

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Investigations into Russia to continue after Flynn's exit

WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence agencies and Congress will continue to investigate Russia's involvement in the 2016 presidential election, even after President Donald Trump fired his national security adviser for providing inaccurate accounts of his contacts with the Russian ambassador last year.

Democrats said an independent investigation was the best way to answer questions about the Trump administration's ties to Russia. But Republican leaders continue to refuse to consider that option and said three congressional investigations underway were enough.

Trump's national security adviser, Michael Flynn, was fired late Monday. The White House said he misled Vice President Mike Pence about his contacts with the Russian ambassador.

This isn't the first time Trump has distanced himself from an adviser in light of relationships with Moscow. In late August, Paul Manafort resigned as Trump's campaign chairman after disclosures by The Associated Press about his firm's covert lobbying on behalf of Ukraine's former pro-Russia governing political party. Trump has long held a friendly posture toward the long-time U.S. adversary and has been reluctant to criticize Russian President Vladimir Putin, even for Putin's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea region in 2014.

"This isn't simply about a change in policy toward Russia, as the administration would like to portray. It's what's behind that change in policy," said California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House intelligence committee, one of the congressional bodies investigating.

Cracks may offer clues to California dam's troubles

Six months before rushing water ripped a huge hole in a channel that drains a Northern California reservoir, state inspectors said the concrete spillway was sound. As officials puzzle through how to repair Oroville Dam spillway, federal regulators have ordered the state to figure out what went wrong.

Earlier inspection reports offer potential clues, including cracks on the spillway surface that if not properly repaired could let water tear through the concrete. In recent years, construction crews patched cracks — including in the area where water burrowed a huge pit last week.

Damage to the main spillway triggered a series of problems culminating with the first use of the emergency spillway, which quickly began eroding and threatened to unleash a torrent of water on cities downstream. On Tuesday, officials said the immediate danger had passed, and allowed nearly 200,000 residents to go home after evacuation orders scattered them for nearly two days.

Inspectors with the state agency that both operates and checks the dam, the nation's tallest at 770 feet, walked the half-mile-long spillway in 2014 and 2015 and did not find any concerns.

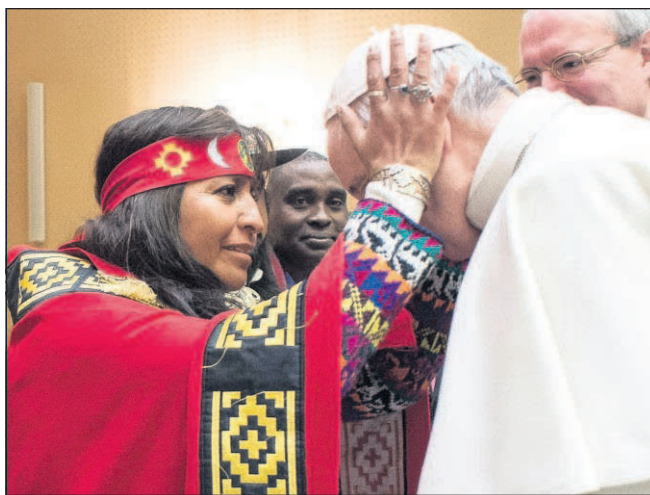
"Conditions appeared to be normal," the inspector wrote in reports from both years.

Pope Francis: Native people have rights over their lands

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis insisted today that indigenous groups must give prior consent to any economic activity affecting their ancestral lands, a view that conflicts with the Trump administration, which is pushing to build a \$3.8 billion oil pipeline over opposition from American Indians.

Francis met with representatives of indigenous peoples attending a U.N. agricultural meeting and said the key issue facing them is how to reconcile the right to economic development with protecting their cultures and territories.

"In this regard, the right to prior and informed consent should always prevail," he said. "Only then is it possible to guarantee peaceful cooperation between governing authorities and indigenous peoples, overcoming confrontation and conflict."



L'Osservatore Romano/Pool Photo

A woman wearing a traditional costume holds Pope Francis' head on the occasion of his meeting with representatives of indigenous peoples attending a UN agricultural meeting in Rome, at the Vatican, today. Francis has insisted that indigenous peoples must give prior consent for any economic activity on their ancestral lands — an indirect critique as the Donald Trump administration seeks to advance construction on a \$3.8 billion oil pipeline over opposition from American Indians.

The Cheyenne River and the Standing Rock Sioux tribes have sued to stop construction on the final stretch of the Dakota Access pipeline, which would bring oil from North Dakota's rich Bakken fields across four states to a shipping point in Illinois.

The tribes say the pipeline threatens their drinking water, cultural sites and ability to practice their religion, which depends on pure water. The last piece of the pipeline is to pass under a reservoir on the Missouri River, which marks the eastern border of both tribes' reservations.

The company building the pipeline, Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners, has insisted the water supply will be safe.

Study: Most drivers, not just young, are taking risks

DETROIT — Young drivers aren't alone in behaving badly on U.S. roads, a trend that could be contributing to a spike in highway deaths.

Well over half of drivers in every age group have texted behind the wheel, run a red light or driven faster than the speed limit in the last 30 days, according to a new study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

Younger drivers are the worst offenders. Eighty-eight percent of drivers ages 19 to 24 admitted to at least one of those behaviors. But even mature drivers skirted the rules more often researchers expected. For instance, 10 percent of drivers between 60 and 74 have texted or sent email from behind the wheel, while 37 percent of drivers over 75 said they'd driven through a light that had just turned red.

"It was a surprise that there were relatively high rates of these behaviors among the drivers we think of as safer," said Lindsay Arnold, a research associate with the AAA Foundation.

Arnold said the responses were similar to those in past years, indicating a troubling trend. In 2015, U.S. traffic deaths rose 7 percent to 35,092, the largest single-year increase in five decades. They're expected to rise again in 2016 when that data is finalized.

Congress blocks rule barring mentally impaired from guns

WASHINGTON — The Republican-led Senate voted today to block an Obama-era regulation that would prevent an estimated 75,000 people with mental disorders from being able to purchase a firearm. The measure now goes to President Donald Trump, who is expected to sign it.

The regulation was crafted as part of President Barack Obama's efforts to strengthen the federal background check system in the wake of the 2012 massacre of 20 young students and six staff

at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. Adam Lanza, a 20-year-old man with a variety of impairments, including Asperger's syndrome and obsessive-compulsive disorder, shot and killed his mother at their home, then went to school where he killed the students, adults and himself.

The Obama administration rule required the Social Security Administration to send in the names of beneficiaries with mental impairments who also have a third party manage their benefits.

But lawmakers, with the backing of the National Rifle Association and advocacy groups for the disabled, opposed the regulation and encouraged Congress to undertake a rarely successful process designed to void regulations that Congress takes issue with.

The 57-43 vote to revoke the regulation sends the measure to Trump.

China awards Trump valuable new trademark to his own name

SHANGHAI — The government of China awarded U.S. President Donald Trump valuable rights to his own name this week, in the form of a 10-year trademark for construction services.

The registration became official on Feb. 14 and was published in a trademark registration announcement on the website of China's Trademark Office today.

This may well be the first foreign trademark to be handed to Trump during his presidency, but is unlikely to be the last. In China alone he has 49 pending trademark applications and 77 marks already registered in his own name, most of which will come up for renewal during his term.

Critics say Trump's global intellectual property interests could be used by foreign states as leverage over the president and may violate the emoluments clause of the U.S. Constitution, which bars public servants from accepting anything of value from foreign governments unless explicitly approved by Congress. These concerns are particularly sharp in China, where the courts and bureaucracy reflect the will of the ruling Communist Party.

The registration this week came as a surprise win for Trump after a decade of trying — and failing — to wrest the rights to his name back from a man named Dong Wei. The abrupt turn in Trump's bureaucratic fortunes once he declared his candidacy has raised questions about the extent to which his political status may be helping his family business.

Any special treatment from China would mean that Trump effectively accepted a present from Beijing, an act that would violate the Constitution, Richard Painter, chief White House ethics lawyer under President George W. Bush, said in an email. "A different conclusion might be reached if Trump had been treated like everyone else seeking a trademark, but the evidence does not point in that direction."

Report: More than 55,000 US bridges structurally deficient

WASHINGTON — A new report says the Brooklyn Bridge and Washington's Arlington Memorial Bridge are among thousands of spans considered structurally deficient.

Although the numbers of deficient bridges have declined in recent years, the American Road & Transportation Builders Association's analysis of transportation department data shows more than 55,000 bridges in the U.S. have been deemed deficient.

ARBITA says deficient bridges are crossed about 185 million times a day. The top 14 most-traveled deficient bridges are located in California.

Bridges labeled structurally deficient aren't necessarily in immediate danger of collapse. The term is applied when spans need rehabilitation or replacement because at least one major component has advanced deterioration or other problems.

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THE DAILY ASTORIAN **TV LISTINGS** Evening listings WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY EVENING												FEBRUARY 15	
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 Goldbergs (N)	Speechless (N)	Modern Family (N)	Black-ish (N)	Match Game (N)		KATU News at 11	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Goldbergs (N)	Speechless (N)	Modern Family (N)	Black-ish (N)	Match Game (N)		KOMO 4 News	(35) Jimmy Kimmel
6	KOIN	(6) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	Blindspot "Borrow or Rob" (N)	Law&O: SVU "Great Expectations" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Seven Indictments" (N)				KING 5 News	(35) Tonight Show
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Hunted "A \$250,000 Gamble" (N)	Criminal Minds "Spencer" (N)	Doubt "Pilot" (P) (N)				KOIN 6 News @ 11	(35) S. Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Hunted "A \$250,000 Gamble" (N)	Criminal Minds "Spencer" (N)	Doubt "Pilot" (P) (N)				KIRO News	(35) S. Colbert
9	KRCW	(9) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven	Inside Edition	Blindspot "Borrow or Rob" (N)	Law&O: SVU "Great Expectations" (N)	Chicago P.D. "Seven Indictments" (N)				KGW News at 11	(35) Tonight Show
10	KOPB	(10) Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Arrow "Spectre of the Gun" (N)	The 100 "The Four Horsemen" (N)	KGW News at 10	Two and a Half			Two and a Half	Met Your Mother
12	KPTV	(12) Journeys in Japan	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Nature "Spy in the Wild: Friendship" (N)	Nova "The Origami Revolution" (N)	9 Months That Made Y	"One of a Kind"			Mystery of Matter	"Unruly Elements"
13	KPDx	(13) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Lethal Weapon "As Good as It Getz" (N)	Star "Mama's Boy" (N)	10 O'Clock News				11 O'Clock News	2 Broke Girls
13	KCPQ	(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	
20	TBS	(20) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lethal Weapon "As Good as It Getz" (N)	Star "Mama's Boy" (N)	Q13 News at 10				Q13 News	The Simpsons
22	KZJO	(22) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory "Big Bang Theory"	Big Bang Theory "Big Bang Theory"	Q13 News at 9				Friends	Friends
29	ESPN	(29) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends		SportsCenter	
29	ESPN2	(29) NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	NBA Basketball	Chesapeake Energy Arena (L)		SportsCenter				SportsCenter	
31	NICK	(31) NCAA Basketball	Duke at Virginia (L)			SportsCenter		30 for 30 Shorts	NFL Live			College Basketball	NBA Basketball New York vs Oklahoma
32	DISN	(32) Henry Danger	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	Ride	Game Shakers	Full House	Full House	Full House		Friends	Friends
34	FAM	(34) Bunk'd	Bizaardvark	K.C. Undercover	Good Luck Charlie	Stuck in Middle	Good Luck Charlie	Liv and Maddie	Liv and Maddie	Bunk'd		Jessie	Jessie
35	FMC	(35) The Middle	★★ Zookeeper (2011, Comedy) Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb, Kevin James.	★★ Free Willy (1993, Family) Lori Petty, Michael Madsen, Jason James Richter.								The 700 Club	
36	LIFE	(36) When the Game Stands Tall	(2011, Comedy) Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb, Kevin James.	★★ Free Willy (1993, Family) Lori Petty, Michael Madsen, Jason James Richter.								The 700 Club	
38	ROOT	(38) When the Game Stands Tall	(2011, Comedy) Rosario Dawson, Leslie Bibb, Kevin James.	★★ Free Willy (1993, Family) Lori Petty, Michael Madsen, Jason James Richter.								The 700 Club	
39	F51	(39) Little Women: Atlanta "Just a Friend"	Little Women: Atlanta "Mama Drama"	Little Women "Dinner Reservations" (N)	LW Atlanta "Pregnant Pause" (N)	Black Magic "Full Court Press" (N)	LW Atlanta "Pregnant Pause"						
43	SPIKE	(43) Snow Motion	Wild Places (N)	Charlie Moore	Flag Football	UFC Unleashed "UFC Strawweights"	UFC Main Event	UFC Flashback	Fight Sports MMA	Fight: Kickboxing			
44	COM	(44) The Book of Eli	Denzel Washington.										
45	HIST	(45) NCAA Basketball	St. John's vs. Butler (L)	Flag College Hoops									
46	A&E	(46) RoboCop (2014, Action) Marc Abraham, Jackie Earle Haley, Joel Kinnaman.											
47	TLC	(47) Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty			
48	DISC	(48) My 600-lb Life: Extended "Erica's Story" (N)											
49	NGEO	(49) Bush People "Dead in the Water"	Bush People "One Brown Down"	Alaskan Bush "All Falls Down" (N)	Alaskan Bush People (N)	Bering Sea Gold "Hail Mary" (N)	Underworld, Inc. "Moonshine Mayhem"						
50	TNT	(50) Underworld, Inc. "The Black Market"	Bones "The Killer in the Concrete"	★★ Bad Boys II (2003, Action) Will Smith, Jordani Mollá, Martin Lawrence.									
51	USA	(51) Bones "The Priest in the Churtyard"	★★ True Grit (2010, Adventure) Matt Damon, Hailee Steinfeld, Jeff Bridges.										
52	USA	(52) NCIS "Cabin Fever"	NCIS "Blast From the Past"	NCIS "Déjà Vu"	NCIS "Decompressed"	Suits "Admission of Guilt" (N)	Modern Family	Modern Family					
53	FOOD	(53) Cakes vs. Cakes "Pumpkin Thumpin'"	Cooks vs. Cakes "Chowder Chowdown"	Cooks vs. Cakes "Beer Bedlam"	Cooks vs. Cakes "Macho Nachos" (N)	Bakers vs. Fakers "Say Cheese" (N)	Modern Family	Modern Family					
54	HGTV	(54) Buying and Selling	Buying/Sell "Get Us Out of the City"	Property "Independent and Ambitious"	Property "Unexpected Dream Home" (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	Property "Not Ready for the Suburbs"					
55	FX	(55) Legion "Chapter 2" (N)											
57	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Hannity	The First 100 Days					
58	FNC	(58) Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	The O'Reilly Factor	Tucker Carlson Tonight	Hannity	Blue Collar	Paid Program					
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank	Blue Collar (N)	Blue Collar	Shark Tank	Blue Collar	Blue Collar	Paid Program					
63	BRVV	(63) Beverly Hills "Backed Into a Corner"	So Cosmo	★★ Miss Congeniality ('00, Com) Michael Caine, Benjamin Bratt, Sandra Bullock.	Girlfriends' Guide to Divorce (N)	WatchWhat (N)	Miss Congeniality						
64	TRM	(64) Movie	(45) ★★★★★ Love Affair ('39) Irene Dunne, Maria Ouspenskaya, Charles Boyer.	★★★ Love Me or Leave Me ('55, Bio) James Cagney, Cameron Mitchell, Doris Day.	(45) ★★★★★ Lust for Life ('56) Anthony Quinn, Kirk Douglas.								
65	SYFY	(65) Mission: Impossible III (2006, Action) Philip Seymour Hoffman, Keri Russell, Tom Cruise.											
69	RFD	(69) Cowboy TV (N)	Noble Outfitters	W. Rodeo (N)	Equestrian Nation	Total Team Roping	Rural Eve. News	The Final Spin	Road/American	Cowboy TV	Noble Outfitters	Product Showcase	

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