Booster Shots \(NBC's Meet the Press\)](#)

[Dr. Francis Collins: Wider Approval for Booster Shots Likely to be Announced Soon \(CBS' Face the Nation\)](#)

[UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Global Vaccination Efforts, US-China Relations \(CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS\)](#)

[Senator Bernie Sanders Continues to Push for \\$3.5 Trillion Reconciliation Bill \(CBS' Face the Nation\)](#)

[Rep. Jim Clyburn on Passing Reconciliation, Infrastructure Bills, Raising Debt Limit \(CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper and Dana Bush\)](#)

[Senator John Yarmuth on Debt Ceiling and Controversial \\$3.5 Trillion Bill \(Fox News Sunday With Chris Wallace\)](#)

[Sen. Bill Cassidy on Raising the Debt Ceiling, Passing Infrastructure Bill \(NBC's Meet the Press\)](#)

[Former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo Discusses Afghanistan Withdrawal Efforts \(FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo\)](#)

[Sen. Ted Cruz on Afghan Withdrawal, Chinese Aggression \(FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo\)](#)

[Former Joint Chiefs Chairman Mike Mullen Discusses Afghan Drone Strike, Milley Discussions with China \(ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos\)](#)

[UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Afghanistan \(CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS\)](#)

[Former French Ambassador to US Gerard Araud Discusses Rift Following Announcement of US, UK, Australia Submarine Deal \(CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS\)](#)

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[\[MA\] Activists call on jail to stop housing immigration detainees](#)

Citizenship and Immigration Services

[Democrats Dealt a Blow on Immigration Plans](#)

Customs and Border Protection

[Deported veterans allowed back into the U.S. to get vaccinated](#)

[Deportees land in Port-au-Prince: 'Nobody told us we were going back to Haiti'](#)

[\[TX\] Part of Texas border closed where thousands of Haitians crossed](#)

[\[TX\] Border Patrol in Texas discovers 49 undocumented migrants hidden in tractor-trailer](#)

[\[TX\] "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[\[CA\] More evacuations ordered in California as wildfires threaten giant sequoia trees](#)

Secret Service

[\[NY\] NYC braces for return of in-person attendance at U.N. General Assembly](#)

[\[PA\] Pennsylvania Man Pleads Guilty to Providing Material Support to ISIS](#)

[\[CA\] Man Accused Of Manufacturing Guns From Wildomar Home](#)

Coast Guard

[FL] A group of more than 10 rafters arrive in Miami Beach and fled when they touched the mainland

National Security News

U.N. General Assembly Expected to Address Climate Change, Covid-19

[Cuba] Biden administration has made little progress in closing Guantanamo Bay prison

[France] France's Macron to talk to Biden amid crisis over submarines

[France] France cancels defense meeting with UK over submarine row, sources say

[Australia] Australian prime minister: No regrets over submarine deal with US, UK

[North Korea] N.Korea warns U.S. risks 'dangerous nuclear arms race' over Australia subs

Top News

US launches mass expulsion of Haitian migrants from Texas

The Washington Post [9/19/2021 8:22 PM, Arelis R. Hernández, 11773K] reports the Biden administration Sunday began deporting people from the makeshift camp where nearly 14,000 migrants have gathered beneath a South Texas bridge amid food shortages and deteriorating sanitary conditions. Three flights carrying 327 Haitian nationals landed in Haiti on Sunday, according to two U.S. officials who spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information. In a midday news conference, Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said the federal government had moved 3,300 individuals from the camp Sunday to migrant processing facilities. The government enlisted the help of the local school system to transport people on school buses to facilities in Texas in San Antonio, Laredo and Eagle Pass, he said. "We are working around-the-clock to expeditiously move migrants out of the heat, elements and from underneath this bridge to our processing facilities in order to quickly process and remove individuals from the United States consistent with our laws and our policies," said Ortiz, adding it will be done in a "humane and timely manner." The Biden administration is conducting the deportations under Title 42, the Trump-era public health order that President Biden has kept in place to push migrants south of the border during the covid-19 pandemic. The goal is to reduce the number of people waiting to be processed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel and improve conditions on the ground. It's also designed to break the momentum and determination of migrants who have been encouraged by their U.S. relatives to make the journey before the opportunity passes or their individual circumstances worsen. Reuters [9/19/2021 2:57 PM, Daina Beth Solomon, Alexandra Ulmer, 5304K] reports the United States was working with the home countries or countries through which the migrants had transited to get them to accept those who had been awaiting immigration processing under the bridge that links Del Rio with Ciudad Acuña in Mexico. Earlier on Sunday Reuters journalists saw a white bus escorted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents enter the Del Rio airport, then a group boarding a Coast Guard plane. A police source said the people were migrants and a source familiar with airport operations said the aircraft was heading to El Paso, Texas. Alejandro Mayorkas, secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), said during another news conference that expulsion flights to Haiti that started on Sunday will continue daily. He said he could not detail the number of flights or number of Haitians for security reasons. DHS had announced on Saturday that it was accelerating expulsions to Haiti, sending more CBP agents to the area, and taking other steps to address the situation in Del Rio, where conditions under the bridge have grown increasingly squalid. The AP [9/19/2021 8:00 PM, Juan A. Lozano, Eric Gay, Elliot Spagat and Evens Sanon, 49K] reports Mexico said Sunday it would also begin deporting Haitians to their homeland. A government official said the flights would be from towns near the U.S. border and the border with Guatemala, where the largest group remains. Haitians have been migrating to the U.S. in large numbers from South America for several years, many having left their Caribbean nation after a devastating 2010 earthquake. After jobs dried up from the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, many made the dangerous trek by foot, bus and car to the U.S. border, including through the infamous Darien Gap, a Panamanian jungle. Some of the migrants at the Del Rio camp said the recent devastating

earthquake in Haiti and the assassination of President Jovenel Moïse make them afraid to return to a country that seems more unstable than when they left. "In Haiti, there is no security," said Fabricio Jean, a 38-year-old Haitian who arrived in Texas with his wife and two daughters. "The country is in a political crisis."

Reported similarly:

Reuters [9/19/2021 2:15 AM, Robenson Sanson and Gessika Thomas, 5304K]

Axios [9/19/2021 2:19 PM, Ivana Saric, 526K]

ABC News [9/19/2021 1:51 PM, Quinn Owen, 37K]

Mayorkas warns Haitian migrants not to attempt journey to US, mass expulsion begins

FOX News [9/20/2021 4:25 AM, Edmund DeMarche, 9251K] reports Alejandro Mayorkas, the head of the Department of Homeland Security, warned Haitian migrants against attempting a voyage to the US as more 12,000 migrants were camped around a bridge in Del Rio, Texas. "We are very concerned that Haitians that are taking the irregular migration path are receiving misinformation—that the border is open or that Temporary Protected Status is available to them despite the fact they are arriving long after the date that presents the deadline for TPS eligibility," Mayorkas told journalists during a conference call, the Miami Herald reported. "This is not the way to come to the United States." Bruno Lozano, the mayor of Del Rio, Texas, estimated that there were more than 12,000 migrants and asylum-seekers at a border location. The U.S. aims to expel many of the migrants camped around a bridge in Del Rio, a report said. Starting Wednesday, there will be seven expulsion flights daily to Port-au-Prince and to Cap-Haitien, the Associated Press reported, citing a U.S. official who was not authorized to discuss the matter publicly. Flights will continue to depart from San Antonio but authorities may add El Paso, the official said. DHS did not immediately respond to an after-hours email from Fox News. Mondesir Sirilien, a returned migrant, told Reuters that he spent about \$15,000 to leave Haiti for the U.S.

Haiti Protests Mass Deportation of Migrants as US Faces Overwhelming Arrivals in Del Rio

The New York Times [9/19/2021 2:19 PM, Harold Isaac and Natalie Kitroeff, 24635K] reports the Haitian government protested plans by the Biden administration to expel migrants from the United States en masse, arguing that Haiti is mired in a deep political and humanitarian crisis and does not have the means to receive thousands of homeless deportees. The head of Haiti's national migration office, Jean Negot Bonheur Delva, said the authorities expect that 14,000 Haitians would be expelled from the United States over the coming three weeks. Officials said they were preparing to receive three flights of migrants just on Sunday to the country's capital, Port-au-Prince. "The Haitian state is not really capable to receive these deportees," said Mr. Bonheur Delva in an interview. Haiti's president, Jovenel Moïse, was assassinated in July. A month later the country's impoverished southern peninsula was devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake, forcing the Caribbean nation's unstable government to confront the fallout of a deadly natural disaster. Traditionally, most Haitian migrants have fled violence and economic deprivation in the capital Port-au-Prince, where about half the country's population lives. But a more recent wave of immigrants have fled from the quake-stricken areas. Many of the Haitians being deported from the U.S. are likely going to return to southern villages and towns destroyed by the earthquake, in which running water and power have yet to be restored. Mr. Bonheur Delva said "ongoing security issues in the country" made it extremely difficult to resettle thousands of people. He said the country could not adequately provide security or food to the returnees and said the Covid-19 pandemic further complicated the country's ability to accept so many people at once. "I am asking for a humanitarian moratorium," he said. "The situation is very difficult." The Wall Street Journal [9/19/2021 1:21 PM, Alicia A. Caldwell] reports approximately 14,000 migrants, many originally from Haiti, are now in Del Rio, according to officials in the area, overwhelming the resources of local, state and federal authorities. They have formed a makeshift camp under a bridge while they wait to be processed, with a fence on one side and the Rio Grande on the other. All entered the U.S. illegally and are expected to try to claim asylum in the U.S. On Sunday, the first flights removing some from this new wave of migrants took off from Texas to Haiti, said Lewis G. Owens, the top elected official in Val Verde County, which includes Del Rio. Mr. Owens said he was told by Border Patrol leadership Sunday morning that they planned to begin processing 3,000 migrants a day and moving them

away from the bridge. They will give priority to deporting single adults, he said, and are still figuring out how to handle families.

Top News (Sunday Talk Shows)

Director of the National Institutes of Health Dr. Francis Collins on Vaccine Boosters, Mandates (FOX News Sunday With Chris Wallace)

FOX News Sunday With Chris Wallace [9/19/2021 9:05 AM, Staff, 1.8M]

Director of the National Institutes of Health Dr. Francis Collins joins FOX to discuss the coronavirus and related vaccines. An FDA advisory panel supported the idea of booster shots for people 65 and older and those most at risk but rejected the idea of booster shots for the general population. "I think the big news is that they actually did approve the initiation of boosters. Remember, they're taking a snapshot of right now. We're going to see what happens in the coming weeks. It would surprise me if it does not become clear over the next few weeks that that administration of boosters may need to be enlarged based upon the data we've already seen both in the US and Israel. It's clear the waning in the effectiveness of those vaccines is the reality, and we need to respond to it," said Collins. "The process is to look at the data, have the experts consider it, and then make their best judgements at that point, recognizing that the judgement may change. If people want an absolutely authoritative statement about here's the right answer, well that's not what our country is all about. Move to China, you'll get it there," said Collins. "The goals here are to try to protect Americans from dying from this disease. 670,000 have already. It does look from the review of the data by people like myself that we are going to need to provide boosters for people at risk in order to keep this surge from beginning to affect even though who are fully vaccinated. We're trying to do the right thing, trying to look at the data as it evolves, recognizing things are changing day by day," said Collins. About 57% of the world has not received a single first dose of COVID vaccine. When asked of the morality of Americans getting boosters when this is the case, Collins said, "I think this is a false choice that's being put forward. We have, of all the countries in the world, done the most to try to get doses to people in low and middle income countries across the world. We've already sent out 140 million doses, committed to another 500 million that are coming, contributed \$4 billion to COVAX so we are very invested in that. Watch and see what happens this week when the President meets with other countries. There may be more information there as well. The most that we may be talking about as far as boosters between now and the end of this year might be 100 million doses. It's a pretty small, modest number compared to what we are already sending out to the rest of the world or have committed to do so." On mandatory vaccines for private businesses, Collins said, "I do know that the law that Congress passed requires OSHA to take action when there is grave danger in the workplace of harm to employees. COVID-19 represents a grave danger so a reasonable person might say that they are not just supposed to act, they have to act in that space, and that is the justification for this rule." On whether people coming from across the border should be mandated to get vaccines, Collins said, "I know that vaccines are being offered to people in that situation. I guess you're asking why is it not mandated. That would have to be a question for someone else." Collins said from a public health point of view, he wants everybody to be vaccinated, and if a mandate would help, there should be one for illegal immigrants. Children 5 to 11 are set to be examined for vaccines in weeks. Collins appealed to the people who are not vaccinated to urge them to get vaccinated.

Dr. Anthony Fauci on FDA Decision on COVID Vaccine Booster Shots (ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos)

ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos [9/19/2021 9:05 AM, Staff, 3M]

The President's Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci joined ABC to discuss the situation with the coronavirus. An FDA panel recently rejected booster shots for the general public. "As you well know, the approval was for people 65 years of age or older, and a considerable number of people who are 18 to 64 who have underlying conditions that put them at a higher risk for severe disease and people from 18 to 64 who are in institutional or occupational situations that would put them at an increased risk to exposure and infection. So that's a pretty good chunk of the people. The decision was made based on the data they examined, but that was always the plan, Martha, to make a proposal to be ready and prepared to do the

entire amount right from the beginning with everybody, but if not, to be prepared to do what the advisory committee and the FDA finally authorized, which is fine. So I'm not disappointed. I think the process worked," said Fauci. Fauci said that they hope there will be an effect of stopping the spread when that population gets a booster, but the goal was to prevent people from getting severe disease. "Ultimately, Martha, we hope that enough people will be vaccinated either with the primary regimen or following a third shot booster with Pfizer that we will get that effect of preventing spread," said Fauci. Fauci noted that there will be a continual review of new data and possible changes to the current recommendations. Fauci said boosters based on Moderna and Johnson and Johnson will be examined in the next few weeks. On vaccines for children, Fauci said, "It will certainly be this Fall. When you talk about the rollout for vaccines, again, there will be a bit of a difference in timeframe, maybe by a couple to a few weeks between Pfizer and Moderna and others. So what we're going to almost certainly see is that sometime in the next few weeks as we get into October, we'll be able to see the vaccines for children get enough data to be presented for safety and immunogenicity, but when you get to Moderna, it will probably be a few weeks beyond that, maybe into the end of October, the beginning of November."

Dr. Anthony Fauci: People Shouldn't Get COVID Boosters Without FDA Approval (CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper)

CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper [9/19/2021 9:02 AM, Staff]

Dr. Anthony Fauci has been a proponent of COVID-19 booster shots for those who have been vaccinated, but the advisory committee to the FDA disagrees. Dr. Fauci says he doesn't view this as a mistake, with the recommendation based on an "evaluation of all of the totality of the data from the United States, from Israel, and any bit of data that we could get by the advisory committee to the FDA." Fauci adds that he supports the recommendation to wait on booster shots for the general public, saying that with the move to vaccinate people 18-64 with underlying conditions or higher risk of exposure, a large portion of the population will still get booster shots. This past Wednesday, Fauci said it would be a mistake not to advise booster shots. "... Just because I look at the data and say I would do it this way, that's the reason why we have qualified groups of people who together as a committee examine all the data and make a decision," Fauci explains. The committee's decision also does not rule out the future of booster shots for the general public, Fauci adds, and he believes they will be widely recommended as more data is collected. One month ago, President Biden announced that the White House plans for every adult who has been vaccinated to get a booster eight months after their last doses. He said the booster program would be during the week of September 20th once the CDC and FDA approve the boosters. As people get booster shots without waiting for FDA approval, Fauci says it is not recommended they do so, as there is "always a theoretical risk" of people being harmed by getting the booster without sufficient data to show getting it is safe. Dr. Fauci says it should not be long before there is enough information for these booster shots for Pfizer recipients and when people who got other doses will be able to receive boosters.

Dr. Anthony Fauci on Future of COVID-19 Booster Shots (NBC's Meet the Press)

NBC's Meet the Press [9/19/2021 9:03 AM, Staff, 3.1M]

Dr. Anthony Fauci, of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases says President Biden's announcement of the plan to offer booster shots to Americans by September 20th was not getting ahead of the FDA or CDC. "The president and the medical group at the White House said we are planning to be able to roll out boosters essentially for everyone 16 years of age and older. That was a plan that was always... contingent upon the FDA's normal regulatory process, together with their advisors, to make a decision as to exactly what that rollout would look like." The data, Fauci says, led the FDA advisory committee to recommend only people 18-64 years of age with underlying conditions or higher risk of infection through occupational situations get the booster shots. As of now, Fauci says he believes that in the next few months or into the next year, more people will be approved for boosters. Dr. Fauci says the highest priority is still getting vaccines to unvaccinated people. Most of the data allows for approval of Pfizer booster shots, but Dr. Fauci says the data for those who have gotten the Moderna and the Johnson & Johnson vaccines should be "literally a couple to a few weeks away." Right now, there are no conclusive studies that show how long immunity lasts for people who have gotten the coronavirus. What is known is that if someone recovers from COVID-19 and then gets vaccinated, "the level of your immunity is

extraordinarily high, surpassing any of the other two-dose vaccines that you get.” Fauci says there are still 70 million Americans who are eligible for the vaccine but have not gotten it yet.

Dr. Francis Collins: Wider Approval for Booster Shots Likely to be Announced Soon (CBS’ Face the Nation)

CBS’ Face the Nation [9/19/2021 10:34 AM, Staff, 5.3M]

Dr. Francis Collins, the director of the National Institutes of Health, predicted earlier this month that booster shots are likely to be recommended for almost everybody, but that did not happen on Friday. Dr. Collins says he finds it “significant” that the FDA advisory committee unanimously voted to offer boosters to people with high risk of exposure and severe illness, such as healthcare workers and people over 65. With data continuously being evaluated, especially the findings from Israel, Dr. Collins says the recommendation to offer boosters for more people will come soon. Dr. Peter Marks, who is on the FDA advisory committee, included teachers in the high-risk category. Collins says teachers “could be seen in that space,” especially teachers in classrooms with children 12 and under who cannot be vaccinated. Collins expects the CDC to discuss on Wednesday and Thursday parents of children under 12 and whether that puts them in the high-risk category as well. Within the next two or three weeks, Dr. Collins says it should be known whether people who have been vaccinated with one vaccine can get boosters of a different formula. He adds that Moderna and Johnson & Johnson have submitted booster data, “so it’s likely that the FDA will be able to have a comment on that pretty soon.” Collins says the White House’s announcement about the booster shots last month saying there should be shots available by this week was a preparedness strategy that Collins compares to hurricane preparedness. Next month is the target for approving vaccines for the 5-11 age group, but Dr. Collins says he does not want to put a specific date on when children five and under might be approved for a vaccine, though the trials for that age group are also ongoing.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Global Vaccination Efforts, US-China Relations (CNN’s Fareed Zakaria GPS)

CNN’s Fareed Zakaria GPS [9/19/2021 10:18 AM, Staff, 1M]

On Tuesday, world leaders will converge on the United Nations headquarters in New York for speeches, meetings, conferences and more, all part of the UN General Assembly. Despite the fact that the host country, the United States, asked other nations to keep delegations home to avoid turning the gathering into a COVID super-spreader event, leaders of more than 100 nations are still expected. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres joined CNN to discuss the upcoming summit. On collaboration in the international community, Guterres said, “There are some positive signs. We had the IMF together with World Bank, the World Health Organization and the World Trade Organization proposing a program of \$50 billion to allow for an increased vaccination in developing countries. I know President Biden is convening a summit to try to increase substantially the amount of vaccines available to the developing countries, but let’s be clear, all of this is too little too late.” Guterres noted there are two divides in vaccination efforts. One is a North-South divide in which the North took care of its vaccination of the population and largely forgot about the South, increasing mistrust between the global south and north. The other is the geo-strategic global divide which is now centered in the relationship between China and the US. “Since the beginning, and talking with both sides, I have been saying that there are areas in which a confrontation is inevitable. Human rights is one of these areas. The other some geostatistical questions related, for instance, the South China Sea or Taiwan. There are areas in which there are different positions, and it will not be easy to overcome these differences. There is an area where I believe there should be effective cooperation: climate. Then there are areas in which I believe a negotiation is necessary, a serious negotiation because there are different interests, but at the same time, there are common interests. This is related to trade and technology,” said Guterres. Guterres said the future of two large countries with solely conflicting and confrontational relationships would become very dangerous for the world and the world economy. When asked about telling the Chinese government that they should allow a WHO investigation on COVID, Guterres said, “Their response is that the investigation was already done properly. So this is a matter of different opinion.”

Senator Bernie Sanders Continues to Push for \$3.5 Trillion Reconciliation Bill (CBS' Face the Nation)

CBS' Face the Nation [9/19/2021 10:40 AM, Staff, 5.3M]

Reports say the U.S. military killed seven children and three civilian adults in a drone strike while targeting individuals believed to have been planning a terrorist attack on the Kabul airport. Senator Bernie Sanders says he hopes the Biden administration understands what happened with the strike and make sure something like it never happens again. The Biden administration has also announced that it will step up deportations, particularly for the thousands of Haitian migrants that have gathered in southern Texas. Sanders says he hopes the \$3.5 trillion spending plan will include immigration measures. He says there are around 11 million people who are undocumented and "doing the essential work" for the economy and that the White House should work towards immigration reform and paths to citizenship. However, moderates are balking at this and other social policies in the reconciliation bill. Because there is no Republican support for the bill, Sanders says, the bill is being brought under the reconciliation process. Sanders says the reconciliation bill will challenge large corporations and pharmaceutical companies as well as address issues such as healthcare, affordable housing, climate, and immigration. Sanders says major compromises on the bill have already been made with cutting the original \$6 trillion over ten years down to the current \$3.5 trillion.

Rep. Jim Clyburn on Passing Reconciliation, Infrastructure Bills, Raising Debt Limit (CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper and Dana Bush)

CNN's State of the Union With Jake Tapper and Dana Bush [9/19/2021 10:40 AM, Staff, 1M]

Congressman Jim Clyburn joined CNN to discuss two spending bills making their way through Congress. Dozens of progressives have said they are going to vote no on the bipartisan infrastructure deal on September 27 if a sweeping \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill isn't also passed by then. "We are negotiating and of course we have a pretty bit tent in our party. We have progressives that are very, very important not just to the party but to the country, and we have more moderates, and that's how it should be. We reflect what this country is all about, and we have a pretty evenly divided country these days and all of us are working through that," said Clyburn. Clyburn noted that even though these bills are expensive, the cost of not doing anything about it outweighs the risk. Clyburn said they are working hard to reach the goal of voting on the infrastructure bill by September 27. "I think that we ought to really focus on the American people and think about what it takes to get us in a good place and then let the numbers take care of themselves," said Clyburn. Clyburn expressed optimism that the House will be able to pass the infrastructure bill. On raising the debt limit, Clyburn said, "The full faith and credit of the United States of America should not be compromised on the altar of politics, and I will hope that our Republican friends will get beyond politics and do what's necessary to keep this country moving forward and keep our financial integrity in place."

Senator John Yarmuth on Debt Ceiling and Controversial \$3.5 Trillion Bill (Fox News Sunday With Chris Wallace)

Fox News Sunday With Chris Wallace [9/19/2021 9:19 AM, Staff, 1.2M]

Congress has a lengthy to-do list by the end of the month, and failure to act could lead to a government shutdown and defaulting on the U.S.'s debt obligations for the first time in history. Meanwhile, the fate of President Biden's \$3.5 trillion economic agenda is on doubt. John Yarmuth, the chair of the House Budget Committee, says there are "several options for raising the debt ceiling, which is absolutely mandatory." Yarmuth calls this a "ridiculous position to be in" as the U.S. is the only country to have a debt ceiling of this kind, which has been raised "100 times over the 104 years it's been in existence." Senator Mitch McConnell, however, says he and his fellow Republicans oppose raising the debt ceiling, which would cause the U.S. government to default. Meanwhile, Democratic leaders say the House will "consider" the bipartisan infrastructure bill on September 27th, but some left-wing members have said if the bipartisan bill is put up and the \$3.5 trillion spending bill is not passed, they will vote against the former bill. Yarmuth says the matters in the \$3.5 trillion bill are not "frivolous" and need to be passed in order to fund affordable child care, early childhood education, senior care, and more social infrastructure. Yarmuth says that if the bill passes, it will be less than the \$3.5 trillion being asked for now.

Sen. Bill Cassidy on Raising the Debt Ceiling, Passing Infrastructure Bill (NBC's Meet the Press)

NBC's Meet the Press [9/19/2021 9:21 AM, Staff, 2.6M]

Sen. Bill Cassidy joined NBC and talked about the debt ceiling discussion in Congress. "We actually raised on a bipartisan basis the debt ceiling in the last Congress because on a bipartisan basis we agreed on what to spend the money on. This time, Democrats what to increase the debt ceiling for their reconciliation bill, which they're passing on a party line basis, which is going to fuel inflation, if you speak to Democratic economists like Larry Summers. So, wait a second, we're supposed to aid and abet party-line spending, which even Democratic economists say will fuel further inflation? No that's not right. Now, if you want to come back and meet where we can actually find common ground and actually address needs as opposed to a Democratic wishlist, then we'll help, but not when you're just trying to tank the economy by fueling inflation to get your kind of who knows, your wishlist," said Cassidy. Cassidy said the raising of the debt ceiling would be raised adequately to include the \$1.9 trillion package passed on a party-line vote. "Going forward, that's what they're hoping to do. They're hoping to increase the debt ceiling to meet the \$3.5 trillion package which the committee for responsible budget says is actually \$5.5 trillion," said Cassidy. Power is still out from hurricane damage in parts of Cassidy's state. On whether the infrastructure bill will make power outages less likely after storms in Louisiana, Cassidy said, "First, hopefully disaster relief will actually address those particular needs, but this bill has billions to promote resiliency for the grid whether it's a hurricane in Louisiana, an ice storm in Texas or the Northeast or forest fires on the West Coast, so absolutely. Again, billions to address resiliency. We should pass this."

Former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo Discusses Afghanistan Withdrawal Efforts (FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo)

FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo [9/19/2021 10:30 AM, Staff]

Former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo joined FOX to discuss the Biden administration's handling of withdrawing US troops from Afghanistan. A drone strike killed civilians during the withdrawal from Afghanistan. "It's obviously a tragedy that civilians were killed. To those families and those around them, their friends, my apologies. We pray for them. This is just another example. It looks like they were in a rush, they were in a hurry, you could see the political pressure, and if there was one thing that drove this failed evacuation, it was the arbitrary political deadline that President Biden set, the arbitrary cap on the number of troops that could be there so we could secure the American departure and the departure of our equipment and those things. These were all political decisions driven down to the military, and I'm confident the military was under enormous pressure," said Pompeo. "This is just another piece of an evacuation that was driven by politics and not putting America first and America's national security." Secretary Blinken was interrogated in hearings over the last week on the withdrawal. "It's very difficult to imagine how this administration is going to turn it around because they seem so deeply desirous of just making this go away as if there weren't still Americans who were being held hostage by the Taliban inside of Afghanistan, as if we still didn't have promises out to some of the folks who helped us for these past 20 years. They just want it to go away so I'm not sure how the Biden administration gets back from this space. I hope they'll begin to recognize that their credibility around the world was damaged deeply by how they executed this withdrawal, the failure to work alongside allies to deliver, make sure we got our allies and friends out of the country, and that we have abandoned a partner in a way that didn't deliver for security in the region as well. They need to show, they need to find places they can show real resolve, determination, make clear that we're not going back to what we were doing for the last eight years of the Obama administration which is weaknesses on the world stage," said Pompeo. Pompeo said moral support should be provided to fighters in Afghanistan. "We should make doubly sure that we never recognize the Taliban as the rightful leaders of Afghanistan," said Pompeo. "There's no way we should recognize them. Think about this: I heard Secretary Blinken say there was no plan. No, there was a detailed plan. They just chose to tear it up and put a political constraint where we had a conditions-based security model for how we were approaching the risk from terrorism in Afghanistan," said Pompeo. "They just permitted the Taliban to throw all of that away, to throw normal diplomacy away, the hard work that we were engaged in, and allow terrorists to take over this country. We shouldn't recognize them, and most importantly, Maria, and what I most worry about, is I think there may be American taxpayer dollars that may be headed for the Taliban as well. We will bribe them, we will pay them, we will coerce them through using US taxpayer dollars to convince the Taliban either to allow Americans out or for something else

where we have no leverage today because of the decisions that this administration made," said Pompeo. China is supposedly negotiating a deal to occupy Bagram Air Base. There was a tweet from Secretary Antony Blinken which said, "We stand with the people of Hong Kong and continue to support their human rights and fundamental freedoms." A short time after this was posted, the State Department took it down, and said it was a mistake and the tweet was meant for somebody else. A new tweet was put up and that key sentence was taken out. Instead, it was put into the spokesman's tweet, Ned Price. "The statement that Secretary Blinken originally put out is absolutely true. The United States must stand with the people of Hong Kong. Everyday, always. We must demand that their rightful place, that the Chinese Communist Party had itself agreed to for 50 years, be restored. It doesn't appear that's where the Chinese Communist Party is headed, but the United States must continue to stand strongly with them, just as we do with the people of Taiwan. I don't know what happened. I don't know why this tweet was taken down. The original tweet that Secretary Blinken had posted was perfectly in line with what I believe the United States policy should be," Pompeo said. Back on the Afghan withdrawal, a senior State Department official said a unit created by the prior administration to conduct the withdrawal was disbanded. Pompeo said, "We did create a unit. It was really well done. It was an important team that we had put together under amazing leadership." Pompeo said they knew they needed State Department resources to get people out of harm's way at a moment's notice. "As for why the State Department was in charge, it makes sense to put the State Department in charge of getting diplomats and resources out, but more importantly than who is in charge, in the end, the Commander in Chief is in charge. It was President Biden's responsibility to provide the resources and the political freedom and the space for our military and our State Department to make sure we got every American out. Every American diplomat, every American citizen, and every American military personnel, and they simply failed to do that and frankly are failing to do that even as we sit here today," said Pompeo. Pompeo praised the administration on the new submarine deal with Australia, noting he believes it will be good for the Quad and deterring Chinese aggression.

Sen. Ted Cruz on Afghan Withdrawal, Chinese Aggression (FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo)

FOX's Sunday Morning Futures With Maria Bartiromo [9/19/2021 10:40 AM, Staff]

Sen. Ted Cruz joined FOX to discuss the US's withdrawal from Afghanistan and Gen. Milley's alleged phone calls with China. He interrogated Secretary of State Antony Blinken this past week and got him to admit that the State Department did give the Taliban what is akin to a kill list of Americans and allies as they walked out. "When it comes to Afghanistan, Joe Biden and his administration have presided over the worst foreign policy catastrophe in a generation. They put politics in front of everything else, they abandoned Americans behind enemy lines, and it was a disaster," said Cruz, saying Biden surrendered, including surrendering Bagram Air Base. "Our nation is going to pay the price for the President's weakness and incompetence for years to come," said Cruz. General Mark Milley will testify in front of Cruz's committee next week. Chinese military ships have been in the waters off of Alaska and Taiwan. Gen. Milley allegedly spoke to his Chinese counterparts in the final days of the Trump administration. "Milley's conduct in Afghanistan, the disaster of Afghanistan, abandoning Bagram, abandoning Americans behind, there are a lot of reasons that General Milley and Secretary Austin and ultimately President Biden and Kamala Harris need to be held to account, but the report this past week that General Milley called the lead General in China and said that he would prevent President Trump from carrying out any military orders, I very much hope that report is not true. Bob Woodward includes it in a book. I don't know if Woodward's quote is accurate or not. I think General Milley deserves the benefit of the doubt. He deserves the chance to address it and answer is that quote true. Is that what you said? If it isn't, Woodward should be ashamed. If it is, then Milley would've committed a gross dereliction of duty. He would've violated the chain of command. Under our Constitution, there is one commander in chief, and it is not for the military generals to reach out to our enemies and defy the commander in chief. I hope the quote didn't happen. I hope General Milley clearly and unequivocally denies it, but he deserves at least the chance to address whether that charge is true or not," said Cruz. On the threat of China, Cruz said, "I have said for a long time that I think China is the single greatest geopolitical threat facing the United States for the next century. We talked a minute ago about the consequences of Afghanistan, of the disaster, of the failure of Biden's weakness. Every enemy across the globe saw that weakness, and they took the measure of the man. Xi in China is watching how America behaves, and they're taking the

measure of the man in the Oval Office, and unfortunately I believe the chances of a Chinese amphibious assault on Taiwan have increased tenfold in the last month because as Xi has looked at Biden, I fear that Xi has made the determination that Biden is too weak and too unable to do anything, that this is now a ripe opportunity for China to move militarily on Taiwan. If that happens, it would be utterly disastrous, but weakness invites aggression. The way you protect Taiwan, and I think we should absolutely protect Taiwan, is you protect it through strength."

Former Joint Chiefs Chairman Mike Mullen Discusses Afghan Drone Strike, Milley Discussions with China (ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos)

ABC's This Week With George Stephanopoulos [9/19/2021 9:22 AM, Staff, 3M]

A stunning admission from the Pentagon that a drone strike in Kabul amid the chaotic withdrawal from Afghanistan killed 10 civilians with no connection to ISIS-K. It comes from the Pentagon already reeling from the revelation that Joint Chiefs Chairman Mark Milley privately conferred with his Chinese counterpart to avert conflict in the final months of the Trump administration. Former Joint Chiefs Chairman Mike Mullen joined ABC to discuss the situation. "I thought what General McKenzie did was right, admit the mistake and apologize, and look, and he also spoke later of possible reparations, and in fact, in the end, Secretary Austin has also committed to a review that hopefully will look at accountability for this," said Mullen. When asked if there should be accountability, he said, "Absolutely I think there should. This was obviously an incredibly complex, fast-moving situation. We'd lost those 13 military members a couple days before that. There was clear intelligence that additional strikes were on their way. So it was in that environment in which this strike actually took place, as sad as it was." Mullen said, "Clearly they were convinced at the time that it was a good strike, and it takes some time to do that, and this is the same command that has been evacuating Afghanistan and all of that entails. I'm not overly concerned about how long it took" to apologize. Mullen said on over the horizon strikes, there will need to be validation of the intelligence, but the US has done this for years and has had many successful drone strikes. "The over the horizon capability is really there. Doing it in an extremely quick, confused, chaotic environment made this one that much more difficult and problematic," said Mullen. On Milley's communication with China in the final days of the Trump administration, Mullen said, "Having communication with counterparts around the world is routine, and even having them now with China. There was a time when we had no communications with China or if we had a problem with China, they'd cut off all mill-to-mill connections. So I'm encouraged the fact that the line of communication is there. This was routine. I think it was also overseen certainly listened to by many other in the inter-agency process so Milley wasn't out there by himself." Mullen noted he hopes the part about warning China of a strike is not true. "What's a little bit alarming to me, though, is that the Chinese would read the situation as they did as really chaotic and as if we were going to possibly strike. It's very clear, and I don't know this because I haven't talked to Chairman Milley, it's very clear he had good intel that this was the case, but the misread by China is also worrisome and it speaks to the need to have these open communications so that we don't miscalculate," said Mullen. Mullen noted he believes Milley would try to do the best thing for our country in any situation. On the submarine deal that the US made with Australia that caused France to withdraw its ambassadors, Mullen said, "Yeah, it's a big deal. To see the Australians, the US, and UK come together for that technology, and it's going to give that part of the world and Australia significant sustaining capability in undersea warfare that they don't have, and I think, I hope, strengthens the security environment in that part of the world, but it is a big, big change, and I am very much in favor of what's happening."

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres on Afghanistan (CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS)

CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS [9/19/2021 10:28 AM, Staff, 1M]

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres joined CNN to discuss Afghanistan. Guterres recently said it was a fantasy to imagine that the United Nations would be able to handle the Afghan problem. No governments have currently recognized the Taliban and very few are willing to provide aid to prevent humanitarian disaster in the country. "We have sent to Kabul the emergency relief coordinator and head of our humanitarian affairs sector who was the first personnel at the ministerial level that went to Kabul and spoke with Baradar, with Haqqani, with all those that matter. What I said about the fantasy is that you cannot ask the UN to solve all the problems that many countries with hundreds of thousands of soldiers,

with trillion of different currencies and with all the means at their disposal for decades were not able to solve. And to say now the UN goes there and solves everything, they have an inclusive government, they will have full respect of human rights, they will stop all terrorism for all activities. I mean let's be honest, we have not the capacity to do that that all the others failed for decades. What we can do and we are doing is to engage with the Taliban, first of all for humanitarian aid to be distributed and to make them understand that we have solidarity from the international community and to be able to one day have recognition from the international community, they need to deliver on the aspects that are very important for us: the human rights for girls and for women. Women the right to work, girls the right to be at school at all levels. That it will be very important for them to cooperate at the international community to avoid Afghanistan to be a safe haven for terrorists. These are things we can, naturally, engaging with them, advocate for, but we have no illusion. The situation is unpredictable, and if someone today says that they know exactly how Afghanistan will be in three months' time, I think it is probably a prophet without much credibility," said Guterres. On the international effort to combat the pandemic, Guterres said, "I think there is a conscience that if we don't address quickly the problems of those areas of the world in which the virus is still spreading like wildfire, we risk to have the COVID as a permanent problem, like the flu. This with the impacts that we are seeing in the global economy, this is something we need to avoid at all costs. I think there is a growing conscience that this is the case, and I hope that in the next few weeks, there will be effective progress in relation to the vaccination programs."

Former French Ambassador to US Gerard Araud Discusses Rift Following Announcement of US, UK, Australia Submarine Deal (CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS)

CNN's Fareed Zakaria GPS [9/19/2021 10:07 AM, Staff, 1M]

Unacceptable behavior among allies and partners. That is what the French government called the announcement of a new security pact between the US, Australia, and the UK this week. Seen as an effort to counter China, the new deal will help Australia built a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines, among other things. But the French already had a deal to build submarines with their Australian allies. They say this move was a stab in the back. On Friday, France took the exceptional step of recalling its ambassadors to Washington and Canberra. Former French Ambassador to Washington Gerard Araud joined CNN to discuss the situation. "It was a total astonishment. On the 30th of August, the minister of defense and foreign affairs of Australia were reaffirming the commitment to the contract. 30th of August. And suddenly overnight it's denounced. On the top of that, it's denounced after obviously our closest allies plotting in our back to kick us out of the jail. So you have the loss and on top of that, you have the deviousness of our closest allies against our major interests," said Araud. When asked if France could've been part of a new agreement, Araud said, "I think it's the right question. Actually, we, the French ambassador who met the Secretary of State, met with the national security advisor, raised the question saying not only we, as I have said, we lose the contract, but you kick us out of this strategic partnership because Australia was also our strategic partner. Our Navies have been training together, and we consider that Australia was the pillar of our Indo-Pacific strategy." Araud said he does not think that the storm will have major consequences since most Europeans see it as a French problem. "Basically, we have the impression that President Biden doesn't care," Araud said, noting Afghanistan and that there was no proposal of cooperation coming from the American side when Biden traveled to Europe. "Since then, it's very difficult to say that there's a European policy of this administration." On whether or not the US and France will be able to come back together, Araud said, "I think our community has to work together, but there is no love. There is only proof of love. So I think that the administration has to show that, as I have said, that they consider that the Europeans are a real partner in a common endeavor, and we are still waiting for that." Araud also noted that France is headed into a presidential election cycle and this decision will make things more difficult for President Macron.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[MA] Activists call on jail to stop housing immigration detainees

The AP [9/19/2021 3:21 PM, Staff, 2701K] reports immigrant rights activists in Massachusetts are planning to rally near historic Plymouth Rock and outside a local jail to call on the facility to stop housing

federal immigration detainees. Organizers on Thursday evening will hold a vigil at the waterfront Pilgrim Memorial State Park followed by a march and rally at the Plymouth County Correctional Facility. The jail is the lone remaining facility housing immigration detainees in the state, with some 77 in custody as of late last month, according to federal data. Plymouth County Sheriff Joseph McDonald recently notified U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement that his office was terminating a program that deputizes some of its staff to act as federal immigration agents. But he said the jail would continue to house immigration detainees, as it has since the 1990s, despite calls from activists.

Citizenship and Immigration Services

Democrats Dealt a Blow on Immigration Plans

The [New York Times](#) [9/19/2021 8:44 PM, Luke Broadwater, 24635K] reports the Senate parliamentarian dealt a major setback on Sunday to Democrats' plan to use their \$3.5 trillion social policy bill to create a path to citizenship for an estimated 8 million undocumented immigrants. Elizabeth MacDonough, the Senate parliamentarian, who serves as the chamber's arbiter of its own rules, wrote that the "policy changes of this proposal far outweigh the budgetary impact scored to it and it is not appropriate for inclusion in reconciliation," according to a copy of her decision obtained by New York Times. Democrats had been seeking to grant legal status to undocumented people brought to the United States as children, known as Dreamers; immigrants who were granted Temporary Protected Status for humanitarian reasons; close to one million farmworkers; and millions more whom are deemed "essential workers." Immigration advocates had pushed the plan as their best chance this Congress to improve the lives of millions of immigrants, after attempts to reach a bipartisan deal with Republicans fell apart. [Roll Call](#) [9/19/2021 9:20 PM, Suzanne Monyak and Caroline Simon, 119K] reports the consequences of putting millions of people on a path to citizenship would go far beyond the narrow scope of the nation's budget, Elizabeth MacDonough said. Lawful permanent resident "status would give these persons freedom to work, freedom to travel, freedom to live openly in our society in any state in the nation, and to reunite with their families and it would make them eligible, in time, to apply for citizenship – things for which there is no federal fiscal equivalent," she said. "Changing the law to clear the way to LPR status is tremendous and enduring policy change that dwarfs its budgetary impact." The [Los Angeles Times](#) [9/19/2021 6:31 PM, Jennifer Haberkorn, 3710K] reports that Democrats are next expected to pitch a backup plan that would provide a similar pathway to citizenship, but probably not cover as many people, according to sources familiar with the talks. But the ruling released Sunday is an ominous sign for its chances, as it recounted several reasons why a massive expansion of citizenship cannot be included in the bill. Because of the special fast-track procedure Democrats are using to pass their \$3.5-trillion bill, all parts must conform to Senate rules, chiefly that each provision be directly related to the federal budget. The process, called reconciliation, allows Democrats to pass their bill with only 50 votes plus the tie-breaking vote of the vice president. The Senate parliamentarian, Elizabeth MacDonough, advised Senate aides that the proposed pathway to citizenship would not comply, according to a document obtained by the Los Angeles Times on Sunday. [Politico](#) [9/19/2021 8:07 PM, Marianne Levine, 1707K] reports Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer said Sunday evening that Democrats are "deeply disappointed in the decision" but plan to meet with the Senate parliamentarian in the coming days and pursue other options. "Our economy depends more than ever on immigrants," Schumer said. "Despite putting their lives on the line during the pandemic and paying their fair share of taxes, they remain locked out of the federal assistance that served as a lifeline for so many families. We will continue fighting to pursue the best path forward to grant them the ability to obtain lawful status."

Reported similarly:

[Washington Post](#) [9/19/2021 11:40 PM, Maria Sacchetti, 11773K]

[The Hill](#) [9/19/2021 8:25 PM, Jordain Carney, 1776K]

[Reuters](#) [9/19/2021 11:11 PM, David Shepardson, 5304K]

Customs and Border Protection

Deported veterans allowed back into the U.S. to get vaccinated

The [San Diego Union Tribune](#) [9/19/2021 12:40 PM, Alexandra Mendozawriter, 302K] reports a group of deported veterans was allowed back briefly into the country Wednesday to receive the COVID-19 shot as part of a special clinic held by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. One of them was U.S. Marine veteran Milton Tepeyac, 45, who made the trip from Sonora, México. Two days before the clinic, while searching for a house to rent in Hermosillo, he came across a Facebook post informing about the clinic to be held at the San Ysidro border crossing. “The simple fact that they are doing this, is already an incredible achievement”, said Tepeyac. The VA in collaboration with the Department of Homeland Security reached out to veterans living on or near the border to inform them of both the vaccine and other benefits for which they are eligible, explained Dr. Jennifer MacDonald, senior advisor for health to the Secretary of VA. In total, 21 people, including some of the veteran’s family members, received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine at this clinic set up at a designated area near the PedEast border crossing.

Deportees land in Port-au-Prince: ‘Nobody told us we were going back to Haiti’

The [Washington Post](#) [9/19/2021 7:03 PM, Widlore Merancourt and Anthony Faiola, 11773K] reports he crossed the Mexican border into Texas only two weeks ago, joyous at the prospect of building anew in the United States. Now part of the first wave of deportees rapidly ejected by the Biden administration amid a fresh surge at the border, Johnson Bordes, 23, stepped off a Boeing 737 on Sunday and into the Haitian capital, terrified by a city torn apart by violence in a homeland he could barely remember. Like many deportees arriving on charter flights at the airport in Port-au-Prince, 15 minutes from neighborhoods controlled by brutal armed gangs, Bordes’s family left Haiti in the great migration after the 2010 earthquake that killed more than 200,000 people. He was 12 when they left, first for the Dominican Republic, then on to Chile, where he was living with his mother and brother when the coronavirus pandemic hit. Encouraged by relatives in the United States, the family set out on a 4,500-mile trek to the U.S. border — never imagining the road would lead back to the devastated country they left more than a decade ago. He mingled with other confused deportees, many of whom hadn’t seen Haiti in years, and now spoke Spanish or Portuguese better than Haitian Creole. Several families told The Washington Post that they were never told they were being deported back to Haiti.

[TX] Part of Texas border closed where thousands of Haitians crossed

The [Hill](#) [9/19/2021 3:30 PM, Monique Beals, 1776K] reports the United States closed off a stretch of the Mexican border where thousands of Haitian migrants have been crossing between Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, and Del Rio, Texas, according to The Associated Press. Thousands of migrants are currently living in squalid conditions under a bridge in Del Rio, where temperatures are often near 100 degrees. For three weeks, they had been crossing the river into Mexico for food and other supplies before returning to the camp in Texas. But Texas Department of Public Safety vehicles lined up to block the bridge and river this weekend, and officials taped off a dam that had been used for crossing the river, according to the AP. The [Washington Times](#) [9/19/2021 6:24 PM, Stephen Dinan, 381K] reports Texas state troopers used cars to erect a wall of metal this weekend, sealing off the U.S.-Mexico border in Del Rio, and the Homeland Security Department said it was rushing agents and officers to the site to process the thousands of migrants who had made it across, as officials moved on what has become an illegal immigrant beachhead inside the country. Homeland Security also vowed more deportation flights and use of expedited removal, a speedy deportation process, to try to oust as many of the migrants, most of them Haitians, from the camp they erected on the banks of the Rio Grande. With the stream of new migrants cut off, authorities whittled down the numbers from a peak of about 16,000 people late last week to fewer than 13,000 Sunday afternoon.

[TX] Border Patrol in Texas discovers 49 undocumented migrants hidden in tractor-trailer

[FOX News](#) [9/19/2021 11:25 AM, Stephen Sorace, 9251K] reports border agents in Texas thwarted a human smuggling attempt and discovered 49 undocumented migrants crammed inside a tractor-trailer, officials said Friday. Border Patrol agents in Sierra Blanca encountered the tractor-trailer on Thursday during a traffic check at an immigration checkpoint on I-10, U.S. Customs and Border Protections (CBP)

said in a statement. Agents checked the trailer and found 49 migrants from Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and Peru hiding inside, the agency said. The driver, whom authorities said was a visa holder, was turned over to Homeland Security Investigations for prosecution.

[TX] "Trapped": Migrants collecting food try to evade law enforcement at the U.S.-Mexico border

Reuters [9/19/2021 9:19 PM, Daina Beth Solomon, Alberto Fajardo, 5304K] reports a U.S. law enforcement officer on horseback wielded what appeared to be a lariat, whipping it close to the face of a man wading in the Rio Grande carrying a plastic bag of food. It was just one desperate moment in a few hours of such scenes along the Rio Grande on Sunday. Hundreds of Haitian migrants who have been camping under a bridge in the Texas town of Del Rio were trying to bring food and other supplies from Ciudad Acuña in the Mexican state of Coahuila, while U.S. officials have stepped up security at the border and started flying migrants out of the area, some to Haiti. Migrants said their squalid encampment under a bridge on the U.S. side of the river was short of supplies. U.S. officials over the last few days had let migrants cross back and forth at a shallow point of the river. On Sunday, however, they told migrants they would not be able to return to the U.S. side if they ventured into Mexico. "We're trapped," said Joncito Jean, 37, who had spent three days sleeping on a sheet on the ground with his wife and children, ages 3 and 4. He said he regretted the decision to come.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

[CA] More evacuations ordered in California as wildfires threaten giant sequoia trees

ABC News [9/19/2021 1:14 PM, Julia Jacobo, 37K] reports wildfires swirling around California's giant sequoia trees are prompting more evacuations as they spread toward communities surrounding the forests. Residents in Ponderosa and Quaking Aspen in Tulare County have been ordered to evacuate immediately now that the Windy Fire had fanned to more than 18,000 acres surrounding the Sequoia National Forest and was 0% contained on Sunday morning. Other communities in Tulare County, such as Johnsondale and Camp Whitsett, had been ordered to evacuate several days earlier due to the Windy Fire, while the KNP Complex Fire, which is also threatening the historic sequoia forests, prompted evacuations in the Three Rivers community. The KNP Complex Fire had grown to nearly 22,000 acres by Sunday morning and was also 0% contained. The AP [9/19/2021 8:01 PM, Staff, 495K] reports the National Weather Service issued a red flag warning through Sunday, saying gusts and lower humidity could create conditions for rapid wildfire spread. The fires forced the evacuation of the park last week, along with parts of Three Rivers, a foothill town of about 2,500 people. Firefighters using bulldozers expanded a line between the fire and the community, fire spokesperson Rebecca Paterson said Sunday.

Secret Service

[NY] NYC braces for return of in-person attendance at U.N. General Assembly

New York Daily News [9/19/2021 2:13 PM, Shant Shahrigian, Neutral, Secondary] reports tensions inside and gridlock outside are in the forecast for the UN General Assembly's return to deliberations this week. The global COVID crisis, dire warnings about climate change and fallout from the U.S. withdrawal in Afghanistan are expected to predominate at the annual meeting, where more than 100 world leaders will descend upon the United Nations headquarters in Midtown. President Biden plans to make an appeal for greater international partnership on the pandemic, climate change and human rights abuses. He is set to meet with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday and address the assembly on Tuesday. Last year's General Assembly was all-virtual, and Biden is limiting his time at this year's forum over COVID concerns. On Wednesday the commander-in-chief is hosting a virtual summit focusing on the pandemic. He is expected to ask global leaders to boost commitments to sharing vaccines and address oxygen shortages around the world, among other issues. This year's General Assembly is Biden's first as president. After his predecessor Donald Trump aggressively advocated an "America First" stance on the global stage, world leaders welcomed Biden's election as a return to international norms. But chaos during last month's withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan raised questions about Biden's leadership

among longstanding allies. Leaders of friendly countries decried the move, which came as the Taliban took over Afghanistan, as a disaster. U.S. officials sounded a message of unity ahead of the General Assembly.

[PA] Pennsylvania Man Pleads Guilty to Providing Material Support to ISIS

Homeland Security Today [9/18/2021 3:00 PM, Staff, Positive, Secondary] reports a Pennsylvania man pleaded guilty on September 16 to one count of attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS). Mustafa Mousab Alowemer, 23, of Pittsburgh pleaded guilty to one count of attempting to provide material support to ISIS in relation to his plan to attack a church in Pittsburgh. According to court documents, Alowemer plotted to bomb a church located on the north side of Pittsburgh using an explosive device. His stated motivation to conduct such an attack was to support the cause of ISIS and to inspire other ISIS supporters in the United States to join together and commit similar acts in the name of ISIS. Alowemer also targeted the church to "take revenge for our [ISIS] brothers in Nigeria." Alowemer was aware that numerous people in the proximity of the church could be killed by the explosion. In furtherance of the plot to bomb the church, in May 2019, Alowemer distributed multiple instructional documents related to the construction and use of explosives and improvised explosive devices (IEDs) to an individual Alowemer believed to be a fellow ISIS supporter, but who was in fact an FBI employee. Alowemer distributed these documents with the intent that the information be used in the assembly of a destructive device and in furtherance of conducting an attack in support of ISIS. In or around June 2019, Alowemer purchased several items, including nails and acetone (nail polish remover) with the belief that they were necessary to assemble a destructive device and with the intention they be used to construct the explosives that would be detonated in the vicinity of the church. The FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force members who were directly involved in this investigation include: FBI, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), IRS – Criminal Investigation, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Pennsylvania State Police, Allegheny County Police Department, Pittsburgh Bureau of Police, Allegheny County Port Authority Police, Allegheny County Probation, University of Pittsburgh Police Department and UPMC Police Security.

[CA] Man Accused Of Manufacturing Guns From Wildomar Home

The Patch [9/18/2021 5:49 PM, Staff, Positive, Secondary] reports a felon accused of possessing equipment commonly used to make counterfeit money and manufacturing firearms out of a Wildomar home was arrested and remained behind bars in lieu of \$55,000 bail Saturday. Patrick Kirk, 30, was taken into custody after deputies served a search warrant Friday afternoon at a home in the 21400 block of Apricot Lane, according to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff's officials said among the items deputies seized from the residence were body armor and an illegal rifle. Kirk was booked into the Cois Byrd Detention Center on suspicion of various gun crimes, including manufacturing an assault weapon.

Coast Guard

[FL] A group of more than 10 rafters arrive in Miami Beach and fled when they touched the mainland

Univision [9/19/2021 6:08 PM, Staff, 366K] reports a boat with about 12 rafters washed ashore from Miami Beach this Saturday night. A witness recorded with his cell phone the moment when the boat approached the shore, at the level of 24th street with Collins. helicopter was flying over the boat when the migrants made landfall and took off running. There is no information on the arrest of any of them. The Coast Guard clarified that "they work to prevent, deter and intercept illegal migration," however Cuban immigrants and rafters who require protection against persecution or torture are not repatriated when requesting the credible fear interview. "Migrants intercepted at sea are detained by the Coast Guard and are provided with food, water, and shelter, while their disposition is decided in coordination with other federal agencies," the Coast Guard explained in a statement. "This is a longstanding US government policy. All

intercepted immigrants have an opportunity to request and receive protection against persecution or torture, “says the Coast Guard.

National Security News

U.N. General Assembly Expected to Address Climate Change, Covid-19

The Wall Street Journal [9/19/2021 5:30 AM, William Mauldin] reports world leaders gathering this week for an annual United Nations meeting will confront persisting global problems such as Covid-19 and climate change, while grappling with new tensions and conflicts dividing U.N. members. Diplomats and leaders attending the U.N. General Assembly in New York will also contend with the return to power of the Taliban and the humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, as well as the challenge posed by Iran under a new, hard-line president, Ebrahim Raisi. President Biden is scheduled to address the General Assembly for the first time as president on Tuesday, planning to appear in person after last year’s virtual gathering. Under pressure from New York City, the U.N. is requiring that participants be vaccinated, but will rely on the honor system, a U.N. spokeswoman said. Diplomats arriving in the U.S. must submit a negative test for Covid-19, said Linda Thomas-Greenfield, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. U.S. officials have asked countries to avoid bringing large delegations. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro, who had the coronavirus but has said he isn’t vaccinated, is scheduled to speak Tuesday, before other leaders. China’s Xi Jinping and Russia’s Vladimir Putin aren’t expected to attend the gathering or address it directly, leaving the job to subordinates. Mr. Raisi is scheduled to speak later than Mr. Biden on Tuesday. In his address, Mr. Biden is expected to address the pandemic and climate change while pressing other governments—including the new Taliban regime and China—on rights issues. Mr. Biden will host a virtual summit Friday of the leaders of Australia, India, Japan and the U.S.—an informal alliance known as the Quad—as he prepares for his own global summit of democracies later this year. As the U.N. gathering approached, some diplomats worried that a focus on governance and rights could complicate ties with authoritarian countries that share some U.S. interests. Iran’s foreign ministry spokesman said on Sunday that Tehran remained open to a meeting in New York and that its foreign minister would in any case hold bilateral talks with his counterparts from the nuclear-deal talks. Iran has so far this year refused direct talks with the U.S. The AP [9/19/2021 2:07 PM, Edith M. Lederer] reports U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has pointed to many other signs of a more chaotic, insecure and dangerous world: rising poverty and hunger; technology’s advances “without guard rails” like lethal autonomous weapons; the risks of climate breakdown and nuclear war; and growing inequality, discrimination and injustice bringing people into the streets to protest “while conspiracy theories and lies fuel deep divisions within societies.” The U.N. chief keeps repeating that the world is at “a pivotal moment” and must shift gears to “a greener and safer world.” To do that, leaders need to give multilateralism “teeth,” starting with joint action to reverse the global failure to tackle COVID-19 in 2020 and to ensure that 70% of the world’s population is vaccinated in the first half of 2022. But as is often true with the United Nations, it remains to be seen whether the high-level meetings, which start Monday and end Sept. 27, make actual progress.

[Cuba] Biden administration has made little progress in closing Guantanamo Bay prison

CNN [9/19/2021 8:01 AM, Ellie Kaufman, 4876K] reports President Joe Biden has said he wants to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, where 39 detainees still reside, by the end of his term, but his administration is yet to make much progress towards meeting that goal. The Biden administration first announced it intended to close the facility during a White House press briefing in February 2021. When asked by a reporter if the prison would be closed by the time Biden leaves office, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said, “that’s certainly our goal and our intention.” But months into Biden’s term, 39 detainees remain housed at the prison in Cuba. 10 detainees have been cleared by the Guantanamo Periodic Review Board system and are eligible for release, but they have not been transferred to a different country and out of the prison yet. Aside from the 10 already eligible for release, 17 detainees are eligible for periodic review board hearings, two detainees have been convicted and ten are in the office of military commission process, meaning they are still in the pretrial process in the military court system created for law of war offenses, and they have yet to be proven guilty or innocent.

[France] France's Macron to talk to Biden amid crisis over submarines

The [AP](#) [9/19/2021 12:08 PM, Elaine Ganley] reports French President Emmanuel Macron will speak in the coming days with President Joe Biden in their first contact since a major diplomatic crisis erupted between France and the United States over a submarine deal with Australia, an official said Sunday. The phone call is at the request of Biden, government spokesman Gabriel Attal said, adding that there was "shock" and "anger" at first in France over news of the deal. But now it's time to try to move forward, he said. What the French now call a "grave crisis" erupted over the sudden, surprise end to a 2016 contract worth at least \$66 billion between France and Australia to build 12 conventional diesel-electric submarines. Instead, Australia signed on with the United States and Britain for eight nuclear-powered submarines. France insists it was not informed of the deal in advance. France recalled its ambassadors from the United States and Australia in a sign of the seriousness of the crisis. "What's at play in this affair, this crisis ... are strategic issues before being commercial issues," Attal said in an interview on BFMTV. "The question is ... the forces present, the balance, in the Indo-Pacific where part of our future is at play, and our relations with China." Macron will be seeking explanations from Biden about what led to a "major rupture in confidence," the spokesman added. "There was a moment of shock, of anger ... Now, we must advance."

[France] France cancels defense meeting with UK over submarine row, sources say

[Reuters](#) [9/19/2021 6:42 PM, John Irish and Tim Hether, 5304K] reports France has cancelled a meeting between Armed Forces Minister Florence Parly and her British counterpart planned for this week after Australia scrapped a submarine order with Paris in favour of a deal with Washington and London, two sources familiar with the matter said. Parly personally took the decision to drop the bilateral meeting with British Defence Secretary Ben Wallace, the sources said. The French defence ministry could not be immediately reached. The British defence ministry declined comment. The sources confirmed an earlier report in the Guardian newspaper that the meeting had been cancelled. The scrapping of the multi-billion-dollar submarine contract, struck in 2016, has triggered a diplomatic crisis, with Paris recalling its ambassadors from Washington and Canberra. France claims not to have been consulted by its allies, while Australia says it had made clear to Paris for months its concerns over the contract.

[Australia] Australian prime minister: No regrets over submarine deal with US, UK

[The Hill](#) [9/19/2021 1:26 PM, Monique Beals, 1776K] reports Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Sunday that he stands by his decision to move forward with a new trilateral security deal with the U.K. and U.S. and forgo another deal made with France in 2016. "I don't regret the decision to put Australia's national interest first," Morrison said, according to Reuters. The new deal will allow Australia to build at least eight nuclear-powered submarines with technology from the U.S. and the U.K., a move Morrison said will better serve Canberra against new threats in the Indo-Pacific, Reuters noted. French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian on Saturday, however, criticized the "duplicity, disdain and lies" surrounding Australia's decision to partner with the U.K. and U.S., according to The Associated Press.

[North Korea] N.Korea warns U.S. risks 'dangerous nuclear arms race' over Australia subs

[Reuters](#) [9/20/2021 3:18 AM, Hyonhee Shin, 5304K] reports North Korea warned on Monday that the United States risked a dangerous nuclear arms race by providing submarine technology to Australia, criticising its "double standards" and vowing counter-measures. Last week, the United States clinched a new trilateral security partnership involving Britain to provide technological aid to Australia to build at least eight nuclear-powered submarines. North Korea joined China in decrying the U.S. decision as an "irresponsible one" that destroys regional peace and stability and global non-proliferation efforts. "These are extremely undesirable and dangerous acts which will upset the strategic balance in the Asia-Pacific region and trigger off a chain of nuclear arms race," the North's foreign ministry said in a comment carried by the official KCNA news agency. The North criticised Washington's "double-dealing attitude," singling out White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki's remarks that it does not seek conflict with China but the decision was to shore up regional security. Her comment "amounts to a stand that any country can spread nuclear technology if it is in its interests, and this shows that the U.S. is the chief culprit toppling the international nuclear non-proliferation system," the ministry said.

Reported similarly:

Washington Post [9/20/2021 2:31 AM, Rachel Pannett, 11773K]

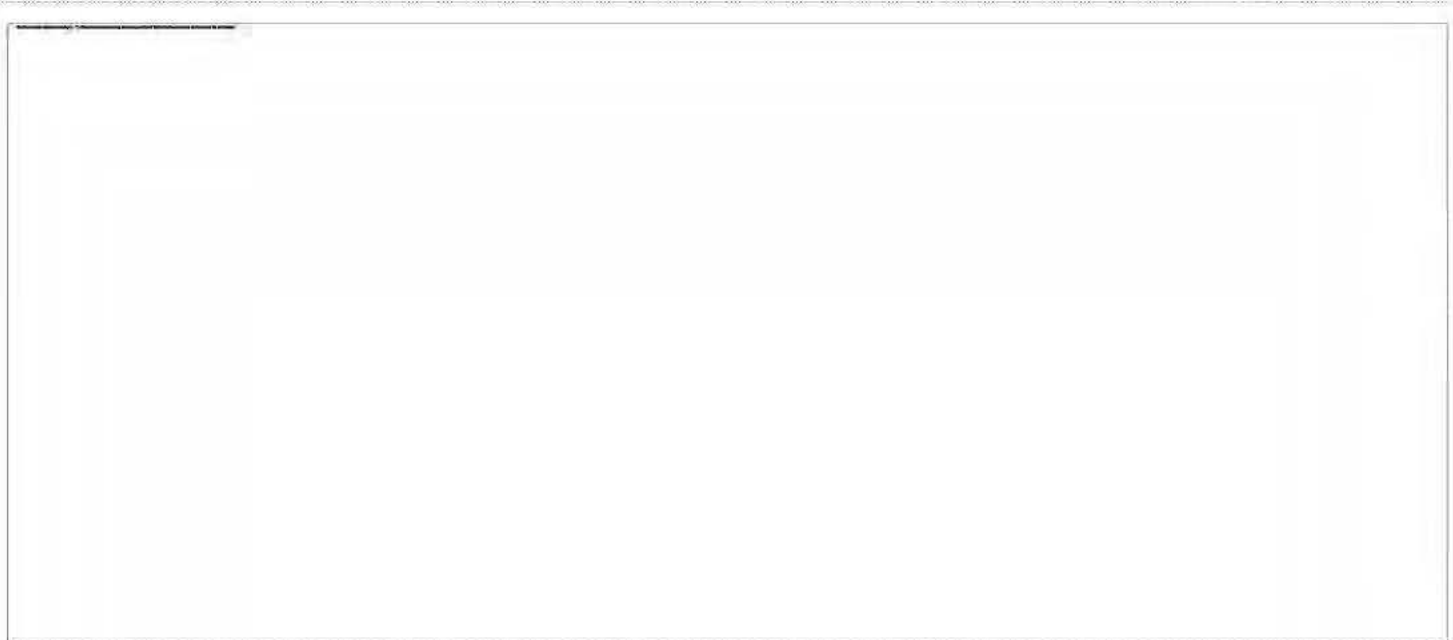
Bloomberg [9/19/2021 8:39 PM, Youkyung Lee, 6400K]

{End of Report} RETURN TO TOP

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 11/17/2021 1:52:00 PM
To: YUM STATION COMMAND GML (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) YUM EXEC STAFF GML
(b) (7)(E) WELLTON COMMAND STAFF (b) (7)(E) BLY
COMMAND STAFF (b) (7)(E)
CC: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: CBP Daily News Brief: November 17, 2021

Good Morning!



TOP NEWS | BORDER SECURITY (ALONG U.S. BORDERS) | BORDER SECURITY (PORTS OF ENTRY) | BORDER WALL | TRAVEL | TRADE | WORKFORCE | OPIOID | OPINION | IMMIGRATION | DHS |

November 17, 2021

Executive Summary

CNN reported that DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told senators Tuesday that DHS has stopped the practice of releasing migrants in the United States only with paperwork that tells them to report to an ICE office. Migrants who are released going forward will likely receive notices to appear at immigration court as has typically been done. U.S. immigration officials also recently began sending packets to migrants who underwent ad hoc processing. The operation has sparked concern among immigration advocates and attorneys, who worry the packets may not get to the migrants.

Meanwhile, BorderReport reported that the "Remain in Mexico" policy could begin again "within the coming weeks," according to a federal court brief filed this week by Justice Department officials. The

four-page document filed Monday in Amarillo, Texas, said that the government of Mexico is close to accepting migrants who are sent back from the United States under the program. Mexico apparently has one major sticking point, although the brief does not detail what it is.

In other news, CNN reported that DHS announced Tuesday that the horse patrol incident in Del Rio, Texas, that drew swift condemnation from senior Biden administration officials will not be investigated by DHS's inspector general. Instead, CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility is now investigating the incident. The agents involved in the incident remain on administrative duty, according to DHS spokeswoman Marsha Espinosa. Horse patrol units continue to be deployed based on operational assessments, but are not deployed in the city of Del Rio, she added.

Top News

[A.1] DHS stops releasing some migrants without providing immigration court dates

November 16, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 14.6k

DHS has stopped the practice of releasing migrants in the United States only with paperwork that tells them to report to an ICE office, Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told senators Tuesday. During a Senate panel hearing Tuesday, Mayorkas said that from Jan. 1 to Oct. 31, CBP issued 94,581 notices to report, adding that the practice has been "discontinued." "We've discontinued the practice of issuing notices to report," Secretary Mayorkas said. Migrants who are released going forward will likely receive notices to appear at immigration court as has typically been done. U.S. immigration officials also recently began sending packets to migrants who underwent ad hoc processing. They are expected to include a "notice to appear" and additional information about ICE processing. The operation has already sparked concern among immigration advocates and attorneys, who worry the packets may not get to the migrants, which could put them at risk of missing their court dates. If migrants don't appear to immigration court on their designated dates, they can be ordered removed by immigration judges.

[A.2] 'Remain in Mexico' policy could restart in 'coming weeks,' DOJ officials tell federal court

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 156k

The controversial Trump-era "Remain in Mexico" policy — which forced migrants to wait south of the border in Mexico during their immigration proceedings — could begin again "within the coming weeks," according to a federal court brief filed this week by Justice Department officials. The four-page document filed Monday in Amarillo, Texas, said that the government of Mexico is close to accepting migrants who are sent back from the United States under the program, formally called Migrant Protection Protocols or MPP. DHS "is ready to reimplement MPP shortly after the Government of Mexico makes an independent decision to accept the return of individuals that the Department seeks to enroll in the program," Acting Assistant Attorney General Brian Boynton wrote. Mexico apparently has one major sticking point, although the brief does not detail what it is.

[A.3] DHS inspector general declines to investigate Del Rio horse patrol incident

November 16, 2021 (CNN Wire - Powered by Dow Jones - Priscilla Alvarez) Reach: 14.6k

The horse patrol incident in Del Rio, Texas, that drew swift condemnation from senior Biden administration officials will not be investigated by DHS's inspector general, the department

announced Tuesday. CBP had referred the incident to the watchdog, according to DHS. Instead, CBP's Office of Professional Responsibility is now investigating the incident, the department said, adding that the office has reviewed videos and photographs and interviewed witnesses, employees and CBP leadership. "Once completed, the results of the investigation will be provided to CBP management to determine whether disciplinary action is appropriate and, if so, the specific discipline to be imposed. At that time, the employees will be afforded due process, including an opportunity to respond, and any corrective actions will comport with applicable laws and regulations," DHS said in a statement Tuesday. The agents involved in the incident remain on administrative duty, according to DHS spokeswoman Marsha Espinosa. Horse patrol units continue to be deployed based on operational assessments, but are not deployed in the city of Del Rio, she added.

NEWS INDEX

Border Security (Along U.S. Borders)

[B.1] U.S. Border Arrest Numbers Drop After Summer Peak; The number of migrants apprehended at the southern border ...

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal Online - Powered by Dow Jones - Alicia A. Caldwell) Reach: 34.1m

Arrests of migrants caught crossing the Mexican border declined in October for the third straight month, the Biden administration said this week. Border Patrol agents made 158,575 arrests last month, a nearly 15% decline from September.

[B.2] Varying border apprehension interpretations for latest numbers

November 16, 2021 (MyRGVNews.com - Valerie Gonzalez) Reach: 253k

The number of migrants encountered at the border was released Tuesday for the first month of the fiscal year, but the interpretation of those figures varies depending on the media statements offered by officials from CBP and Border Patrol in the Rio Grande Valley.

[B.3] Migrant Detentions Up In The RGV, Down Elsewhere Along The Border

November 16, 2021 (KURV-AM) Reach: 4.2k

The number of undocumented immigrants being detained across the entire southwest border continues to decline, but not in the Rio Grande Valley region. Border Patrol agents in the Rio Grande Valley Sector are continuing to see record numbers of migrants crossing the border – 45,324 migrants were encountered in October, a 157 percent increase from the same month last year.

[B.4] October Migrant Apprehensions at Border Jump 130 Percent from Prior Year

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.1m

Border Patrol agents apprehended nearly 159,000 migrants who illegally crossed the southwest border with Mexico between ports of entry in October. The record-setting apprehensions represent an increase of nearly 130 percent over the previous October.

[B.5] EXCLUSIVE: Venezuelan Migrant Apprehensions at West Texas Border Up 9000 Percent

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.1m

Preliminary arrest data indicates some migrant demographics encountered in October have increased upwards of 9,000 percent when compared to October 2020. The documents were provided by a source within CBP not authorized to speak to the media.

[B.6] Injured Migrant Rescued in California Wilderness near Border

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Bob Price) Reach: 5.1m

El Centro Sector Border Patrol agents teamed up with other local and federal assets to rescue an injured migrant near the California border with Mexico. The search and rescue effort led to saving the life of a migrant who injured his ankle shortly after crossing the border near Ocotillo, California on Thursday morning.

Border Security (Ports of Entry)

[C.1] Instead of spending thousands on smugglers, some migrants are buying cars to drive toward asylum

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Salvador Rivera) Reach: 156k

Instead of paying up to \$18,000 dollars to a smuggler to get them north of the border, some migrants are pooling their money and investing it in cars and driving them into ports of entry, where they can ask for asylum. The strategy seems to be working for many.

Border Wall

[D.1] Audit: North Dakota firm was properly awarded wall contract

November 16, 2021 (Associated Press - JAMES MacPHERSON) Reach: 21.8m

The Defense Department's internal watchdog said its investigation into a \$400 million border wall contract found it was properly awarded to a North Dakota firm whose owner used multiple appearances on Fox News to push for the job.

[D.2] Large Migrant Groups Surge Through Arizona Border Wall Gaps

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Randy Clark) Reach: 5.1m

Border Patrol agents in Yuma are encountering sizeable groups of migrants entering the United States illegally through gaps in border walls. More than 300 were apprehended in two large groups over a two-day period. On Monday, more than 200 migrants breached a border wall gap in a single event. On Sunday, 112 were apprehended at the same location.

[D.3] GOP Sen. Braun: Dems Appropriating Money to Tear Down Trump's Border Wall

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - Trent Baker) Reach: 5.1m

Sen. Mike Braun said the spending package includes funding to tear down the border wall.

Travel

[E.1] CDC adds more European destinations to its level 4 travel list

November 16, 2021 (The Washington Post - Annabelle Timsit) Reach: 356k

The CDC on Monday moved four European destinations to its highest-risk category for travel — a reflection of growing concern over rising cases in Europe just as the United States reopens to international travelers from that region.

[E.2] Port Huron border crossing enrollment center to reopen Nov. 29

November 16, 2021 (Port Huron Times Herald - Unknown) Reach: 12.7k

NEXUS and FAST enrollment centers will reopen in the U.S. on Nov. 29. NEXUS is designed to speed up border crossings for low-risk, pre-approved travelers into Canada. The U.S. FAST program enhances border and trade security and makes cross-border commercial shipments simpler and subject to fewer delays. Both are joint programs between CBP and the Canadian Border Services Agency.

Trade

[F.1] U.S., Japan to rebuild trade ties with new forum, meetings

November 17, 2021 (Reuters - David Lawder) Reach: 39.5m

The United States and Japan announced on Wednesday a new trade partnership to boost cooperation on labor, environment and digital trade issues with an emphasis on "third country concerns," a reference to China's state-driven economic policies.

[F.2] Japan, US set plans for talks on resolving tariffs dispute

November 17, 2021 (Associated Press - MARI YAMAGUCHI) Reach: 21.8m

U.S. Trade Representative Katharine Tai and Japan's trade and industry minister agreed Wednesday to work to resolve a dispute over American tariffs on steel and aluminum as part of a framework for cooperation in wider areas.

[F.3] Xinjiang cotton banned in the U.S. is still making it on to store shelves, says report

November 17, 2021 (The Washington Post - Eva Dou) Reach: 356k

In China's cotton-growing Xinjiang region, farmers have been hailing a bumper harvest this autumn. But much of the crop is under U.S. sanctions, and where it will end up is a thorny question.

[F.4] U.S. commerce chief sees Indo-Pacific economic framework early next year

November 17, 2021 (Reuters) Reach: 39.5m

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said on Wednesday that an Indo-Pacific economic framework could be launched at the start of next year, and her Asia visit was to lay the groundwork for potential partnerships.

[F.5] World News: U.S. Moves to Bolster Asia Trade Ties --- Biden seeks closer alliances to challenge China's ...

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Yuka Hayashi) Reach: 34.1m

Top U.S. trade and commerce officials are meeting this week with their counterparts in Japan, South Korea and India -- but not China -- as the Biden administration seeks to build stronger economic ties with friendly nations in Asia.

[F.6] Biden-Xi summit set a foundation despite stopping short of trade negotiations

November 16, 2021 (Fortune - PersonMeena Thiruvengadamhttps) Reach: 5.5m

The United States and China disagree on many things, but after U.S. President Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping's first (virtual) face-to-face meeting since Biden's inauguration, there are signs that the two economic giants may slowly be moving down a more cooperative path.

[F.7] U.S. judge rules against tariffs on imported solar panels, ending Trump policy

November 16, 2021 (Reuters - Jonathan Stempel) Reach: 39.5m

A U.S. judge overseeing trade issues on Tuesday overturned a decision by then-President Trump to allow a reimposition of tariffs on some imported solar panels.

[F.8] Trump Decision to End Solar-Trade Loophole Is Overturned by U.S. Court

November 16, 2021 (Bloomberg - Brian Eckhouse) Reach: 36.7m

A U.S. trade court has reinstated a tariff exemption on some imported solar panels, a decision that benefits domestic clean-energy developers.

[F.9] US Import and Export Prices Surge in October, Adding to Signs of Persistent Inflation

November 16, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.0m

The prices of U.S. imports and exports surged in October, adding to signs that the current bout of inflation, which Federal Reserve policymakers and Biden administration officials say is "transitory," could prove to be considerably more persistent.

[F.10] China Buying More Brazil Soy in Sign of Shifting Trade Flows

November 16, 2021 (Bloomberg - Unknown) Reach: 36.7m

China is making big purchases of soybeans from Brazil, an unusual move for this time of year. The Asian nation needs soybeans to feed its expanding hog herds, and November is a prime time for the U.S. to sell its crops, having just finished the harvest. Supplies are at their peak and American prices should be the most attractive in the world. Yet this year, Brazil is even cheaper and cutting into the U.S.'s key sales window.

Workforce

[G.1] Some Border Patrol Agents Preparing to Be Fired Over Vaccine Mandate

November 16, 2021 (The Epoch Times) Reach: 10.0m

CBP won't release the number, but it's likely that the jobs of thousands of Border Patrol agents are on the chopping block if their requests for COVID-19 vaccine exemptions aren't accepted or if they simply refuse to take the job.

Opioid

[H.1] Photos Show Over a Ton of Meth, Cocaine Seized in Texas Worth \$53M

November 16, 2021 (Newsweek - Matthew Impelli) Reach: 20.5m

New photos show more than a ton of methamphetamine and cocaine, worth approximately \$53 million, that was recently seized by border agents in Texas. CBP posted the photos of the seized narcotics on Twitter and in a press release on its website.

Opinion

[I.1] Upward Mobility: Border Crisis Has Biden's Presidency on the Edge

November 16, 2021 (The Wall Street Journal - Powered by Dow Jones - Jason L. Riley) Reach: 34.1m

In this opinion piece, Jason L. Riley wrote that "It's hard to know the extent to which President Biden's job-approval tribulations can be linked to the continuing chaos at the southern border. But we know that illegal immigration has become a top concern of voters, and the amnesty provisions that Democrats want included in their Build Back Better reconciliation bill are unlikely to help matters."

Immigration

[J.1] What are President Biden's challenges at the border?

November 16, 2021 (BBC) Reach: 178m

Some 2 million "encounters" between government agents and migrants near the border are expected by the end of 2021, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told US senators on Tuesday. In a hearing with the Senate Judiciary Committee, Secretary Mayorkas defended the Biden administration's handling of immigration and border issues, saying that rebuilding "a broken immigration system" will take time.

[J.2] Border crisis grows as some countries won't take migrants back

November 16, 2021 (KOKH FOX 25 - JILLIAN SMITH) Reach: 313k

DHS Secretary Mayorkas was on Capitol Hill Tuesday, answering tough questions about the number of migrants making their way into the United States illegally. Overall, the number of migrants at the southern border is far lower than it was earlier this year, during the peak of children and families illegally crossing into the U.S. from Mexico, but an unprecedented number of migrant adults are coming from countries that make deportation difficult.

[J.3] 5-year-old migrant left on river island, reunited with mom by Border Patrol

November 16, 2021 (BorderReport - Sandra Sanchez) Reach: 156k

U.S. Border Patrol agents said they rescued a 5-year-old Venezuelan girl who was left on an island in the Rio Grande — between Mexico and the United States — by human traffickers.

[J.4] Migrant caravan arrives depleted in the Mexican state of Veracruz

November 16, 2021 (CE NoticiasFinancieras - Powered by Dow Jones) Reach: 237k

The migrant caravan that is trying to cross Mexico from the south to the northern border entered Veracruz on Tuesday, the third state they have entered since their departure on Oct. 23 from the border city of Tapachula, in the state of Chiapas.

DHS

[K.1] DHS Mayorkas: 'Not All' Afghans Brought to U.S. Are Interviewed by Feds

November 16, 2021 (Breitbart News Network - John Binder) Reach: 5.1m

During a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, DHS Secretary Mayorkas said the roughly 70,000 Afghans brought to the U.S. by President Biden since late August "have not all been given interviews" by federal law enforcement officials despite that being standard vetting protocol.

[K.2] DHS inspector general declines to probe use of horses to round up asylum seekers

November 17, 2021 (United Press International) Reach: 1.8m

The inspector general of DHS has declined to investigate the controversial deployment of horse-mounted patrols to round up Haitian and other asylum seekers in Del Rio, Texas, in September.

[K.3] DHS defends delay in the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of whipping Haitians

November 16, 2021 (The Washington Times - Powered by Dow Jones - Stephen Dinan) Reach: 2.5m

DHS issued a statement Tuesday defending the lengthy delay in the investigation into Border Patrol agents accused of whipping Haitian migrants in Texas in September, saying the probe is following the "customary process."

Message

From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Sent: 9/21/2021 2:05:57 PM
To: YUM STATION COMMAND GML (b) (7)(E) YUM EXEC STAFF GML
CC: (b) (7)(E) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
Subject: FW: DHS Morning Briefing (9-21-21)
Attachments: DHS Morning Briefing (9-21-21).pdf

Good Morning!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. If you feel this is a suspicious-looking email, please report by using the Report Phish button option.



DHS MORNING BRIEFING

Prepared for the Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
By TechMIS
www.TechMIS.com

[Mobile User Copy](#)

Editorial Note: The DHS Daily Briefing is a collection of news articles related to Department's mission. The inclusion of particular stories is not intended to reflect their importance, nor is it intended to endorse the political viewpoints or affiliations included in news coverage.

TO: Homeland Security Secretary & Staff
DATE: Tuesday, September 21, 2021 6:00 AM ET

Top News

[Biden to raise refugee admissions cap to 125,000 in the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1](#)

[White House, House Homeland Security chair denounce 'horrific' mistreatment of Haitian migrants by Border Patrol officers](#)

[Hundreds of Haitians return to Mexico after expulsions from Texas begin](#)

[Biden admin prioritizes single adult Haitians, some families for deportation](#)

[Haitian journey to Texas border starts in South America](#)

[Haitian migrants in Texas worry as deportations begin: "I'll die in Haiti"](#)

[Daines demands answers over reports child traffickers among Afghan evacuees](#)

[TX] Texas Gov. Abbott asks Biden for federal emergency declaration amid border crisis
[Afghanistan] C.D.C. mandates measles vaccinations and quarantines for Afghan refugees.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[TX] Conroe sex offender sentenced to 50 years in case involving dozens of victims

Citizenship and Immigration Services

After Setback, Democrats Vow to Push Ahead on Immigration Overhaul

Proposed Rule Protecting 'Dreamers' Nears Public Release

Customs and Border Protection

US extends land border restrictions with Canada, Mexico through Oct. 21

Health and treatment violations discovered in Otay Mesa Detention Center

Dozens of Republican governors call for meeting with Biden on border surge

[TX] DHS asks Pentagon to help move migrants from Del Rio, Texas

[TX] Texas Border Patrol discovers hotel room packed with illegals in suspected human smuggling operation

Transportation Security Administration

U.S. to lift covid ban for air travel from Europe and others, but land border restrictions remain

Flight bookings plummet amid delta variant fears

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Biden launches plan to address 'silent killer': extreme heat

Hurricane season continues to buzz with activity as Tropical Storms Peter and Rose spin in the Atlantic

[VT] Vermont urged to extend emergency motel housing for homeless

[NH] Sununu asks for 2nd disaster declaration after more storms

[AL] Second Alabama man dies in floodwaters after heavy rain

[LA] Louisiana colleges already reeling from the pandemic now struggle to recover from Ida

Federal Protective Service

Federal officer arrested at Capitol rally won't be charged

Secret Service

[NY] Man charged with drug possession, forgery after deputies search Schaghticoke home

[NJ] New Jersey Man Admits Stealing more than \$450,000 in Unemployment Insurance Benefits

[SC] South Carolina municipalities facing nonstop cyberattacks, working from home a potential threat

[KY] Police Warn Princeton Businesses To Check For Counterfeit Bills

[GA] Georgia police department warns about fake cash floating around city

[FL] South Florida Man Charged with Defrauding After-School Program for Underprivileged Immigrant Children Appears in Federal Court

[KS] A circulation of counterfeit money reported in southeast Kansas

[CO] Fake \$50 bill reported in Kearney area

[CA] Counterfeit Money, Illegal Weapons: Police Suspect Wildomar Man

Coast Guard

[FL] Florida doctor discovers empty raft likely from Cuba, shows what people are 'willing to sacrifice for freedom'

[MI] Pair of Michigan kayakers die amid rough Lake Superior waters, gale-force winds

CISA/Cybersecurity

Biden wants to make it harder to pay ransomware hackers

[IA] Iowa-Based Grain Cooperative Hit With Ransomware Attack

[AK] Alaskan health department still struggling to recover after 'nation-state sponsored' cyberattack

Terrorism Investigations

[NY] N.Y. man arrested over threat to kill Dominican president during to city

[DC] US Capitol rioter who stormed Senate floor reports to prison while trying to undo his felony guilty plea

[CA] California militia member pleads guilty to conspiracy charge

National Security News

Amidst global criticism, Biden faces big week at UN General Assembly

[France] UK, Australia confident in relations with France, but French ambassador says they 'absolutely weren't informed' of new submarine deal

[North Korea] North Korea warns submarine deal with Australia could lead to nuclear arms race

Top News

Biden to raise refugee admissions cap to 125,000 in the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1

The New York Times [9/20/2021 6:11 PM, Michael D. Shear, 24635K] reports that President Biden intends to increase to 125,000 the number of refugees who can enter the United States in the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, the State Department announced on Monday, making good on his campaign pledge to do so. Mr. Biden's decision is unlikely to affect two groups of people most recently in the news: tens of thousands of people from Kabul fleeing the Taliban takeover in Afghanistan and more than 15,000 Haitians in a sprawling, makeshift camp under a bridge at the southern border. The people in those groups are not officially classified as refugees. The move indicates the president's intention to open the country's doors after four years in which the Trump administration sought to prevent refugees from settling here. In May, Mr. Biden raised the refugee admissions cap for the current fiscal year from 15,000 - an historically low level set by former President Donald J. Trump - to 62,500. At the time, Mr. Biden also vowed to make good on his promise to increase the cap to 125,000 for the first full fiscal year of his presidency. Ned Price, the State Department spokesman, said in a statement on Monday that Mr. Biden has sent to Congress a report detailing his intention to do just that in an effort to "address needs generated by humanitarian crises around the globe." "A robust refugee admissions program is critical to U.S. foreign policy interests and national security objectives, and is a reflection of core American values," Mr. Price said in the statement. The Washington Post [9/20/2021 5:16 PM, Felicia Sonmez and Seung Min Kim, 11773K] reports the administration also cited the expanded resettlement of Central Americans and Myanmar dissidents. According to a report released Monday by the State Department in conjunction with the Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services, the cap for fiscal 2022 is expected to include 40,000 refugees from Africa, 35,000 from the Near East/South Asia, 15,000 from East Asia, 15,000 from Latin America/the Caribbean, and 10,000 from Europe/Central Asia. An additional 10,000 belong to an unallocated reserve, according to the report. CBS News [9/20/2021 3:59 PM, Camilo Montoya-Galvez, 2612K] reports that during fiscal year 2022, the U.S. will give "particular focus" to resettling Central Americans fleeing violence, LGBTQ refugees, Afghans who worked for U.S.-based organizations, at-risk Uyghurs, Hong Kong dissidents and refugees from Burma, including members of the persecuted Rohingya Muslim minority, according to the notification. The administration said it would also

unveil a private sponsorship program during the coming fiscal year that will allow non-governmental groups and individuals in the U.S. to finance the resettlement of refugees. The initiative is likely to mirror a program in Canada that has broad support there. Approximately 53,000 Afghans who were determined to be in danger of being harmed in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan are undergoing vaccination and processing at eight military sites across the U.S. mainland, a Department of Homeland Security spokesperson told CBS News on Monday. [The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 6:29 PM, Morgan Calfant, 1776K] reports the Biden administration will need additional slots in part to accommodate Afghans who are being brought to the United States after the fall of the Afghan government to the Taliban during the U.S. military withdrawal from the country. Some 53,000 Afghans have been brought to the U.S., though a portion of them are applicants for special immigrant visas. Earlier this month, the White House asked Congress for \$6.4 billion in additional funding to help resettle Afghan refugees.

Reported similarly:

[Reuters](#) [9/20/2021 4:34 PM, Mica Rosenberg and Lisa Lambert, 5304K]

[CNN](#) [9/20/2021 1:01 PM, Priscilla Alvarez, 4876K]

[FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 6:12 PM, Michael Lee, 9251K]

[Telemundo Washington DC](#) [9/20/2021 1:52 PM, Staff, 4K]

[Washington Times](#) [9/20/2021 12:21 PM, Stephen Dinan, 381K]

White House, House Homeland Security chair denounce 'horrific' mistreatment of Haitian migrants by Border Patrol officers

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 4:59 PM, Juan A. Lozano, Eric Gay, Elliot Spagat and Evens Sanon] reports more than 6,000 Haitians and other migrants have been removed from an encampment at a Texas border town, U.S. officials said Monday as they defended a strong response that included immediately expelling migrants to their impoverished Caribbean country and using horse patrols to stop them from entering the town. Calling it a "challenging and heartbreaking situation," Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas issued a stark warning: "If you come to the United States illegally, you will be returned. Your journey will not succeed, and you will be endangering your life and your family's life." Mayorkas and Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said they would look into agents on horseback using what appeared to be whips and their horses to push back migrants at the river between Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, and Del Rio, Texas, where thousands of migrants remain camped around a bridge. Both officials said they saw nothing apparently wrong based on the widely seen photos and video. Mayorkas said agents use long reins, not whips, to control their horses. Ortiz, the former chief of the Del Rio sector, said it can be confusing to distinguish between migrants and smugglers as people moved back and forth near the river. The chief said he would investigate to make sure there was no "unacceptable" actions by the agents. Mayorkas said 600 Homeland Security employees, including from the Coast Guard, have been brought to Del Rio, a city of about 35,000 people roughly 145 miles (230 kilometers) west of San Antonio. He said he has asked the Defense Department for help in what may be one of the swiftest, large-scale expulsions of migrants and refugees from the United States in decades. He also said the U.S. would increase the pace and capacity of flights to Haiti and other countries in the hemisphere. The number of migrants at the bridge peaked at 14,872 on Saturday, said Brandon Judd, president of the National Border Patrol Council, a labor union that represents agents. Mexico also said it would expel Haitian migrants, and began busing them from Ciudad Acuña Sunday evening, according to Luis Angel Urraza, president of the local chamber of commerce. He said he saw the first two buses leave from in front of his restaurant with about 90 people aboard. But Mayorkas defended his recent decision to grant Haitians temporary legal status due to political and civil strife in their homeland if they were in the United States on July 29, but not to those being sent back now. "We made an assessment based on the country conditions ... that Haiti could in fact receive individuals safely," he said. The [Washington Post](#) [9/20/2021 4:55 PM, Felicia Sonmez, 11773K] reports the White House and the chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee on Monday voiced concern over photos and reports appearing to show U.S. Border Patrol officers on horseback mistreating Haitian migrants near the Rio Grande, calling the images "horrific." One photo by photojournalist Paul Ratje shows a Border Patrol officer on horseback, grabbing the shirt of a Haitian migrant holding bags of food and trying to enter an encampment near the river. Other footage shows mounted Border Patrol officers chasing migrants away. One of the officers can be seen swinging at one of

the migrants with what appears to be a strap connected to the horse's bridle. Rep. Bennie G. Thompson (D-Miss.), chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee, denounced the officers' behavior in a statement Monday. "Video and photos coming out of Del Rio showing U.S. Border Patrol's mistreatment of Haitian migrants along the border are horrific and disturbing," Thompson said. "This mistreatment runs counter to our American values and cannot be tolerated." He called on Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to "take immediate action to hold those responsible accountable and ensure that all migrants are treated in accordance with the law and basic decency, as this Administration has promised to do since day one." During a press availability in Del Rio, Tex., Monday, Mayorkas was asked whether the images showed inhumane treatment by the Border Patrol officers. Mayorkas responded that reporters "are assuming facts that have not yet been determined." White House press secretary Jen Psaki fielded several questions about the images during Monday's news briefing. Psaki described the footage she has seen as "horrific" but said she is seeking more context and information on the events that took place. [USA Today](#) [9/20/2021 3:51 PM, Chelsey Cox and Mabinty Quarshie, 6282K] reports Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas told reporters Monday that CBP is coordinating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Coast Guard to move migrants to other processing locations for removal. The agency has moved approximately 3,500 migrants "over the last few days and 3,000 today," he said. "We are in the midst of a pandemic and a critical migration challenge," Mayorkas said. "We continue to exercise the Centers for Disease Control (and Prevention's) title 42 authority." It is "not an immigration authority, but a public health authority," Mayorkas said. [CBS News](#) [9/20/2021 7:15 PM, Staff, 2612K] reports The migrants have been dealing with triple-digit temperatures and a lack of food and water, reports CBS San Antonio affiliate KENS-TV. "It's hot. It's dry. We're also prone to weather phenomena here," Del Rio Mayor Bruno Lozano said. "We are providing food, water, portable toilets, towels. Emergency medical technicians are available first aid if someone needs medical care beyond what our employees can provide," U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul L. Ortiz said, according to KENS. "We are working around the clock to expeditiously move migrants out of the heat, elements and from underneath this bridge to our processing facilities in order to quickly process and remove individuals from the United States consistent with our laws and our policies," Ortiz TOLD A news conference at the Del Rio bridge.

Reported similarly:

[Politico](#) [9/20/2021 2:43 PM, Nick Niedzwiadek, 1707K]

[Bloomberg](#) [9/20/2021 10:50 PM, Jennifer Epstein and John Harney, 6400K]

[Reuters](#) [9/20/2021 5:43 PM, Daina Beth Solomon, 5304K]

[CNN](#) [9/20/2021 10:38 PM, Jason Hoffman, Priscilla Alvarez, et al., 4876K]

[Univision](#) [9/20/2021 6:38 PM, Staff, 366K]

Hundreds of Haitians return to Mexico after expulsions from Texas begin

[The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 3:14 PM, Joseph Choi, 1776K] reports hundreds of Haitian migrants have gone back to Mexico from the camp under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas, where many were staying in squalor as the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) began deportations this week. A steady stream of mostly Haitian migrants made its way back across the Rio Grande on Monday. Many feared being sent back to their home country, which has been shocked by a presidential assassination and a massive earthquake in recent months. At one point, nearly 12,000 migrants were at the Del Rio camp. U.S. Border Patrol is aiming to deport the majority of these migrants, reportedly prioritizing single adults and families who don't declare asylum. Many Haitian migrants who were in the Del Rio encampment have not been back to Haiti since 2010, having left the country after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake. DHS began deporting Haitian migrants back to Port-au-Prince this week, with more than 300 migrants being sent back on Sunday alone. Beginning on Tuesday, Immigration and Customs Enforcement is expected to fly seven or eight planes to Haiti per day. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas traveled to Del Rio on Monday to address the situation and receive an operational briefing. Haitian officials have sent divided signals on the return of so many migrants, with acting Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry saying the country is prepared to welcome them back and Election Minister Mathias Pierre arguing the country is not prepared for such a large influx of people. [NPR](#) [9/20/2021 3:31 PM, Joel Rose, Scott Neuman]

Audio: [HERE](#) reports as the Biden administration moves quickly to expel migrants camped under a bridge

in Del Rio, Texas, its plan depends on a controversial Trump-era policy put in place in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic to speed up removals. "Title 42 is not an immigration authority, but a public health authority," Mayorkas said. "To protect the American public. To protect the communities along the border. And to protect the migrants themselves." On Sunday, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said the government had moved 3,300 individuals from the bridge camp to migrant processing facilities in San Antonio, Laredo and Eagle Pass, Texas. Ortiz said the local school system had lent buses to the effort, which he said was being carried out in a "humane and timely manner." Officials said just over 300 have been removed on flights to Haiti. "We are working around-the-clock to expeditiously move migrants out of the heat, elements and from underneath this bridge to our processing facilities in order to quickly process and remove individuals from the United States consistent with our laws and our policies," Ortiz said. [FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 2:59 PM, Ronn Blitzer, 9251K] reports that while the administration is trying to protect illegal immigrants who are already in Del Rio, living in poor conditions during a pandemic, Mayorkas emphatically tried to discourage other migrants from coming to the U.S. "We are very concerned that Haitians who are taking this irregular migration path are receiving false information that the border is open or that Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is available," Mayorkas said. While some Haitians enjoy TPS protection, Mayorkas clarified later that this is only for those currently in the U.S. who arrived before July 29. "I want to make sure that it is known that this is not the way to come to the United States. That is false information," Mayorkas reiterated. "Irregular migration poses a serious security risk to the migrants themselves. Trying to enter the United States illegally is not worth the tragedy, the money or the effort." [USA Today](#) [9/20/2021 4:02 PM, Staff, 6282K] Video: [HERE](#) reports White House Press Secretary says the situation along the southern border is challenging, but defended the administration's immigration policy.

Reported similarly:

[Washington Times](#) [9/20/2021 10:28 AM, Stephen Dinan, 381K]

Biden admin prioritizes single adult Haitians, some families for deportation

[Yahoo! News](#) [9/20/2021 8:49 AM, Julia Ainsley, 13869K] reports that the Biden administration will prioritize all single adult Haitians and some Haitian families for deportation, after more than 15,000 mostly Haitian migrants converged on a Texas border bridge, say two senior Department of Homeland Security officials. Unaccompanied children and some families will be allowed to stay in the United States and given dates for asylum hearings, the senior Homeland Security officials said. Thousands of others will be deported to Haiti, including families who do not claim asylum and all single adults. Many have not seen Haiti since they fled to Latin American countries after the 2010 earthquake or other natural or political crises. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will begin flying six to eight deportation flights per day starting Tuesday, the officials said. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas visited Del Rio on Monday for a briefing and met with state and local officials. Over the weekend, Customs and Border Protection closed the Del Rio International Bridge, diverting traffic to nearby Eagle Pass, Texas, and with the number of agents in the area surging to 400. Texas state troopers began blocking migrants from crossing over the Rio Grande to prevent them congregating under the bridge. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said Sunday that the agency had moved 3,300 migrants of the crowd of 15,000 out from under the bridge. The senior Homeland Security officials said multiple women went into labor among the throngs packed under the bridge, but all babies were delivered safe and healthy. A Homeland Security spokeswoman said of the three flights that left Sunday, "All passengers were medically screened prior to boarding the flights. Additionally, migrants and staff were provided with and required to wear personal protective equipment prior to, and during, the flight, and to be cleared for travel were required to have a temperature of less than 100.4 degrees and to not exhibit Covid-related symptoms." The spokeswoman did not comment on who would be prioritized for deportation.

Reported similarly:

[The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 11:54 AM, Joseph Choi, 1776K]

Haitian journey to Texas border starts in South America

The [AP](#) [9/21/2021 12:14 AM, Julie Watson, Juan A. Lozano and Elliot Spagat, 11773K] reports Robins Exile downed a traditional meal of plantains and chicken at a restaurant run by Haitian immigrants, just a short walk from the walled border with the United States. He arrived the night before and went there seeking advice: Should he try to get to the U.S., or was it better to settle in Mexico? Messages on WhatsApp and Facebook and YouTube videos from Haitian migrants warned him to avoid crossing in Del Rio, Texas, where thousands of Haitians have converged recently. It was no longer the easy place to cross that it was just a few weeks ago. Discussion Monday at the Tijuana restaurant offered a snapshot of Haitians' diaspora in the Western Hemisphere that picked up steam in 2016 and has shown little sign of easing, demonstrated most recently by the more than 14,000 mostly Haitian migrants assembled around a bridge in Del Rio, a town of only 35,000 people. Of the roughly 1.8 million Haitians living outside their homeland, the United States is home to the largest Haitian immigrant population in the world, numbering 705,000 people from the Western Hemisphere's poorest country. Significant numbers also live in Latin American countries like Chile, which is home to an estimated 69,000 Haitians, according to the Migration Policy Institute.

Haitian migrants in Texas worry as deportations begin: "I'll die in Haiti"

[CBS News](#) [9/20/2021 10:04 AM, Staff, 2612K] reports that mass deportations for more than 12,000 migrants in south Texas are underway, with more than 300 Haitians arrived back in their home country Sunday. More deportation flights are planned this week, as the U.S. government tries to process the more than 12,000 migrants camped out near Del Rio, Texas. Correspondent Manuel Bojorquez reports that most of the migrants, who have been living in a makeshift camp near the border in Del Rio, are Haitians, many of whom who migrated to South and Central America after the devastating earthquake in 2010. They came to the U.S. border recently after hearing rumors that they would be allowed to cross, hoping for a better life up North, but most will likely end up back in Haiti. More than 300 Haitians arrived back in their home country Sunday, and more deportation flights are planned this week, as the U.S. government tries to process the more than 12,000 migrants camped out near Del Rio, Texas. One migrant says he was in detention for four days in the U.S.: "Four days without brushing our teeth; four days without a shower." With this section of the U.S.-Mexico border closed, many of the migrants tried to cross the Rio Grande over the weekend, but were confronted by Border Patrol agents on horseback. In an interview with CNN, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas said the U.S. government is working to move thousands of the migrants every day to processing centers. "We have sent a very clear message early on, in light of the fact that we are in the midst of a pandemic, that the border is not open, and people should not take the perilous journey here," he said. In that interview, Mayorkas was asked if there's a contradiction because the U.S. is welcoming refugees from Afghanistan, but deporting Haitians in need. He replied that the Afghan nationals are being screened and vetted before being flown to the U.S., and that is different than simply showing up at the border. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

Daines demands answers over reports child traffickers among Afghan evacuees

The [Washington Times](#) [9/20/2021 9:30 AM, Haris Alic, 381K] reports Sen. Steve Daines is demanding answers about the Biden administration's Afghan evacuation program over concerns it has been subverted by child traffickers. Mr. Daines, Montana Republican, sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security on Monday requesting pertinent information on its vetting process for Afghan evacuees. The GOP lawmaker argued that congressional oversight was needed to ensure taxpayer dollars were not spent on resettling "dangerous individuals or child traffickers" within the U.S. "While admitting those who served alongside U.S. forces and those who would face religious persecution is laudable, there is a great deal of public confusion as to the full scope of those who are entering the U.S. following the fall of Afghanistan's government to the Taliban," wrote Mr. Daines in the letter, a copy of which was obtained exclusively by The Washington Times. Given that more than 120,000 individuals have already been evacuated from Afghanistan, Mr. Daines said it was concerning that many lacked "comprehensive records" from which to conduct a proper national security threat screening. In his letter, Mr. Daines requested Homeland Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas detail to Congress what the federal government was doing about the situation. GOP lawmakers are especially interested in whether the Biden

administration has a system in place to weed out individuals engaged in “child trafficking or sexual misconduct.”

[TX] Texas Gov. Abbott asks Biden for federal emergency declaration amid border crisis

FOX News [9/20/2021 2:14 PM, Ronn Blitzer, 9251K] reports Texas Gov. Greg Abbott asked President Biden to issue an emergency declaration for his state due to the increasingly difficult border crisis. In a letter to the president, Abbott specifically pointed to Val Verde County, where Haitian migrants have set up an encampment in Del Rio under the International Bridge. The governor said that as of Saturday there were nearly 16,000 migrants in Del Rio. "Families, including infants and children, need food, water and medical supplies that the local government cannot supply," Abbott wrote. "Thousands of families are immobilized in 100-degree heat as their numbers continue to swell as they wait to be processed by the approximately 64 federal agents in the area. Individuals are camping in squalid conditions and bathing in muddy river water, causing great health concerns." Additionally, the governor said, the coronavirus pandemic makes the situation even more perilous, as he "has been provided no clear information about whether these individuals have received a COVID-19 vaccination or have been tested for the virus, or if they be exposing Texans and Americans to COVID." Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas is on the ground in Texas Monday to address the situation in Del Rio, and the Department of Homeland Security is taking various steps, including ramping up efforts to return migrants to Haiti and other countries. Telemundo 48 El Paso [9/20/2021 6:20 AM, Staff, 5K] reports Governor Abbott issued a state disaster declaration for multiple counties in South Texas on May 31, 2021, due to the continued flow of undocumented migrants at the border. Additionally, Abbott implemented Operation Lone Star in March to combat human and drug smuggling in Texas, developed a plan to build a wall on the state-Mexico border, and signed HB9 on September 17 to designate \$ 1.8 thousand. millions for border security efforts.

[Afghanistan] C.D.C. mandates measles vaccinations and quarantines for Afghan refugees.

The New York Times [9/20/2021 6:52 PM, Eileen Sullivan, 24635K] reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is requiring Afghan refugees to get vaccinated against measles and quarantine for 21 days, after some were found to have the highly contagious virus when they arrived in the country this month. As of Monday, the C.D.C. said it knew of 16 confirmed cases of measles among Afghan evacuees and Americans who fled Afghanistan in recent weeks — up from six that the White House confirmed late last week — and four cases of mumps. Evacuees on American military bases in the United States and overseas will have to wait three weeks after getting the MMR vaccine that protects against measles, mumps and rubella before they can leave, the C.D.C. said, to give the vaccine time to take effect. The agency said Monday that some Afghan evacuees had “left bases before measles cases were identified,” prompting a mass vaccination campaign. The new information came in a special advisory that the agency issued to doctors around the country, warning them to be on alert for cases of measles and other infectious diseases among evacuees from Afghanistan. The advisory said the C.D.C. was “also aware of some cases” of tuberculosis, chickenpox, malaria, leishmaniasis, hepatitis A and Covid-19 among evacuees. It warned that the evacuees were at increased risk of gastrointestinal infections as well, including shigellosis, giardiasis and cryptosporidiosis.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

[TX] Conroe sex offender sentenced to 50 years in case involving dozens of victims

The Houston Chronicle [9/20/2021 2:30 PM, Jose R. Gonzalez, 183K] reports a registered sex offender from Conroe who was paroled in 2018 will be in prison until 2070. The 34-year-old man will not be released until the year 2070 after a plea deal last week where he stood accused of victimizing dozens of children, some as young as 8 years old — making sexual contact with four of them — in a case where he was found in possession of thousands of images of child pornography. On Friday, Jody James Malone Jr. pleaded guilty to the first-degree felony offense of continuous sexual abuse of a child, in presiding Judge Lisa Michalk’s 221st District Court. Michalk sentenced Malone to 50 years in prison with one year jail credit, according to the Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office. “Because of the strength of the

investigation, we were able to secure this outcome without requiring his victims to appear publicly in court,” said lead prosecutor Special Victims Division Chief Shana Redwine in a statement. “This was a great relief to those children and their families. We are grateful for the good work of law enforcement in this case.” According to the District Attorney’s Office, the agency aided in the case against Malone and his apprehension, along with Homeland Security Investigations, the Conroe Police Department and other agencies within the Houston-Metro Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Citizenship and Immigration Services

After Setback, Democrats Vow to Push Ahead on Immigration Overhaul

The [New York Times](#) [9/20/2021 6:29 PM, Luke Broadwater and Eileen Sullivan, 24635K] reports Congressional Democrats vowed on Monday to continue their efforts to grant legal status to millions of undocumented immigrants, a centerpiece of President Biden’s immigration plan, after a top Senate official rejected their bid to include it in their \$3.5 trillion social policy bill. Sunday’s decision by the Senate parliamentarian threatened to scuttle what Mr. Biden and Democrats had considered their best chance in decades to enact an initiative that has been stymied amid partisan polarization and procedural obstacles. [Roll Call](#) [9/20/2021 5:47 PM, Suzanne Monyak, 119K] reports New Jersey Sen. Bob Menendez, a key player in immigration discussions, told reporters Monday that Democrats “will be going back to the parliamentarian with other options in the coming days.” “She gave her view on only one approach on including a pathway to citizenship in reconciliation,” Menendez said, just hours after Parliamentarian Elizabeth MacDonough shot down efforts to include a path to legal status for certain immigrants in the bill. “I certainly intend to keep working until we get to a yes, and we’re not going to take no for an answer,” Menendez said. Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer also noted in a statement Sunday night that his caucus had “prepared alternate proposals” and would hold additional meetings with MacDonough. The alternative options are part of a back-and-forth likely to ensue with the parliamentarian, as Democrats work to include a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants for the first time in decades before potentially losing their congressional majorities in the 2022 midterm elections. In her decision, MacDonough said she found the proposed provisions, which would have covered millions of undocumented immigrants, including those brought to the U.S. as children, did not comply with Senate procedural rules governing the reconciliation process. Under the so-called Byrd rule, measures included in a reconciliation bill — which can pass with a simple majority — must directly have a budgetary impact. “Changing the law to clear the way to [lawful permanent resident] status is tremendous and enduring policy change that dwarfs its budgetary impact,” she wrote. [FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 5:53 AM, Adam Shaw, 9251K] reports that as part of this bill, Democrats had sought to include a number of immigration provisions, including a pathway to legal permanent residence and citizenship for a number of categories of illegal immigrants. Those eligible included recipients of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, those who are protected by Temporary Protected Status, farmworkers, and those deemed “essential workers.” It was seen as Democrats’ best chance of passing pathways to citizenship for illegal immigrants, after efforts to pass a sweeping immigration reform bill earlier in the year stalled in the face of Republican opposition. Given the 50/50 split in the Senate, Democrats would have needed to get 10 Republican votes to overcome a filibuster, and Republicans have largely snubbed efforts to grant legal status to illegal immigrants – citing the effect they believe it would have on the already surging crisis at the southern border. But in a preliminary ruling, MacDonough ruled that such language was inappropriate for a budget reconciliation bill.

Reported similarly:

[AP](#) [9/20/2021 6:05 PM, Alan Fram, 495K]

[Reuters](#) [9/20/2021 4:01 PM, Susan Cornwell, 5304K]

[Telemundo](#) [9/20/2021 1:31 PM, Staff, 346K]

Proposed Rule Protecting ‘Dreamers’ Nears Public Release

[Bloomberg](#) [9/20/2021 9:07 AM, Lydia O’Neal, 18K] reports that the White House has completed its review of a proposed rule to preserve and beef up deportation protections for individuals brought to the

U.S. as children, often called “dreamers.” The White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs sent the proposal to the Department of Homeland Security on Sept. 17, signaling that it could be released any day now. The rulemaking could potentially put the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program on better footing, if the rule is finalized. A Brownsville, Texas, federal judge on July 16 halted Homeland Security Department approvals of new applications, characterizing the program’s 2012 implementation as unlawful, but leaving current participants unscathed pending a further court order. President Joe Biden said his administration plans to appeal the decision. The administration included the proposed rule in its regulatory agenda June 11.

Customs and Border Protection

US extends land border restrictions with Canada, Mexico through Oct. 21

USA Today [9/20/2021 7:25 PM, Bailey Schulz, 6282K] reports that it’s been more than a month since Canada reopened its land borders to travelers from the United States, but the U.S. has no plans to return the favor any time soon. Border restrictions on nonessential travel have been extended again, this time through Oct. 21, White House COVID-19 Response Coordinator Jeff Zients said Monday. The restrictions were first implemented in March 2020 and have since been extended on a monthly basis. While the White House announced a new international air travel system that will open travel for all vaccinated foreign nationals in early November, it has not revealed when land border restrictions will ease. The land border restrictions, implemented by the DHS and its Canadian and Mexican counterparts, prohibits non-U.S. residents in Mexico and Canada from crossing for nonessential travel. Travelers from the U.S. can fly into Mexico and Canada and vice versa, although the Canadian government will soon require all air travelers, cruise ship passengers and passengers on interprovincial trains to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Health Canada, a department of the Canadian government, said Monday that the country’s current entry requirements would remain in place until at least Nov. 21. The Department of Homeland Security says it continues to enforce U.S. immigration laws at all U.S. borders, including between ports of entry.

Health and treatment violations discovered in Otay Mesa Detention Center

Telemundo 20 [9/20/2021 9:59 AM, Staff, 20K] reports that several violations of health regulations to prevent COVID-19 came to light by Core Civic, the agency that manages the Detention Center in Otay Mesa, as announced by the Office of Inspection General of the Department of Homeland Security. Reveals a statement from the Office of the Inspector General. "It's not surprising at all," those were the words of a migrant whose name we will not share to protect her identity, and who spent time at the Otay Mesa Detention Center last year. She was there from January 2020 to August of that same year. "They did not give us what was necessary to take precautions: antibacterial gel, masks, disinfectants, no, none of that," said the migrant. The Office of Inspection General of the Department of Homeland Security recently revealed that after an unannounced visit they discovered several violations of the standards set by the government that compromised the health, safety and rights of the detainees. "Being there one is afraid of being infected, of getting sick, many things happen there," said the ex-prisoner. Among the breaches, mention was made of the failure to force the use of precautions such as face masks and social distancing, the failure to provide required services to segregated detainees, as well as access to recreational areas, to legal calls, to laundry, to change of sheets, correspondence, legal materials, cafeteria and law library. In addition, they found that inmates' requests were not adequately responded to and visiting hours were not specified, among other complaints. An ICE associate executive director is now in charge of making sure these oversights are not repeated.

Dozens of Republican governors call for meeting with Biden on border surge

The Hill [9/20/2021 9:53 AM, Joseph Choi, 1776K] reports that a group of 26 Republican governors led by Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey and Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Monday issued an open letter to President Biden requesting a meeting to discuss the surge in illegal border crossings. "The months-long surge in illegal crossings has instigated an international humanitarian crisis, spurred a spike in international

criminal activity, and opened the floodgates to human traffickers and drug smugglers endangering public health and safety in our states," the governors wrote. According to the governors' letter, border apprehensions have risen by nearly 500 percent when compared to last year, accounting for around 1.3 million people. The state leaders appeared to take a shot at the "lack of federal action" on the issue and called on Biden to "take action to protect America, restore security, and end the crisis now." The letter from the GOP governors comes on the same day the U.S. government began deporting hundreds of Haitian migrants who had been camped under a bridge in Del Rio, Texas. More than 320 migrants landed in Haiti's capital city of Port-au-Prince on three flights from the U.S. on Sunday. Border Patrol officials have said that they are aiming to deport the majority of the estimated 12,000 migrants who have been living under a bridge in Texas. "We must end the current crisis and return to border operations that respect the laws of our land and the lives of all people, including those in our states looking to the federal government to enforce and protect our nation's borders," the governors added in their letter. They have requested a meeting with Biden within the next 15 days. The letter was also signed by Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey, Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem.

Reported similarly:

[FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 11:08 AM, Jessica Chasmar, 9251K]

[TX] DHS asks Pentagon to help move migrants from Del Rio, Texas

[The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 6:25 PM, Ellen Mitchell, 1776K] reports the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has asked the Pentagon to help move migrants awaiting asylum processing in Del Rio, Texas, to other facilities, the Department of Defense's (DOD) top spokesman said Monday. Press secretary John Kirby said the Pentagon has "received a request for transportation support" from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to help "efforts moving non-U.S. citizen migrants from Del Rio, Texas, to other CBP processing facilities." The DOD support, which will be on a reimbursable, temporary basis, will conclude on or before Oct. 20 and can "be provided at minimal risk to current DOD missions," Kirby said. The Pentagon, should it approve the plan, would lend some of its contracted air support — not military aircraft — to the mission, Kirby added. He said he did not have further details on the DHS request as the Pentagon is "examining it, reviewing it and determining the best way forward."

[TX] Texas Border Patrol discovers hotel room packed with illegals in suspected human smuggling operation

[FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 9:39 PM, Bradford Betz, 9251K] reports Texas Border Patrol agents discovered a hotel room in which 10 illegal immigrants were staying while they waited to be smuggled deeper into the U.S. Rio Grande Valley Sector Border Patrol agents received a tip Friday afternoon about a hotel in Edinburg being used to harbor illegal immigrants. The city is located in the southern tip of Texas, near the Mexico border. Agents went to investigate the hotel and witnessed two individuals enter the suspected room with several jugs of water and groceries. They continued to surveil the hotel room and determined it was being used to harbor illegal immigrants, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office conducted a welfare check and discovered more than 10 people in the room. CBP said the people were citizens from El Salvador, Honduras, and Mexico. The migrants reportedly told the officers that they had been waiting to be transported further into the U.S. for nearly 30 days. The next morning, McAllen Border Patrol Station agents in Hidalgo discovered more illegal immigrants — including an unaccompanied child — using a storm drain to illegally enter the U.S. From early that morning until late in the evening, MCS agents and the Hidalgo Police Department set up a perimeter and arrested about 10 people using the storm drain to illegally enter the U.S. All subjects were citizens of Mexico and Honduras. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

Transportation Security Administration

U.S. to lift covid ban for air travel from Europe and others, but land border restrictions remain

The [Washington Post](#) [9/20/2021 12:32 PM, Adam Taylor and Marisa Iati, 11773K] reports the White House announced on Monday that it would be lifting blanket travel restrictions on visitors from Europe, Britain and other countries that had been imposed at the start of the pandemic. Under rules to take effect in early November, fully vaccinated travelers from anywhere in the world would be able to fly to the United States, though they would also be subject to new testing and contact-tracing procedures, Jeff Zients, the White House coronavirus response coordinator, said in a call with reporters. Zients said the new system “follows the science” to keep Americans and international travel safe and would be “relying on individuals, rather than a country-based approach, so it’s a stronger system.” The travel ban — though a low-profile issue in the United States — had been particularly galling to Europeans, with one British newspaper dubbing it “Kafkaesque.” In total, the travel restrictions had impacted 33 nations, including Britain, India and China. “Travel ban lifted!” tweeted Stavros Lambrinidis, the European Union’s Ambassador to Washington, who only hours earlier had said that E.U. member states had been “working diligently” to help get the ban lifted. It is unclear if heightened political tensions in the U.S.-EU relationship ultimately pushed the United States to drop the ban. Secretary of State Antony Blinken had a long discussion about the travel ban on Friday with French ambassador to Washington, Philippe Etienne, just before Etienne was ordered to return to Paris due to France’s anger over a U.S.-UK-Australia submarine deal, said a senior State Department official familiar with the matter. When asked if the decision to lift the ban was aimed at restoring relations with Europe after recent such setbacks, Erica Barks-Ruggles, a State Department official at the Bureau of International Organizations, said the decision was “driven by the science.” [USA Today](#) [9/20/2021 1:42 PM, Bailey Schulz, 6282K] reports that while the White House announced the new air travel system, it has not revealed when land border restrictions will ease. The land border restrictions, implemented by the DHS and its Canadian and Mexican counterparts, prohibits non-U.S. residents in Mexico and Canada from crossing for nonessential travel. Travelers from the U.S. can fly into Mexico and Canada and vice versa, although the Canadian government will soon require all air travelers, cruise ship passengers and passengers on interprovincial trains to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The mandate does not prevent U.S. citizens from returning home. The restriction applies to land and ferry travel. [Axios](#) [9/20/2021 10:20 AM, Oriana Gonzalez, 526K] reports “This new international travel system follows the science to keep Americans and international air travel safe,” Zients said. “By requiring foreign nationals to be fully vaccinated in order to fly into the United States, and implementing additional strict safety protocols, we will protect Americans here at home and enhance the safety of international travel,” he added. EU Home Commissioner Ylva Johansson told Axios earlier this month that she had received no explanation on why the ban remained from U.S. officials, and that Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas simply told her it was “very complicated.”

Reported similarly:

[Politico](#) [9/20/2021 12:22 PM, Oriana Pawlyk, 1707K]

[AP](#) [9/20/2021 11:55 AM, Zeke Miller, 2701K]

[CNN](#) [9/20/2021 11:11 AM, Kevin Liptak, Arlette Saenz, and Betsy Klein, 4876K]

Flight bookings plummet amid delta variant fears

[The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 9:00 AM, Karl Evers-Hillstrom, 1776K] reports that flight bookings rapidly declined in August and early September amid a surge in COVID-19 cases fueled by the highly transmissible delta variant. Online customers spent \$4 billion on flights within the U.S. in August, down 24 percent from July and 35 percent below pre-pandemic levels, according to an analysis from Adobe Digital Insights. Through the first 10 days of September, flight bookings remained weak, down 39 percent from the same period in 2019. “Historically, July and August have similar consumer spending levels when it comes to domestic flight bookings,” says Vivek Pandya, lead analyst at Adobe Digital Insights. “The fact that August came in over \$1.2 billion under July is striking when you consider the historical benchmark, and it shows how much the delta variant has shaped what consumers feel about air travel.” The analysis found that holiday reservations have also taken a hit, with Thanksgiving flight bookings down 18 percent from the same period in 2019. Airlines have indicated that the delta variant’s continued spread has caused travelers to cancel their flights. The recent decline in air travel has forced carriers to lower their expectations for the rest of the year after strong summer travel sparked optimism of a robust comeback. Figures from the Transportation Security Administration confirms that air travel hasn’t picked back up in recent weeks. The

agency screened roughly 1.9 million travelers on Friday, down from around 2.6 million people on the same day in 2019.

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Biden launches plan to address 'silent killer': extreme heat

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 10:27 AM, Matthew Daly, 495K] reports that the Biden administration is moving to protect workers and communities from extreme heat after a dangerously hot summer that spurred an onslaught of drought-worsened wildfires and caused hundreds of deaths from the Pacific Northwest to hurricane-ravaged Louisiana. Under a plan announced Monday, the U.S. Departments of Labor and of Health and Human Services as well as other federal agencies are launching actions intended to reduce heat-related illness and protect public health. "White House climate adviser Gina McCarthy called heat stress a "silent killer" that disproportionately affects the poor, elderly and minority groups. While not as dramatic as wildfires or hurricanes, "heat stress is a significant, real threat that has deadly consequences," McCarthy said in an interview. "Many people don't recognize that heat stress is a real physical problem until it's too late for them," she said." The effort to address heat stress comes as President Joe Biden is working with world leaders to hammer out next steps against rapidly worsening climate change. A June heat wave in the Pacific Northwest, exacerbated by climate change, caused hundreds of deaths and thousands of emergency room visits for heat-related illnesses, In Louisiana, more than a million people, including the entire city of New Orleans, lost power when Hurricane Ida struck on Aug. 29. At least 12 of the 28 Ida-related deaths in Louisiana were caused by heat, according to the Louisiana Health Department. As part of the administration's plan, the Labor Department is launching a program to protect outdoor workers, including agricultural, construction and delivery workers, as well as those working indoors in warehouses, factories and kitchens. The Department of Homeland Security is launching a series of prize competitions focused on strengthening the nation's resilience to climate change. The first competition will focus on new ways to protect people at risk of heat-related illness or death during extreme heat events or in connection with other disasters.

Reported similarly:

[USA Today](#) [9/20/2021 1:13 PM, Maureen Groppe, 6282K]

Hurricane season continues to buzz with activity as Tropical Storms Peter and Rose spin in the Atlantic

[USA Today](#) [9/20/2021 3:13 PM, Doyle Rice, 6282K] reports that the 2021 hurricane season continues to buzz with activity as two tropical storms and two other disturbances were all in action Monday across the Atlantic basin. Tropical Storm Peter, which formed Sunday, could bring heavy rain to portions of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and the northern Leeward Islands, the National Hurricane Center said. The rain could lead to "areas of urban and small stream flooding through Tuesday." In addition to the rain threat, swells generated by Peter are expected to affect the northern Leeward Islands early this week, then reach the Bahamas by midweek. "These swells could cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions," according to the Hurricane Center. As of 11 a.m. EDT Monday, the center of Peter was about 170 miles east-northeast of the northern Leeward Islands, the center said. Peter moved west-northwest at 15 mph with top winds of 50 mph. Looking at the future of the storm, AccuWeather meteorologist Randy Adkins said, "Peter is not anticipated to intensify past a low-end tropical storm as it encounters a combination of wind shear and drier air, which will prevent the storm from strengthening over the coming days." The hurricane center's forecast track shows Peter potentially approaching Bermuda by the weekend. Tropical Storm Rose, which formed in the eastern Atlantic Ocean on Sunday, poses no threat to any land areas, the hurricane center said. As of 11 a.m. EDT Monday, the center of Rose was about 620 miles west-northwest of the Cabo Verde Islands, moving northwest at 16 mph. It had winds of 40 mph. Rose is expected to continue to spin across the central Atlantic over the next few days and is likely to weaken into a depression by midweek, forecasters said.

[VT] Vermont urged to extend emergency motel housing for homeless

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 10:22 AM, Lisa Rathke, 495K] reports that a s hundreds of homeless Vermonters are expected to lose access to motel rooms paid for by the state during the pandemic, advocates urged officials on Monday to extend the benefit even longer. In July, the state extended the hotel voucher program 84 days for families with children, the disabled, pregnant women and other vulnerable people, and gave \$2,500 checks to those no longer eligible. About 543 of the 881 households in motel rooms will reach their 84-day limit on Wednesday, advocates said at a Montpelier press conference. “My clients are terrified that losing shelter will mean they’ll start to experience mental health declines, that gains that they’ve made in their recovery will be lost. Many of them have conditions that put them at high risk for serious COVID-related complications if they are to be infected,” said Mairead O’Reilly, an attorney with Vermont Legal Aid. Advocates say the extension is needed due to a lack of shelter beds and housing and a surge in COVID-19 cases with the spread of the delta variant. A 30-day extension is available to families who are intensely engaged in case management, who can show a housing plan and for people who have the most severe disabilities, said O’Reilly. “We don’t think that practically many of the folks who are currently sheltered will be able to take advantage of these,” she said. The groups sent a letter to the commissioner of the Vermont Department for Children and Families last week asking for the benefit to be extended as long as possible. Commissioner Sean Brown did not respond to an email seeking comment. The state is investing \$120 million to create more permanent and shared-housing arrangements while also encouraging shelters to expand, officials have said.

[NH] Sununu asks for 2nd disaster declaration after more storms

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 4:32 PM, Staff] reports Gov. Chris Sununu on Monday requested a federal disaster declaration for New Hampshire as a result of storms and flooding that happened July 29-Aug. 2, a week after he asked for one covering storms from mid-July. Sununu’s letter to Paul Ford, the acting regional administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Boston, said roads and infrastructure were washed out in 35 communities across the state and forced some evacuations. Sununu’s letter said the first round of rainfall was preceded by four weeks of above-average precipitation in southwestern New Hampshire, which had already experienced record rainfall that exceeded 10 inches. The southwest part of the state typically sees around 4 to 5 inches of rain throughout the entire month of July. The state estimated damages at \$3.2 million, but that doesn’t represent the full scope of damages and costs communities and state agencies will have to spend to return to pre-disaster condition, the letter said. The costs are expected to be much higher.

[AL] Second Alabama man dies in floodwaters after heavy rain

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 2:52 PM, Staff] reports a man who was kayaking with his children following heavy rains saved the kids when the current became too strong but couldn’t get himself out of the water and drowned, officials said Monday. Johnny Henderson III, 35, of Hazel Green was pronounced dead after emergency workers located his body in flood waters on Sunday, Coroner Tyler Berryhill said. Henderson was the second person from Alabama to die in weekend flooding. “He was kayaking with his children near their home when the water current became very strong pulling them near a drainage pipe. He was able to get his children to safety from the kayak before later succumbing to the current of the dangerous waters,” Berryhill said in a statement. Also on Sunday, searchers in Tuscaloosa found the body of man whose sports-utility vehicle was overwhelmed by water during flash flooding on Saturday. The body of Kelvin Watford, 40, was found about a quarter-mile downstream from where his vehicle was found, news outlets reported. Flood watches and warnings covered northern sections of Alabama and Mississippi, most of Tennessee and northwest Georgia. The rains are associated with remnants of Hurricane Nicholas, which made landfall on the Gulf Coast last week.

[LA] Louisiana colleges already reeling from the pandemic now struggle to recover from Ida

[Politico](#) [9/20/2021 5:35 PM, Jessica Calefati, 1707K] reports that only a third of Nicholls State University students were vaccinated against the coronavirus when they returned to campus last month, so the Louisiana school embarked on a campaign to press inoculations — and it seemed to be working. Hundreds of reluctant students got jabs in the first few days of the semester. Then Hurricane Ida made

landfall just 70 miles south. The Category 4 storm not only threatened lives and left a million or so homes and businesses across Louisiana without power. It also battered 21 state colleges and universities, stalling campus vaccination efforts in a state with one of the lowest vaccination rates in the country. After months of strategizing how to ease students back to campus as the highly contagious Delta variant surged, college administrators shifted their priorities overnight as Ida scattered everyone. Now they're busy making sure students have food, water and shelter, and wondering how to counsel many of them through this semester. "Until recently, all we talked about was Covid. Now all we talk about is the hurricane," Nicholls President Jay Clune said in an interview. President Joe Biden approved a major disaster declaration for Louisiana the day Ida struck, authorizing individual and public assistance for hard-hit parishes. He also deployed FEMA teams to distribute grants for temporary housing, emergency home repairs and medical expenses linked to the hurricane. Ida made landfall three weeks ago but it wasn't until Monday that Nicholls was able to resume online classes.

Federal Protective Service

Federal officer arrested at Capitol rally won't be charged

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 2:02 PM, Michael Balsamo, Eric Tucker and Colleen Long] reports a federal law enforcement officer was arrested carrying a gun at Saturday's rally at the U.S. Capitol billed to support the suspects charged in January's insurrection but will not be prosecuted. The 27-year-old New Jersey man is an officer with U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He was arrested by Capitol Police for illegally possessing a gun on the grounds of the Capitol after people in the crowd reported seeing him with a handgun and notified nearby officers. A spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office in Washington said prosecutors were "not moving forward with charges" but did not provide additional information about the decision. Two law enforcement officials said the officer was not at the rally in any official capacity. The officials could not discuss the matter publicly and spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity. The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general was also notified of his arrest. U.S. Customs and Border Protection said it was aware of the arrest and was "fully cooperating with the investigation." "CBP stresses honor and integrity in every aspect of our mission and expects officers to adhere to the oath they take to uphold the laws of this country," the agency said in a statement. [The Hill](#) [9/20/2021 5:19 PM, Monique Beals, 1776K] reports law enforcement in D.C. had taken extra steps to ensure safety at Saturday's event including a return of the fence that surrounded the Capitol and having the National Guard on standby. While federal law generally permits law enforcement officers to carry their guns in other states, regardless of their gun laws, that's not the case on federal property where it's illegal to carry a gun, including the U.S. Capitol. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer was one of just four people who were arrested at the event, the AP said.

Reported similarly:

[Washington Times](#) [9/20/2021 11:17 AM, Emily Zantow, 381K]

Secret Service

[NY] Man charged with drug possession, forgery after deputies search Schaghticoke home

[CBS6](#) [9/20/2021 12:00 PM, Staff, Positive, Secondary] reports the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office say they have arrested a Schaghticoke man, on drug and counterfeit money charges. Investigators say deputies searched a home on Richfield Street, then arrested 38 year old Charles McIntyre. He's charged with multiple counts of possession of a forged instrument, forgery, criminal possession of a controlled substance, and criminal possession of a controlled substance with intent to sell. McIntyre was arraigned and remanded to the Rensselaer County Jail due to three prior felony convictions.

[NJ] New Jersey Man Admits Stealing more than \$450,000 in Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The [United States Department of Justice](#) [9/20/2021 12:00 PM, Staff, Positive, Secondary] reports a Union, New Jersey, man today admitted that he illegally obtained more than \$450,000 in unemployment

insurance benefits, Acting U.S. Attorney Rachael A. Honig announced. Maurice Mills, 29, of Union, New Jersey, pleaded guilty by videoconference before U.S. District Judge Brian Martinotti to an information charging him with wire fraud. On March 27, 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was signed into law. The CARES Act created a new temporary federal unemployment insurance program called Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), which provides unemployment insurance benefits (UIB) for individuals who were not eligible for other types of unemployment (e.g., the self-employed, independent contractors, gig economy workers). The CARES Act also created a new temporary federal program called Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation that provides additional benefits to those eligible for PUA and regular UIB. The New York State Department of Labor administers and manages the regular unemployment and PUA programs in the State of New York. Between August and September of 2020, Mills submitted fraudulent UIB applications to the State of New York using the names of other individuals. As a result, the State of New York approved and provided, and Mills falsely obtained, more than \$450,000 in UIB. The charge of wire fraud is punishable by a maximum potential penalty of 20 years in prison and a fine of \$250,000, or twice the gross profits to Mills or loss suffered by the victims, whichever is greatest. Sentencing is scheduled for Feb. 3, 2022. Acting U.S. Attorney Honig credited special agents of the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Inspector General, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Jonathan Mellone in Manhattan; special agents of the FBI, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge George M. Crouch Jr., in Newark; postal inspectors of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, under the direction of Acting Inspector in Charge Raimundo Marrero in Newark; and special agents of the U.S. Secret Service, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Mark McKeivitt in Newark, with the investigation leading to today's arrest. She also thanked the New York State Department of Labor, Office of Special Investigations for its assistance in the investigation. The government is represented by Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew Kogan of the U.S. Attorney's Office Cybercrime Unit in Newark.

[SC] South Carolina municipalities facing nonstop cyberattacks, working from home a potential threat

WBTW News13 [9/20/2021 2:22 PM, Braley Dodson, 24K, Neutral, Secondary] reports South Carolina municipalities can be an easy target for cyberattacks, highlighting the need for safety infrastructure months after high-profile hacks have shone a spotlight on the issue. "It is important for organizations to protect themselves from these attacks because everything now involves computers," said Ryan Truskey, the deputy chief information security officer for the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division. "It is something that every organization needs to protect." Truskey said that there is "a high level" of incidents in the state, with government, health care, and financial institutions the biggest targets for cybercriminals. What makes these attacks even more common, he said, is that municipalities can be seen as easy prey. "Cyberattacks are something that happen all day, every day, all night, and when we are protecting cyberattacks," Truskey said, also noting that security apps on networks block a lot of low-level attacks. The South Carolina Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity task force, or SC CIC, started under former Gov. Nikki Haley and was formed by Gov. Henry McMaster in an attempt to create a working group to investigate the state's infrastructure. The task force is made up of agencies such as the Office of Homeland Security, the FBI, the U.S. Secret Service, the National Guard, the state emergency management, and the election commission, among others. Truskey said it's a high-priority topic for SLED. With how fast technology changes, he said, it's hard to stay up to date. Systems need to be functional, but also secure. More recent attacks have targeted supply chains and shown that agencies can no longer inherently trust software to block cybercriminals. "User education is extremely important, and that is one of the things that we provide in the SC CIC is training in that space," Truskey said.

[KY] Police Warn Princeton Businesses To Check For Counterfeit Bills

WPKY [9/20/2021 3:00 PM, Tammy Hancock, Neutral, Secondary] reports officials with the Princeton Police Department are warning local businesses about counterfeit bills being used in the area to make purchases. On Monday, Princeton Police say they received a report from a local bank stating four local businesses have received fake \$20 bills over the weekend. In addition, they indicate Lyon County has also received counterfeit \$20 bills over the weekend. According to Princeton Police, they posted the alert

to their social media page to warn all businesses to check their money. If you suspect someone is trying to pass counterfeit currency, call the Princeton Police Department.

[GA] Georgia police department warns about fake cash floating around city

WSBT [9/20/2021 9:31 AM, Staff, 139K, Neutral, Secondary] reports there is some funny money floating around a Georgia county and a police department wants people to be aware. The Hazlehurst Police Department posted on its Facebook Monday about the fake bills. The department said that phony 100 dollar bills were shot out of a cannon during a recent homecoming celebration. The bills look real on the surface, but on closer inspection, the words “For Motion Picture Use Only” is printed on the front of the bill. The phrase is also posted on the back of the bill instead of “United State of America.” The police department said it wants word to be spread about the fake money. This isn’t the first Georgia city to have an issue of phony bills floating around. Last month, the Rabun County sheriff’s office warned about fake \$100 bills floating around the county. The alleged fake bills were posted on the Facebook page with the title: “FAKE CURRENCY ALERT.” Two of the bills has the word “copy” on the lower left hand corner of the bill.

[FL] South Florida Man Charged with Defrauding After-School Program for Underprivileged Immigrant Children Appears in Federal Court

The United States Department of Justice [9/20/2021 11:00 AM, Staff, Positive, Secondary] reports that Friday, Miami resident Ramon Caridad Rodriguez, 28, made his first appearance in South Florida federal court to face a grand jury indictment charging him with defrauding his former employer, a religious charity organization that runs after-school programs for underprivileged immigrant children to help them avoid gangs and gang violence. According to the indictment, Rodriguez abused the company’s trust by using a company credit card to make thousands of dollars’ worth of personal purchases and then attempted to conceal those purchases through lies and altered bank statements. Some of these purchases included items like lawn chairs, bug spray, tiki torches, and personal groceries. He used over \$160,000 of the company’s money for his personal gain, says the indictment. The indictment charges Rodriguez with nine counts of wire fraud. If convicted, Rodriguez faces up to 20 years in federal prison on each charge. Juan Antonio Gonzalez, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, Brian Swain, Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service (USSS), Miami Field Office, and Art Acevedo, Chief, City of Miami Police Department made the announcement.

[KS] A circulation of counterfeit money reported in southeast Kansas

KODE TV [9/20/2021 7:50 PM, Jake Kaufman, 5K, Neutral, Secondary] reports a circulation of fake money is being reported in southeast Kansas. Reports are coming in to law enforcement about counterfeit one hundred dollar bills. Many of them that say “for motion picture copy money.” Cherokee County Sheriff David Groves says it’s important for cashiers or anyone in retail to be able to identify a fake bill. “It’s always an ongoing issue, and we try and visit with the business community from time to time just to remind them and new staff of the security measures they can take to help safeguard themselves from this fake money or fictitious money,” David Groves – Cherokee County Sheriff Groves adds some signs for fake money is the texture, a security strip and a hologram that can be seen under a light. [Editorial note: consult video at source link]

[CO] Fake \$50 bill reported in Kearney area

The North Platte Bulletin [9/20/2021 5:50 PM, Staff, Neutral, Secondary] reports a Kearney business received a counterfeit \$50 bill Monday, and it was difficult to tell it from a real bill. Kearney chamber of Commerce President Derek Rusher said the counterfeiters bleached a \$1 bill before printing on it, so the \$50 felt and looked like the real thing. Rusher sent an email to Kearney businesses telling them to be alert. A bank caught the \$50 as a \$1 bill when it went through their currency counter, Rusher said. When held to the light, the fake \$50 did not have the President watermark like an authentic bill, Rusher said. Counterfeit bills sometimes turn up in North Platte too, often in connection with drug arrests.

[CA] Counterfeit Money, Illegal Weapons: Police Suspect Wildomar Man

The [Patch](#) [9/20/2021 12:43 PM, Toni McAllister, 2117K, Positive, Secondary] reports a man suspected of manufacturing firearms and counterfeit money in Wildomar was arrested Friday but has since been released from jail on \$55,000 bail. Patrick Kirk, 30, of Wildomar was taken into custody by Riverside County Sheriff's deputies around 5 p.m. in the 21400 block of Apricot Lane following a search warrant service at the address. Kirk was booked into Southwest Detention Center on suspicion of possessing a ghost gun, being a felon in possession of a firearm, being a felon in possession of ammunition, manufacturing an assault weapon, possession of an assault weapon, and being in possession of body armor, according to jail records. Kirk was released from custody Sunday in lieu of \$55,000 and is due to appear in court in December, jail records show.

Coast Guard

[FL] Florida doctor discovers empty raft likely from Cuba, shows what people are 'willing to sacrifice for freedom'

[FOX News](#) [9/19/2021 10:07 PM, Bradford Betz, 9251K] reports that a Miami-based doctor discovered an empty raft with drinking water still on board a few miles off the coast of Florida on Saturday. Writing in Spanish, Ernesto Cardenas, a gynecologist and obstetrician, said he found a "rustic boat" while out sailing. "It was empty but still had some drinking water and that gives me hope that someone rescued them," Cardenas wrote. "This is the reality and despair that those who do not have freedom live under the dirty leg of socialism and communism #sos cuba #sos venezuela #communismsucks #us coastguard." In a video, Cardenas noted that "This is what people are willing to sacrifice for freedom." The U.S. Coast Guard could not be reached for comment, but it routinely urges potential migrants from Cuba "Don't take to the seas."

[MI] Pair of Michigan kayakers die amid rough Lake Superior waters, gale-force winds

[FOX News](#) [9/20/2021 11:54 AM, Stephen Sorace, 9251K] reports that the bodies of two kayakers in Michigan were recovered Friday along the coast of Lake Superior after the pair went missing amid gale-force winds and waves as high as 7 feet, officials said Sunday. The victims have been identified as Kimberly Aiello of Troy, Michigan, and David Delegato of Shelby Township, Michigan, the National Park Service said in a statement. Aiello and Delegato were reported missing on Thursday as Lake Superior was experiencing gale-force gusts of up to 35 knots and waves 3 to 5 feet high, with some reaching 7 feet, the NPS said. Following a search by the NPS and other state and federal agencies, the U.S. Coast Guard recovered the bodies Friday afternoon. The weather conditions were believed to be contributing factors in the pair's deaths, according to officials. "Specifically, the United States Coast Guard aviation and water borne assets who worked tirelessly to complete their mission in support of the National Park Service." The NPS website has an extensive safety guide about kayaking at Pictured Rocks.

CISA/Cybersecurity

Biden wants to make it harder to pay ransomware hackers

The [Washington Post](#) [9/20/2021 7:33 AM, Joseph Marks, 11773K] reports the Biden administration is making swift progress on its master strategy to combat ransomware. But any reduction in attacks may still be far off. The administration plans to move as early as this week to place sanctions on financial exchanges that facilitate ransomware payments, as Ellen Nakashima reports. The big goal: To disrupt the current ecosystem in which it's exceptionally easy for victims to pay ransoms to hackers that lock up their computers — and exceedingly difficult to track those payments once they're made. The government has been pushing for such improvements for roughly the past decade. But during that time, hacks have only become more damaging. The Biden administration mandated minimum cyber protections for pipelines in July, and officials have openly speculated about imposing such standards for other critical industries. But even White House officials warn any changes will be a long time coming. "This is a problem that's built up over a number of years and it's not something that will be solved in a moment," an official said when

announcing the strategy. The most damaging and prolific criminal ransomware gangs operate on Russian territory and with the Kremlin's tacit approval, U.S. officials say. Russia has joined the United States and other nations in agreeing to abide by a series of cybersecurity rules of the road over the years but done little to change its actual behavior.

[IA] Iowa-Based Grain Cooperative Hit With Ransomware Attack

Bloomberg [9/20/2021 11:21 AM, William Turton, 6400K] reports that Iowa-based grain cooperative New Cooperative Inc. was struck by ransomware in recent days and has shut down its computer systems as it tries to mitigate the attack. The attack occurred on or around Friday, according to Allan Liska, senior threat analyst at the cybersecurity firm Recorded Future Inc. The ransomware gang, which goes by the name BlackMatter, is demanding a \$5.9 million ransom, Liska said. New Cooperative confirmed that they had been attacked and said they had contacted law enforcement and were working with data security experts to investigate and remediate the situation. "New Cooperative recently identified a cybersecurity incident that is impacting some of our company's devices and systems," according to a statement from the cooperative. "Out of an abundance of caution, we have proactively taken our systems offline to contain the threat, and we can confirm it has been successfully contained." New Cooperative has communicated with its feed customers and is working to create workarounds to get feed to animals while its systems are down, a person familiar with the matter said. The U.S. Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. It is unclear to what extent New Cooperative's systems have been affected. BlackMatter is believed to be linked to the ransomware group DarkSide, which attacked Colonial Pipeline Inc. earlier this year, triggering fuel shortages along on the East Coast. The Hill [9/20/2021 7:20 PM, Maggie Miller, 1776K] reports "Please know that NEW Cooperative is treating this matter with the utmost seriousness, and we are using every available tool and resource to quickly restore our systems," the company spokesperson told The Hill. "We appreciate the patience of our valued customers as we investigate this matter and work to restore functionality and will share additional information directly with our customers as we learn it." In what are thought to be screenshots of a negotiation between a spokesperson for New Cooperative and the hackers tweeted out by security researchers, New Cooperative noted that 40 percent of the nation's grain production runs through its software, and that the ransomware attack would "break the supply chain very shortly" if the hackers did not relent. A spokesperson for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), the key federal agency tasked with securing critical U.S. infrastructure, declined to comment in favor of comments from New Cooperative.

Reported similarly:

Reuters [9/20/2021 4:27 PM, Karl Plume and Christopher Bing, 5304K]

[AK] Alaskan health department still struggling to recover after 'nation-state sponsored' cyberattack

CNN [9/20/2021 7:09 PM, Sean Lyngaas, 4876K] reports some computer networks at the Alaskan health department are still offline after foreign government-backed hackers breached the department in May, a spokesperson told CNN on Monday. News of the breach first emerged in May, but Alaskan officials now say that "nation-state sponsored" hackers exploited a vulnerability in the health department's website to gain further access to department data. The hackers may have accessed Alaskans' Social Security numbers and health and financial information, officials said. "There is still no timeline for when all services that are currently offline will be back online," Clinton Bennett, a spokesperson for the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, told CNN. He pointed to the department's large and complex IT infrastructure in explaining the long recovery time. Bennett declined to comment when asked which foreign government was behind the intrusions, or what the attacker's motives were. The news underscores the arduous process that organizations face in fully recovering from a complex breach. The Alaskan health department didn't restore its electronic system for processing birth, death and marriage certificates until July 26, according to the department's statement. The FBI and US Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency declined to comment on the breach. Mandiant, a cybersecurity firm hired to investigate the breach, declined to comment.

Terrorism Investigations

[NY] N.Y. man arrested over threat to kill Dominican president during to city

The [Washington Post](#) [9/20/2021 7:54 PM, Shayna Jacobs and Samantha Schmidt, 11773K] reports a self-proclaimed QAnon supporter was arrested for threatening to kill the president of the Dominican Republic after he tracked down the official in New York City where he is staying for the United Nations General Assembly, federal authorities said Monday. Enrique Figueroa, 47, made repeated threats on social media in recent weeks, depicting a growing violent obsession with President Luis Abinader and landing himself on the radar of law enforcement officials in New York who are in a state of heightened alert because of the events at the U.N. which began last week, the Jewish high holidays and the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. In a recent post that set off alarms for federal agents who were monitoring him, Figueroa uploaded photos of Abinader's motorcade in New York City, putting himself in proximity to the Caribbean dignitary. Assistant U.S. Attorney Alexander Li, without naming the targeted official, said in court that Figueroa "appears to have tracked" Abinader's whereabouts in New York City, further escalating concerns over menacing messages he posted to Instagram and Facebook accounts — aimed at the foreign leader. Figueroa's attorney, Amy Gallicchio, argued his words were "hollow" and that he was not a true threat. "There's nothing to suggest there is any intent to carry out these words," she added. In a video taken by a Dominican news network on Monday, Abinader said he didn't have any details about the threats against him. Reached after Figueroa's court appearance, a spokesman for Abinader said he only recently learned of the development and did not provide further comment. U.S. Magistrate Judge James L. Cott ordered Figueroa held without the option of posting bond, after Li said that the suspect is a public danger and a flight risk. He recently tried to travel to the Dominican Republic to try to find Abinader but was stopped at Newark International Airport because his passport had expired.

[DC] US Capitol rioter who stormed Senate floor reports to prison while trying to undo his felony guilty plea

[CNN](#) [9/20/2021 7:56 PM, Marshall Cohen, 4876K] reports that the first January 6 rioter to be sentenced for a felony reported to prison on Monday to serve his eight-month sentence, while mounting a longshot legal bid to undo his guilty plea. Paul Hodgkins of Florida stormed the US Capitol during the pro-Trump insurrection and was one of the few dozen rioters who breached the Senate floor shortly after it was evacuated. He pleaded guilty to obstructing the congressional certification of Joe Biden's victory and was sentenced to eight months in prison. But as his surrender date drew closer, Hodgkins fired his veteran attorney, hired a new one who only passed the bar last year and launched an effort to unwind his guilty plea and reduce his prison term -- even though the judge's eight-month sentence was far less than the Justice Department's 1.5-year recommendation. The about-face from Hodgkins comes as other rioters grapple with accepting responsibility and amid increasing efforts by Republicans to rewrite the history of January 6. Protesters returned to Capitol grounds on Saturday in support of the few dozen rioters who are in jail before trial. And prominent right-wing figures are still flooding the zone with disinformation about the insurrection. Hodgkins, 38, turned himself in on Monday and is now in prison, his attorney said. The lawyer refused to say where Hodgkins is serving his sentence, citing fears for his safety. The Bureau of Prisons website that lists all federal inmates hasn't been updated yet with Hodgkins' information. "The circling blood-thirsty sharks can feast," Hodgkins' defense attorney Carolyn Stewart told CNN in an email Monday. "The haters can rejoice, while the prayers of all others are welcome."

[CA] California militia member pleads guilty to conspiracy charge

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 8:40 PM, Staff, 2701K] reports an alleged member of a California right-wing militia group pleaded guilty Monday to charges stemming from the fatal shooting of a federal guard in Oakland more than a year ago. Kenny Miksch, 21, became the fourth member of the so-called Grizzly Scouts to plead guilty to conspiring to obstruct justice, KTVU-TV reported. He faces 20 years in prison when sentenced. The men are accused of conspiring to destroy communications and other records about the May 29, 2020, killing of federal security officer David Patrick Underwood and attempted murder of his partner as they guarded the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building in Oakland. The officers were shot while a large demonstration over the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis was underway nearby.

Prosecutors said Air Force Staff Sgt. Steven Carrillo, 32, fatally shot Underwood and wounded his partner. They said Carrillo used the protest as cover for the crime and for his escape. Carrillo has pleaded not guilty. The Grizzly Scouts identified with the decentralized “boogaloo” movement, which calls for armed conflict against the government, federal prosecutors said. Miksch was responsible for the group’s training and firearms instruction, prosecutors said.

Reported similarly:

[San Francisco Chronicle](#) [9/20/2021 8:41 PM, Bob Egelko, 495K]

National Security News

Amidst global criticism, Biden faces big week at UN General Assembly

The [New York Times](#) [9/20/2021 3:00 AM, Rick Gladstone, 24635K] reports the United Nations convenes its annual speeches by world leaders on Tuesday against a backdrop of seemingly irreversible planet warming, polarized superpower relations and a tenacious pandemic that has worsened the global rich-poor divide. President Joe Biden will be making his debut speech as president amid strong new doubts about his ability to vault the United States back into a position of global leadership. Unlike 2020, when the session was conducted almost entirely virtually because of the pandemic, more than 100 leaders and other high-ranking representatives intend to deliver their speeches in person. But access to the 16-acre U.N. complex in Manhattan remains strictly limited, with mandatory mask-wearing and other Covid-prevention measures. Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield of the United States told reporters that the measures were meant to ensure that the General Assembly “does not become a superspreader event.” The [Los Angeles Times](#) [9/20/2021 1:27 PM, Tracy Wilkinson, 3710K] reports that Biden administration officials insist that partnerships have not suffered permanent damage despite recent setbacks. But several NATO nations said the U.S. failed to give them proper warning of the withdrawal from Afghanistan, a charge the Biden administration denies. Another blow to U.S. credibility came Friday when the Pentagon acknowledged a drone-controlled air strike in Kabul, Afghanistan, killed not an Islamist terrorist as it first claimed but 10 civilians. And in the same week, the Biden administration ignited a huge row with the United States’ oldest ally, France when the president announced the U.S. was sharing sensitive technology to help Australia build nuclear-powered submarines, which scuttled Canberra’s sub deal with France. Claiming it was blindsided, France recalled its ambassadors to Washington and to Australia, and accused Biden of betrayal and of being almost as bad as Trump. So Biden, and Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken, may not find as much of a warm and welcoming reception at the U.N. this week as they may have at one time expected. “France is our longest ally, our longest friend and partner, and continues to be an extremely valuable ally across a huge range of issues,” the State Department’s senior official for dealing with international organizations, Erica Barks-Ruggles, said Monday. [Axios](#) [9/20/2021 1:53 PM, Zachary Basu, 526K] reports Biden will also use his address to lay out his vision for an era of “intensive diplomacy” with allies and “vigorous competition” with great powers — without a Cold War with China. UN Secretary-General António Guterres made headlines this morning when he urged the U.S. and China to repair their “completely dysfunctional” relationship for the sake of solving global challenges. Biden will stress in his remarks on Tuesday that he “does not believe in the notion of a new Cold War, with the world divided into blocs,” an administration official said. “He believes in vigorous, intensive, principled competition that does not tip over into conflict.” Biden will also hold a major COVID summit on Wednesday on the sidelines of the General Assembly at which he’ll lobby countries to donate vaccines for the developing world.

[France] UK, Australia confident in relations with France, but French ambassador says they ‘absolutely weren’t informed’ of new submarine deal

The [AP](#) [9/20/2021 5:18 AM, Staff] reports Prime Minister Boris Johnson has insisted that Britain’s relationship with France is “ineradicable,” despite fury in Paris over a U.S.-U.K.-Australia submarine deal. A meeting between French Defense Minister Florence Parly and her British counterpart, Ben Wallace, has been postponed as the agreement roils relations between France and major allies. The French government appears to have been blindsided by the submarine deal reached last week between the U.S.,

U.K. and Australia, which canceled its own previously made agreement. French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian called it a “stab in the back,” and France recalled its ambassadors from Washington and Canberra, a highly unusual move among allies. Johnson said U.K.-France relations were “very friendly” despite the diplomatic turmoil. “Our love of France is ineradicable,” Johnson told reporters traveling with him to New York for the U.N. General Assembly. “AUKUS is not in any way meant to be zero-sum, it’s not meant to be exclusionary. It’s not something that anybody needs to worry about and particularly not our French friends.” Reuters [9/20/2021 9:41 AM, Colin Packham and Philip Blenkinsop, 5304K] reports Australia’s trade minister said on Monday he would seek a meeting with France to ease tensions over Canberra’s decision to scrap the \$40 billion submarine deal, and was confident it would not cloud EU-Australia trade talks. Australian minister Dan Tehan told Australian Broadcasting Corporation radio on Monday he would be “very keen” to meet his French counterpart when he is in Paris in October. And he told Sky News Australia: “It’s just very much business as usual when it comes to our negotiations on that free trade agreement.” French European Affairs Minister Clement Beaune told France 24 television on Friday that he could not see how Australia could now be trusted in trade negotiations. Lange said the willingness of EU countries to compromise was likely to be “quite limited,” particularly for France and notably on agriculture. He also said a future deal might now contain more penalties for non-compliance. CNN [9/20/2021 5:07 AM, Joseph Ataman and Ben Westcott, 4876K] reports France’s ambassador to the United States reiterated in an interview Monday that the breakdown of the French-Australian submarine deal last week came as a surprise to Paris. Speaking on French radio station RTL, Ambassador Philippe Etienne said French Cabinet ministers were not given any indication the agreement would be canceled when they met with their Australian counterparts just days before the new deal was announced. “We absolutely weren’t informed of the new course,” Etienne said. He said senior members of the Macron administration were still discussing what to do next. “As soon as we learned Wednesday morning (of the new deal), I demanded to be seen, I was seen,” by the White House, Etienne said. “(But) it was a little late.” Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said that while he understood France’s disappointment, “Australia’s national interest comes first.”

[North Korea] North Korea warns submarine deal with Australia could lead to nuclear arms race

The Hill [9/20/2021 10:34 AM, Joseph Choi, 1776K] reports that North Korea on Monday joined the international feud over the trilateral agreement between the U.S., U.K. and Australia to share nuclear submarine technology, warning that the move would trigger a nuclear arms race. “These are extremely undesirable and dangerous acts which will upset the strategic balance in the Asia-Pacific region and trigger off a chain of nuclear arms race,” a North Korean Foreign Ministry official was quoted as saying on state media, according to The Washington Post. “It is quite natural that neighboring countries including China condemned these actions as irresponsible ones of destroying the peace and stability of the region and the international nuclear nonproliferation system and of catalyzing the arms race,” said the official. Almost immediately after the deal was announced last week, China said the three western countries should “shake off their Cold-War mentality and ideological prejudice.” North Korea’s condemnation comes less than a week after it launched multiple test missiles, heightening tensions on the Korean peninsula. The same day that North Korea launched its test missiles, South Korea also tested missiles from a submerged 3,700-ton submarine. South Korean President Moon Jae-in condemned the North Korea’s missile tests as a provocation while Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga said the missile tests were a “threat to the peace and security” in the region. The agreement between the three countries will give Australia at least eight nuclear submarines and abandons a prior \$40 billion agreement Canberra signed with France for diesel-electric submarines.

{End of Report} RETURN TO TOP