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U.S. CONFIRMS IRAN TESTED NUCLEAR-CAPABLE BALLISTIC MISSILE

"The [United States is deeply concerned about Iran's recent ballistic missile launch](#)," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said in a statement.

The United States has confirmed that Iran tested a medium-range missile capable of delivering a nuclear weapon, in "clear violation" of a United Nations Security Council ban on ballistic missile tests, a senior U.S. official said on Friday.

"The United States is deeply concerned about Iran's recent ballistic missile launch," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said in a statement.

"After reviewing the available information, we can confirm that Iran launched on Oct. 10 a medium-range ballistic missile inherently capable of delivering a nuclear weapon," she said. "This was a clear violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1929."

The United States is preparing a report on the incident for the Security Council's Iran Sanctions Committee and will raise the matter directly with Security Council members "in the coming days," Power said.

Council diplomats have told Reuters it was possible to sanction additional Iranian individuals or entities by adding them to an existing UN blacklist. However, they noted that Russia and China, which have opposed the sanctions on Iran's missile program, might block any such moves.

"The Security Council prohibition on Iran's ballistic missile activities, as well as the arms embargo, remain in place," Power said. "We will continue to press the Security Council for an appropriate response to Iran's disregard for its international obligations."

Ballistic missile tests by Iran are banned under Security Council resolution 1929, which was adopted in 2010 and remains valid until a nuclear deal between Tehran and six world powers goes into effect. Under

that deal, reached on July 14, most sanctions on Iran will be lifted in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program.

Once the deal takes effect, Iran will still be "called upon" to refrain from undertaking any work on ballistic missiles designed to deliver nuclear weapons for a period of up to eight years, according to a Security Council resolution adopted in July.

Countries would be allowed to transfer missile technology and heavy weapons to Iran on a case-by-case basis with council approval.

However, in July a U.S. official called this provision meaningless and said the United States would veto any suggested transfer of ballistic missile technology to Iran.

On Sunday, the United States, the European Union and Iran are expected to announce a series of measures to comply with the nuclear deal that will take effect once the UN International Atomic Energy Agency confirms Iranian compliance with terms of the agreement. (Contributor: By Reuters and [The Jerusalem Post](#))

Pray for President Obama. He is being ignored by Iran and chided by allies at home. Both *The Washington Post* and *The NY Times* have recently called out the president for his inaction or vacillation on Syria, Iran, Israel, even Afghanistan. He remains silent on Christian persecution. Several commentators are asking, "Where are his convictions?"

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."
(Prov 9:10)

U.S., INDIA, AND JAPAN HOLD NAVAL EXERCISES UNDER CHINA'S GAZE

Naval warships, aircraft carriers and submarines from the [U.S., India and Japan steamed into the Bay of Bengal on Saturday as they took part in joint military exercises off India's east coast](#), signaling the growing strategic ties among the three countries as they face up to a rising China.

The sea drills, part of the six-day-long Malabar exercises, will cover the full spectrum of naval maneuvers, including military-to-military coordination and anti-submarine warfare, according to a joint statement.

The U.S. has deployed the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, a missile cruiser and a nuclear-powered submarine for the annual exercises, which end Monday.

"India and Japan both are fantastic partners of the United States," Capt. Craig Clapperton, commanding officer of the USS Theodore Roosevelt, told reporters on board the ship. "We share a great deal in

common, and we certainly have very strong economic, military and political relationships and friendships with India and Japan."

A Chinese state-run newspaper, however, cautioned India to guard against being drawn into an anti-China alliance.

"The China-India relationship is on a sound track, and healthy ties are beneficial to both countries," the Global Times said. "India should be vigilant to any intentions of roping it into an anti-China camp."

Almost simultaneously, China's People's Liberation Army and the Indian army are conducting joint counterterrorism exercises in southwestern China.

China has long been wary of joint maritime exercises between India and the United States, but is especially concerned now, with Beijing involved in a host of disputes with Japan, South Korea and several of its Southeast Asian neighbors in the South China Sea.

This year's Malabar exercises are being held against the backdrop of expectations that the U.S. might directly challenge Chinese claims in the South China Sea by sailing a Navy ship inside the 12-nautical-mile territorial limit surrounding an artificial island built by China. (Contributor: By [The Associated Press](#))

No honest intercessor can any longer invoke God's blessing on America as though it were a Christian nation. That is no longer true. We can pray for God's mercy and for the U.S. to avoid serious entanglement with China that will ignite open hostilities. Pray for President Obama and key military officials to submit to godly wisdom.

"For whoever finds [godly Wisdom] finds life, and obtains favor from the LORD; but he who sins against me wrongs his own soul; all those who hate me love death." (Prov 8:35-36)

BENGHAZI PANEL'S NEW FACTS FOCUS ON 'FOUR DEAD AMERICANS,'

Hillary Clinton's upcoming testimony before Congress' special Benghazi committee is being hyped as the biggest moment in the panel's controversial existence. But [the committee's Republican leaders said Sunday they are equally, if not more, focused on new evidence and continued pursuit of the facts behind the fatal 2012 attacks.](#)

"We have found new facts that have absolutely nothing to do with her," South Carolina GOP Rep. Trey Gowdy, chairman of the House Select Committee on Benghazi, told CBS' "Face the Nation."

"I get that people don't want to talk about that. But the seven [Republican] members of my committee are much more focused on the four dead Americans than we are anyone's presidential aspirations."

Clinton, the 2016 Democratic presidential front-runner, is scheduled to testify Thursday about her role as secretary of state during the Sept. 11, 2012, attacks on a U.S. outpost in Benghazi, Libya, in which Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed.

Gowdy said Sunday that the 12-member bipartisan committee has acquired Stephens' emails from that time and suggested dozens more witnesses will be called.

Clinton is "an important witness, but she is one witness," he also said. "I understand that there's more attention associated with her. But from my perspective, I am much more interested in Chris Stevens' emails, which we just received, than I am her emails, which we just received."

He also suggested that new emails show Clinton and other members of the administration were too focused on the politics of Benghazi.

Gowdy said Stevens even joked in an email that maybe he and others at the Benghazi outpost "should ask another government to pay for our security upgrades because our government isn't willing to do it."

"You want to know what happened in Libya, you got to look at his emails," Gowdy continued.

The special committee discovered that Clinton as the country's top diplomat used a private server and emails for official business. But since being formed last year, the committee has faced criticism about being a political tool for Republicans to tarnish Clinton's 2016 campaign.

Democrats and other critics say House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., proved the argument a few weeks ago when he suggested that Clinton's poll numbers have dropped as the committee and others investigate the email controversy.

Their argument and calls to shutter the committee have been further bolstered recently by Rep. Richard Hanna, R-N.Y., suggesting the committee is politically motivated and a fired committee investigator suggesting Republican members were overly focused on Clinton.

This weekend, Democrats also argued that the select committee probe has lasted longer than the congressional Watergate investigation.

However, Republican committee member and Rep. Mike Pompeo said Sunday that Democrats "hiding the ball" has slowed investigative efforts and that GOP leaders have no plans to close the committee.

"We're not done," the Kansas lawmaker told NBC's "Meet the Press." "We still have many witnesses and many documents. We're just getting started."

In addition, Gowdy on Sunday told fellow Republicans uninformed about exactly what the committee is doing to "shut up."

Maryland Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the committee, still thinks the panel is too focused on Clinton and a waste of taxpayer money.

“After 17 months, \$4.7 million and counting of taxpayer money .. Chairman Gowdy is now saying he has another two dozen witnesses to interview,” he told CBS on Sunday.

He also said Gowdy is “now trying to shift back to where we should have been all along -- that is looking at the Benghazi incident.”

As proof, Cummings said the committee has yet to call to testify the CIA director, secretary of defense and head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the time of the attacks. (Contributor: By Joseph Weber for [Fox News](#))

The work of the Benghazi committee has been politicized and Chairman Trey Gowdy criticized. Mrs. Clinton is scheduled to testify to the committee on Thursday, Oct. 22, followed by other witnesses. As the article reminds us, four Americans died, and the committee is charged with tracing the responsibility. Pray for truth to emerge.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

EARLIEST KNOWN DRAFT OF KING JAMES BIBLE FROM 1611 FOUND BY ACADEMIC

An [American scholar has found the earliest known draft of the 1611 authorized version of the Bible, commonly called the King James Version.](#)

Jeffrey Alan Miller, an assistant professor of English at Montclair State University in New Jersey, recently uncovered the document while researching an essay.

In an interview with The Christian Post, Miller explained that he discovered the work among the collected papers of Samuel Ward, a translator who worked on the KJV, which were held at the University of Cambridge.

"Specifically, I thought I might maybe find, say, a letter that was relevant, an unknown piece of correspondence, something like that," said Miller, who located such sources, but then found a document listed as MSWard-B.

"It doesn't necessarily look like what one maybe would have expected a draft of the King James Bible to look like ... the discovery was unexpected in a variety of ways."

MSWard-B was initially labeled as a document that included a "Bible commentary," but specifics as to what the document included were largely unknown by the overseers of the collection.

Miller told CP that, given its origins, there is "no dispute" that the document in question is an authentic source from Ward.

"There's no dispute at all that it's a document of Samuel Ward, that it's in a notebook that Samuel Ward owned," said Miller.

"Even before I realized that this was a draft of the King James Bible, we've known for a long time that this notebook belonged to Samuel Ward."

Miller added that the notebook was "clearly" in the handwriting of Ward, who had what Miller described as "distinctly bad" handwriting.

Published in 1611, the King James Version of the Bible is considered one of the most widely read books in the English language.

A combination of the work of 54 scholars and drawn from earlier translation efforts by John Wycliffe, the KJV includes several verses and phrases that remain clichés in modern English.

"And though some modern translations now outsell King James, the number of its admirers is no drop in the bucket," noted a published commentary by CBS' Charles Osgood. "'Drop in the bucket' being from the book of Isaiah, chapter 40, verse 15. In fact, many of the common phrases [we] use today trace back to the King James Bible."

"And although they presumably didn't always 'See Eye To Eye' (Isaiah 52:8), and may even have occasionally been at their 'Wits' End' (Psalms 107:2), they continued to 'Fight The Good Fight' (Timothy I, 6:12), all with the aim of satisfying 'The Powers That Be' (Romans 13:1)," Osgood continued.

Miller told CP that he hopes other scholars will examine the recently uncovered draft and find further discoveries of interest regarding the development of the authorized version. (Contributor: By Michael Gryboski for [CHRISTIAN POST](#))

It is the label, "Authorized Version," that keeps even some modern Christians exclusively faithful to the King James Bible. While God's Word needs no further corroboration, this discovery may give the Bible added publicity. Pray that new attention will cause many to read it, understand the Gospel, and be saved.

"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." (Heb 4:12)

JUDGE: LOUISIANA MUST FUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD FOR 14 DAYS

Louisiana [must continue providing Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood clinics for 14 more days while a legal battle continues over Gov. Bobby Jindal's recent order to block the funding](#), a federal judge ruled Monday.

U.S. District Judge John deGravelles in Baton Rouge had heard arguments Friday. Without his ruling, funding was expected to end Monday.

Planned Parenthood had challenged the state's right to end the funding for cancer screenings, gynecology exams and other health services.

Jindal, running for the Republican presidential nomination, began the defunding effort after videos were released by the anti-abortion Center for Medical Progress.

The center said the videos showed that Planned Parenthood illegally sells fetal tissue for profit. Planned Parenthood, which does not currently provide abortions in Louisiana, denies the allegation and says the videos are misleading.

Lawyers for Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast, the Planned Parenthood arm that provides medical services in Louisiana, argued that Jindal's fight to cut funding for its non-abortion-related services is politically motivated.

"In fact, uncontradicted evidence in the record at this time is that PPGC does not perform abortions in Louisiana, is not involved in the sale of fetal tissue and none of the conduct in question occurred at the PPGC's two Louisiana facilities," deGravelles wrote in his 59-page ruling. He said it appears likely Planned Parenthood will be able to prove that the funding cutoff was being attempted for reasons unrelated to the organization's competence.

Planned Parenthood says 5,200 low-income Medicaid patients obtain services through their two Louisiana clinics. The organization doesn't currently provide abortions in Louisiana but does offer other health services, such as cancer screenings and gynecological exams.

Raegan Carter, with Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast, has described Jindal's decision as political grandstanding. She's called Jindal's action against clinics illegal.

Arguing for the state, attorney Jimmy Faircloth said Friday that the judge should stay out of the matter for now because Planned Parenthood had not yet gone through a state administrative appeal process. The appeal process would have suspended the planned funding cutoff until a decision was reached. Planned Parenthood lawyer Carrie Flaxman said there was no legal requirement that the organization go through the state process before heading to federal court. DeGravelles agreed.

The judge said a hearing date will be set on the issues after a Monday afternoon telephone status conference.

Carter has said the clinics were reimbursed nearly \$730,000 during the organization's last budget year for services provided to Medicaid patients. Carter said without the Medicaid revenue, the clinics would have been forced to reduce staff and hours and the Baton Rouge clinic may shut down entirely.

Faircloth said the videos were a catalyst for a hard look at Planned Parenthood's practices. But, he emphasized that the move to cut off Medicaid money was based on other factors.

For instance, the state cites a \$4.3 million settlement in Texas of claims that the organization billed government programs for services that weren't medically necessary or that weren't provided.

Planned Parenthood did not admit any wrongdoing in that 2013 settlement and says Louisiana officials knew about it even before it was formally entered in court. DeGravelles agreed that the settlement was no cause for cutting off funding. (Contributor: By [The Associated Press and One News Now](#))

Pray for Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, who is standing against the powerful Planned Parenthood PR machine in his state. The complication is that, at present, this “national abortion mill” does not perform abortions in Louisiana. Pray for nationwide defunding of this deceptive organization that profits from killing babies.

“The treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, indeed the treacherous dealers have dealt very treacherously.” (Isa 24:16b)

OBAMACARE'S PROBLEMS CATCHING UP WITH IT

A [policy analyst is not surprised by news that it's getting harder for the uninsured to sign up for ObamaCare](#) or by the fact that young people are not that concerned with enrolling.

The next open enrollment period for ObamaCare begins November 1st, and HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell has set a target of having 10 million people enrolled and paying premiums by the end of next year. That is roughly the same number of people now covered through the Affordable Care Act's online markets for taxpayer-subsidized private health insurance.

But according to Burwell, it is getting more difficult to sign up the remaining uninsured, as many young people, for instance, "have a lot of concerns about whether they can afford coverage."

Premiums are expected to go up next year, and even though there is now a tax penalty for not having health insurance, young adults on tight budgets may opt for the penalty instead of subsidized health insurance they do not see as a need in at this time.

Patrice Lee, national spokeswoman for the young Americans organization Generation Opportunity, thinks "that a lot of young people, and I talk to them every day, they're thinking to themselves that with a tight budget, with student loan debt, and for those who are even able to find jobs, this is not going to be the first priority for them."

Lee recognizes that carrying health insurance is important and responsible, but she contends that "we should have a lot more choice than we currently have."

"And unfortunately, ObamaCare has eroded choice in the private market and in the healthcare space," the General Opportunity spokeswoman continues. "As a young person, we've seen healthcare premiums double, and triple in some cases. We're being asked to pay for assistance that is weighted against us. We're paying more for frankly less care."

Hadley Heath Manning, director of health policy at the Independent Women's Forum (IWF), is not surprised by the difficulties or the concerns associated with ObamaCare.

"Anyone who has followed the Affordable Care Act from the very beginning knew that there were some people who were going to be attracted by the law's subsidies and that there are other people for whom ObamaCare poses a significant financial burden, and that includes some people who received subsidies."

Manning explains that the rate hikes are due to some of ObamaCare's requirements that plans cover many services, some of which consumers may not want or need. ObamaCare also takes a lot of the risk variables out of the pricing equations for insurance.

"These things lead to rate hikes," she notes. "Then, even for some people who receive subsidies -- those subsidies are not enough to make health insurance affordable for them because of the way ObamaCare makes health insurance more expensive."

The IWF health policy director thinks it was only a matter of time before HHS would face this kind of slowdown

"It's not a surprise to me," she concludes, "and it's mainly driven by the high cost of health insurance." (Contributor: By Chris Woodward for [One News Now](#))

The Affordable Care Act (dubbed “Obamacare”) has, from its beginnings, been steeped in deceptive language and false promises. These are now catching up with a bloated federal government that seeks greater control over the lives and freedoms of the citizens it should be serving and protecting. Pray for a righteous solution to a growing problem.

“Behold, You (God) desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.” (Ps 51:6)

UN TO CALL ON GOVERNMENTS TO DECRIMINALIZE ALL DRUGS

The [UN may be about to call on the governments of all countries to end the "war on drugs" and decriminalize the use and possession of all illegal substances.](#)

In an extraordinary post on his Virgin website, Richard Branson said he had been showed a report by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which dramatically changed the organization’s stance on drug control.

He said the "as-yet unreleased statement" had been sent to some of the world's media under embargo, but the businessman has gone public with it early for fear the UN will "bow to pressure by not going ahead with this important move".

The UN was preparing to declare "unequivocally that criminalization is harmful unnecessary and disproportionate", Branson wrote. A document changing the UN stance on drug control was supposed to be released at a conference in Malaysia on Sunday, he said, but that has now been delayed.

"As I'm writing this I am hearing that at least one government is putting an inordinate amount of pressure on the UNODC," he said. "Let us hope the UNODC, a global organisation that is part of the UN and supposed to do what is right for the people of the world, does not do a remarkable volte-face at the last possible moment and bow to pressure by not going ahead with this important move. The war on drugs has done too much damage to too many people already." (Contributor: By Adam Withnall for [Independent UK](#))

Those in the UN who advocate this policy are far off base here. Thankfully, it does not regulate legislation in any member nation. Still, such “logic” is typical in the UN, which is always anti-free world. Do we solve problems of crime by declaring criminal activity legal? Pray for widespread revival that might, in God’s mercy, help turn our nation back to God.

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isa 5:20)

CHRISTIANS THREATEN NATION?

If you have [ever wondered whether President Obama has an abiding hostility to people of Christian faith](#), wonder no more. He believes we are a threat to national security. If you are a sincerely devoted follower of Jesus Christ, your president believes you are a potential domestic terrorist.

I do not exaggerate. In a gathering at George Washington University this week, Obama's assistant attorney general for national security, John Carlin, revealed that the Department of Justice is creating a brand new position just to monitor us. The position, domestic terrorism counsel, will be created to combat the "real and present threat" of domestic terrorism.

And where, pray tell, does this threat come from? From the Muslim Brotherhood, which has a stated goal of exterminating Western civilization and sabotaging our miserable house from within? Nope. From ISIS, which is actively recruiting jihadists in all 50 states? Nope. Jihadists who are sneaking into the United States disguised as Syrian refugees? Nope.

No, the real threat to our national security, according to our president and his minions, is coming from the Family Research Council and the American Family Association.

Carlin lauded the work of the thoroughly discredited Southern Poverty Law Center, which is so blatantly and maliciously biased against Christians that other parts of Obama's administration – the FBI, the Pentagon, and the U.S. Army – are getting as far away from the SPLC as they can.

But the folks at SPLC are still useful to the DOJ, which is desperate to paint conservative Christians as a greater threat to our domestic tranquility than people who are determined to decapitate us in the name of Allah.

According to Carlin, the SPLC does the noble work of "examining what the threat is, observing it, and reporting on it," and claimed that its work is "very important."

The SPLC, mind you, is the group whose "hate group" map was used by domestic terrorist Floyd Corkins to identify the Family Research Council as his target for a massacre. Only the bravery of an unarmed security guard prevented what could have been one of the worst mass shootings in U.S. history. In other words, if anybody's the hate group here, it's the SPLC.

Heidi Beirich, the SPLC's intelligence project director, teamed with Carlin to demonize pro-family groups. She told a reporter that the SPLC classifies groups as hate groups "on the basis of ideology." In other words, the SPLC will vilify groups because of what they believe, not because of what they do or because they have demonstrated any propensity toward violence.

And she flatly admits it. "We post groups on the basis of ideology, not whether they're violent or not."

And then she identified two groups by name: Family Research Council and American Family Association. "[W]hat they're putting out is anti-gay material so gay people are pedophiles, or molesters, or whatever the case may be, and that's why they're on the list and that's the direct analogy."

We – FRC and AFA – "are simply pushing propaganda that [the SPLC] consider(s) hateful." She acknowledges that theirs is a purely subjective standard: "It's our opinion that it's hateful, and that's basically it."

The plain truth is that we at FRC and AFA don't hate a living soul. We love homosexuals enough to tell them the truth about the physical and spiritual dangers of the homosexual lifestyle. We want something better for them than the darkness and disease associated with homosexual behavior. We want them to come out of that darkness into the light of the gospel of Christ. We are for the homosexual, and so we must be against the normalization and promotion of homosexuality.

Note the SPLC is no longer accusing FRC and AFA of hate or of violence based on some objective standard. They have simply made a purely subjective assessment that our beliefs about human sexuality and our defense of natural marriage are so offensive to them that we must become the target of the unlimited resources of the federal government.

Do we disagree with the homosexual lobby about homosexuality? Of course. Do we hate them? Absolutely not. Do we advocate violence against them? Never have, never will. We are simply determined to tell the moral, spiritual, and physical truth about non-normative sexual behavior.

Bottom line: disagreement is not hatred, and the truth is not hate speech. Somebody needs to tell that to the president. (Contributor: By Brian Fischer for [One News Now](#) - Bryan Fischer hosts "Focal Point with Bryan Fischer" every weekday on AFR Talk (American Family Radio) from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Central).

Christians should not be shocked at this news. Our Lord predicted His followers would be hated by the world because He was hated and still is. He never promised the hatred would abate, and the New Testament prepares believers to deal with persecution. Our mandate is to pray for those who mistreat us.

"If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."
(John 15:18-19)