

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Donald Trump picks Tillerson to lead State Department

NEW YORK — President-elect Donald Trump has tapped ExxonMobil CEO Rex Tillerson to lead the State Department, dismissing concerns about the businessman's close ties to Russia and bringing a long public audition process to a conclusion.

Two people close to Trump's transition team said Monday night that Trump had selected Tillerson. They insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the pick ahead of that announcement.

Trump was set to announce his nomination this morning. The selection could set him up for a potential fight with Congress over confirming Tillerson, who has connections with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Leading Republicans have already expressed anxieties about Tillerson, as they contend with intelligence assessments saying Russia interfered with the U.S. presidential election to help Trump.

But two meetings with the oil executive impressed Trump, who called Tillerson a "world class player" in an interview on "Fox News Sunday."

In the interview, Trump pointed to Tillerson's deep relations with Moscow as a selling point. As ExxonMobil's head, he maintained close ties with Russia and was awarded by President Vladimir Putin with the Order of Friendship in 2013, an honor for a foreign citizen.

Republican lawmaker looks to overhaul Social Security

WASHINGTON — A key Republican lawmaker wants to overhaul Social Security, the decades-old program that provides benefits to some 60 million retirees and disabled, with a plan to gradually increase the retirement age and slow the growth of benefits for higher-income workers.

Rep. Sam Johnson of Texas, the chairman of the House Ways and Means subcommittee on Social Security, introduced legislation just before the end of the congressional session last week that he said would "permanently save" the program. He said the bill would increase benefits for lower-income workers.

About 168 million people work and pay taxes toward the inevitable monthly Social Security benefits. About 42 million of the beneficiaries are retirees and their families. The trustees who oversee Social Security say it has enough money to pay full benefits until 2034, and then Social Security will collect only enough taxes to pay 79 percent of benefits.

Unless Congress acts, millions of people on fixed incomes would get an automatic 21 percent cut in benefits.

"Americans want, need, and deserve for us to finally come up with a solution to saving this important program," Johnson said.

First SeaWorld park without orcas opening in Abu Dhabi in 2022

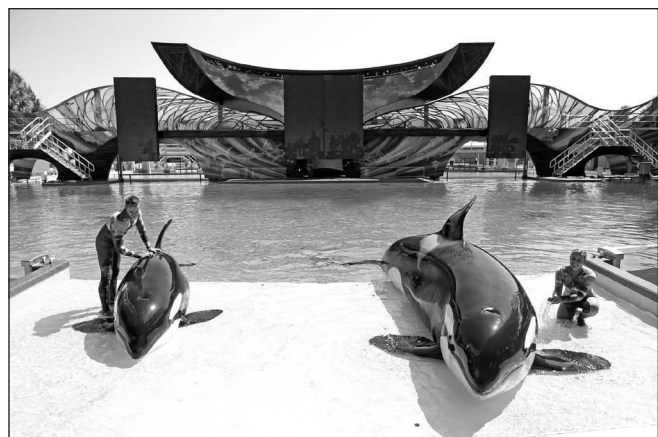
ORLANDO, Fla. — Months after SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment ended its orca-breeding program amid pressure from animal rights activists, company officials announced today that they will help develop in Abu Dhabi the first new SeaWorld park without orcas — and the first outside the United States.

SeaWorld CEO Joel Manby told The Associated Press that the Abu Dhabi park is an important step for the theme park company's move away from orcas, which long were company icons. The captive orcas have been the focus of blistering campaigns against SeaWorld by animal rights activists.

Officials with SeaWorld and Abu Dhabi-government-backed Miral Asset Management said the SeaWorld park will open in 2022 in Abu Dhabi's Yas Island, a man-made island that is fast becoming a tourism and entertainment hub near the southeast tip of the Arabian peninsula.

The Abu Dhabi location will have a research, animal rescue and rehabilitation center, which will open ahead of the park, and the theme park will focus on educating visitors about ocean conservation, officials said. The two companies had been in talks since 2011 about a park in Abu Dhabi, part of the United Arab Emirates.

SeaWorld ended its innovative orca-breeding program in March after years of declining attendance and pressure from activists following the 2013 release of the critical documentary "Blackfish." The documentary chronicled the life of Tilikum, an orca that killed a SeaWorld trainer during a performance in Orlando in 2010, and the movie implied that killer whales become more aggressive in captivity.



AP Photo/John Raoux

SeaWorld trainer Ryan Faulkner, left, with killer whale Melia, and Michelle Shoemaker, right, with Kayla work on a routine for a show at the Orlando, Fla., theme park in 2014. SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment is partnering with a United Arab Emirates company to build a theme park in Abu Dhabi in what will be the first SeaWorld park outside the United States and without orcas.

Obama: President without briefings 'flying blind'

NEW YORK — President Barack Obama has criticized Donald Trump for saying he plans to shun daily intelligence briefings once inaugurated, saying that would be akin to "flying blind" in managing national security affairs.

Appearing Monday evening on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show," Obama said fit would be a mistake for a president to pass on regular briefings from the intelligence community.

Trump had said on "Fox News Sunday" he is not interested in getting daily intelligence briefings, a practice that's been a fixture for chief executives of both parties for several years. Asked whether he's actually rejecting valuable intelligence, Trump was defiant.

"I get it when I need it," he said of the top-secret briefings sessions, adding that he's leaving it up to the briefers to decide when a development represents a "change" big enough to notify him.

AP News Guide: Trump's far-flung business empire

NEW YORK — Donald Trump says his business is "great," and you'll have to trust him on that. One of the few things an outsider can know for sure is that it's a complex and opaque hodgepodge of an empire scattered around the globe.

Trump in May disclosed holdings in about 500 companies in at least 25 countries. But many of the 500 have no business operations, they're shells set up to hold stakes in other companies, possibly to provide legal and tax protection. The disclosure document ran 104 pages, but revealed precious few details about how much each entity has borrowed, their profits, or purposes.

The details matter because government ethics experts

note the possibility that Trump might be tempted to shape regulations, taxes and foreign policy to enrich himself or those of his partners. Foreign governments could create plenty of trouble, too. They could seek to influence him by rewarding or punishing his business interests in their countries.

Trump had planned a news conference for Thursday on the future of his business but announced Monday he would postpone it until next month. Trump transition team spokes-

man Sean Spicer said the legal team needs more time to work out a plan so "proper protocols are in place."

Trump has said that while he's running the country, he'll leave management to his children and company executives. But he left open retaining his ownership stake.

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THE DAILY ASTORIAN

TV LISTINGS

Evening listings
TUESDAY

TUESDAY EVENING													DECEMBER 13	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle (N)	Am. Housewife (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.		KATU News at 11	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	
4	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle (N)	Am. Housewife (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Real O'Neals (N)	Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.		KOMO 4 News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel	
5	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	The Voice (N)		The Voice "Live Finale"	Carson Daly reveals the winner. (SF) (N)			KING 5 News	(35) Tonight Show	
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "The Tie That Binds" (N)		Bull "Light My Fire" (N)		NCIS: New Orleans "Overdrive" (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(35) S. Colbert	
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "The Tie That Binds" (N)		Bull "Light My Fire" (N)		NCIS: New Orleans "Overdrive" (N)		KIRO 7 News	(35) S. Colbert	
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven	Inside Edition	The Voice (N)		The Voice "Live Finale"	Carson Daly reveals the winner. (SF) (N)			KGW News at 11	(35) Tonight Show	
9	KRCW	(9) Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Flash "Monster"		Legends of Tomorrow "Out of Time"				KGW News at 10	Two and a Half	
10	KOPB	(10) Ask-Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		American Experience "Murder of a President"						Frontline "From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians"		
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Brooklyn 99 (N)	New Girl (N)	Scream Queens "Lovin the D" (N)		10 O'Clock News		11 O'Clock News	2 Broke Girls	
13	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV		Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad	Cleveland Show	
14	KCPQ	(14) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Brooklyn 99 (N)	New Girl (N)	Scream Queens "Lovin the D" (N)		Q13 News at 10		Q13 News	The Simpsons	
20	TBS	(20) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)		
22	KZJZ	(22) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends	Friends	
29	ESPN	(29) (5:00) NBA Basketball	Minnesota vs Chicago (L)			NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Portland Trail Blazers	Site: Moda Center -- Portland, Ore. (L)			SportsCenter		SportsCenter		
30	ESPN2	(30) The Drone Racing League		SportsCenter				SportsCenter		Fantasy Football	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	NFL Live		
31	NICK	(31) Henry Danger	Henry Danger	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends	
32	DISN	(32) Hannah Montana	Hannah Montana	K.C. Undercover	K.C. Undercover	Liv Maddie Cali	Bizaardvark	MECH-X4	Best Friends (N)	Best Friends (N)	Girl Meets World	Jessie	Bunk'd	
34	FAM	(34) (4:30) Willy Wonka & the Chocolate F...		*** Elf (2003, Comedy) James Caan, Bob Newhart, Will Ferrell.				*** National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) Chevy Chase.				The 700 Club		
35	FMC	(35) (5:00) Next ('07)	(50) ** Next (2007, Drama) Julianne Moore, Jessica Biel, Nicolas Cage.					*** Flight (2012, Drama) Nadine Velazquez, Carter Cabassa, Denzel Washington.					(50) FXM Presents	
36	LIFE	(36) Dance Moms		Dance Moms		Dance Moms: Dance and Chat		Dance Moms (N)		Knocked Up "Katie" (N)		To Be Announced		
38	ROOT	(38) Halls of Fame	Mark Few (N)	DFL Soccer Borussia Dortmund at Köln				DFL Soccer FSV Mainz at Borussia Mönchengladbach				UEFA Soccer Champions League		
39	F51	(39) UFC's Road to the Octagon		UFC Unleashed "UFC Strawweights"		Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports (N)					FS Live (12:00) FIFA Soccer		
43	SPIKE	(43) *** Fast Five (2011, Action) Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson, Vin Diesel.						Rock the Troops Reunions and tributes to families and veterans. (N)				Rock the Troops		
44	COM	(44) Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	The Daily Show (N) @midnight (N)		
45	HIST	(45) To Be Announced		The Curse of Oak Island		Oak Island "No Stone Unturned" (N)		The Curse of Oak Island "Bullseye" (N)	(05) Hunting Hitler			(05) Hunting Hitler		
46	A&E	(46) The First 48 "Snapped/ Fallen Angel"		Intervention "Tiffany"		Intervention "Jordan" (N)		Intervention "Christie" (N)		Remini: Scientology (N)		(05) Remini: Scientology "Fair Game"		
47	TLC	(47) Lost Family "Alone in a Crowded Room"		Little People "Embrace the Booty" (N)		Little People "What's a Lamping?" (N)		OutDaughtered (N)		Kate Plus Eight "Puppies and Poconos"		OutDaughtered		
48	DISC	(48) Moonshiners		Moonshiners		Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Homicide Hunter "The S43 Murder" (N)		Moonshiners		
49	NINGO	(49) Continent 7: An. "Antarctica Aftermath"		Continent 7: An. "Take Your Best Shot"		Life Below Zero "Midnight Sun"		Life Below Zero "Higher Ground"		Continent 7: An. "Science of Survival"		Life Below Zero "Higher Ground"		
50	TNT	(50) ** The Hunger Games (2012, Action) Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Jennifer Lawrence.						Behavi. "We Pretend We're Stuck" (N)		Good Behav. "We Pretend We're Stuck"		Castle "Still"		
51	AMC	(51) (4:30) Back to the Future III		*** Sweet Home Alabama (2002, Comedy) Candice Bergen, Josh Lucas, Reese Witherspoon.				*** Enchanted (2007, Adventure) Amy Adams, Patrick Dempsey, Julie Andrews.						
52	USA	(52) Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Smackdown! WWE superstars do battle in long-running rivalries. (N)		Shooter "Recon by Fire" (N)				Incorporated "Downsizing"		
53	FOD	(53) Chopped: All Stars		Chopped: All Stars		Chopped Junior "Snack Attack" (N)		Chopped "Hot Stuff"		Chopped "Sweet Heat" (N)		Chopped "Chili Cook-Off"		
54	HGTV	(54) Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Restored Fords	House Hunters	
56	FX	(56) (5:00) ** Real Steel (2011, Sci-Fi) Evangeline Lilly, Dakota Goyo, Hugh Jackman.				Transformers: Age of Extinction (2014, Action) Nicola Peltz, Jack Reynor, Mark Wahlberg.						Movie		
57	CNN	(57) CNN Special		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Special		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		
58	FNC	(58) The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly		Hannity		The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly		Hannity		On the Record		
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		Billion Dollar Buyer (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Billion Dollar Buyer		Paid Program	Paid Program	
63	BRAV	(63) Vanderpump Rules		Beverly Hills "Who Do You Believe?"		Beverly Hills Social (N)		Beverly Hills (N)		Ladies of London (N)		WatchWhat (N)	Beverly Hills	
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Umberto D. (1952) *** Wild Strawberries ('57) Bibi Andersson, Ingrid Thulin, Victor Seastrom. *** Ikiru (1952, Drama) Nobuo Kaneko, Kyoko Seki, Takashi Shimura.										The Ballad of Narayama		
65	SYFY	(65) (4:30) National Treasure: Book of Sec...		*** Skyfall (2012, Action) Helen McCrory, Ralph Fiennes, Daniel Craig.						Aftermath (N)		Volcano ('97, Action) Tommy Lee Jones.		
162	RFD	(162) (5:30) Cattlemen	LandLeader TV	Horseman. "Fundamentals on the Trail"	Chris Cox	Rural Eve. News	Ag PhD	Cattlemen to Cattlemen		LandLeader TV		Product Showcase		



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