

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Trump names former drug exec as new health secretary

WASHINGTON — Turning to an industry he's rebuked, President Donald Trump today picked a former top pharmaceutical and government executive to be his health and human services secretary, overseeing a \$1 trillion department responsible for major health insurance programs, medical research, food and drug safety, and public health.

The nomination of Alex Azar is unusual because HHS secretaries have tended to come from the ranks of elected officials such as governors, leaders in academia, or top executive branch managers — not industries regulated by the department.

"He will be a star for better healthcare and lower drug prices!" Trump tweeted in announcing the nomination this morning.

Azar, 50, a lawyer by training, has spent most of the last 10 years with pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly, rising to president of its key U.S. affiliate before leaving in January to start his own consulting firm. He's seen as an expert on government health care regulation.

As HHS secretary, Azar would have to scrupulously avoid conflicts with Lilly's far-reaching interests, from drug approval to Medicare reimbursement. The drugmaker has drawn criticism from patient advocacy groups for price increases to one of its biggest products: insulin.

Americans consistently rank the high cost of prescription drugs as one of their top health care priorities, putting it ahead of divisive issues like repealing "Obamacare" in public opinion polls.

Trump embraces Duterte as Asia trip winds down

MANILA, Philippines — His lengthy Asia trip down to its final days, President Donald Trump once more pushed for equitable trade deals and opted to publicly prioritize strategic interests over human rights, declining to shine a spotlight on the violent drug war overseen by his Philippine host.

Trump repeatedly praised Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, pointedly calling him by his first name, sharing a joke about the media and even complimenting Manila's weather. What he did not do was what many predecessors have done before — highlight human rights abuses while overseas.

Duterte has overseen a bloody drug war that has featured extrajudicial killings and has boasted about killing people with his own hands. But during brief remarks to reporters, Trump said he and Duterte have "had a great relationship" but avoided questions on whether he'd raise human rights issues.

The White House later said the two leaders discussed the Islamic State, illegal drugs and trade during the 40-minute meeting. Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said human rights came up "briefly" in the context of the Philippines' fight against illegal drugs. She did not say if Trump was critical of Duterte's program.

That appeared to conflict with the Philippines' version of the meeting. Harry Roque, a spokesman for Duterte, said "there was no mention of human rights. There was no mention of extralegal killings. There was only a rather lengthy discussion of the Philippine war on drugs with President Duterte doing most of the explaining."

Trump barges into tax debate, seeks deeper cut for wealthy

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump today barged into congressional Republicans' carefully calibrated work on revamping the nation's tax code, calling for a steeper tax cut for wealthy Americans and pressing to add a contentious health care change to the mix.

In a tweet, Trump commended GOP leaders for getting the tax overhaul legislation closer to passage in recent weeks and said, "Cut top rate to 35% w/all of the rest going to middle income cuts?"

That puts him at odds with the House legislation that leaves the top rate at 39.6 percent and the Senate bill as written, with the top rate at 38.5 percent.

Trump also said, "Now how about ending the unfair & highly unpopular individual mandate in (Obama)care and reducing taxes even further?"

With few votes to spare, Republicans leaders hope to finalize a tax overhaul by Christmas and send the legislation to Trump for his signature. House leaders have compromised with some rank-and-file Republicans in hopes of passing their version of the bill this week. The Senate Finance Committee starts work on its legislation this afternoon.

Trump's tweet injects a degree of uncertainty in the process as the GOP tries to deliver on the president's top legislative priority and hold onto their majorities in next year's midterm elections.



Pouria Pakizeh/Iranian Students News Agency

A rescue worker searches debris for survivors with his sniffing dog after an earthquake at the city of Sarpol-e-Zahab in western Iran.

Powerful earthquake on Iran-Iraq border kills hundreds

TEHRAN, Iran — A powerful 7.3 magnitude earthquake near the Iraq-Iran border killed over 400 people across both countries, sent residents fleeing their homes into the night and was felt as far away as the Mediterranean coast, authorities said today.

Iran's western Kermanshah province bore the brunt of the temblor Sunday night, with authorities saying the quake killed 407 people in the country and injured 6,700. Kermanshah is a rural, mountainous region where residents rely mainly on farming.

In Iraq, the earthquake killed at least seven people and injured 535, all in the country's northern Kurdish region, according to Iraq's Interior Ministry.

The quake was centered 19 miles outside the eastern Iraqi city of Halabja, according to the most recent measurements from the U.S. Geological Survey. It struck at 9:48 p.m. Iran time, just as people began retiring for the night.

It could be felt on the Mediterranean coast, some 660 miles away.

The earthquake struck 14.4 miles

below the surface, a shallow depth that can amplify damage. Magnitude 7 earthquakes can be highly destructive.

Iranian social media and news agencies showed images and videos of people fleeing their homes. More than 100 aftershocks followed.

The Iraqi city of Halabja, closest to the epicenter, was the target of a 1988 chemical attack in which Saddam Hussein's troops killed some 5,000 people with mustard gas — the deadliest chemical weapons attack ever against civilians.

Neither bill includes a repeal of the so-called individual mandate of Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, the requirement that Americans get health insurance or face a penalty. Several top Republicans have warned that including the provision would draw opposition and make passage tougher.

Yemen rebels vow escalation as Saudis look to relax blockade

SANAA, Yemen — Saudi Arabia announced today that the Saudi-led coalition fighting Shiite rebels in Yemen will begin reopening airports and seaports in the Arab world's poorest country, days after closing them over a rebel ballistic missile attack on Riyadh.

The announcement from the Saudi mission at the United Nations came after the coalition fighting Yemen's rebels, known as Houthis, faced widespread international criticism over the closure, with the U.N. and over 20 aid groups saying it could bring millions of people closer to "starvation and death."

"The first step in this process will be taken within 24 hours and involves reopening all the ports in areas controlled by" Yemen's internationally recognized government, which the coalition backs, read the mission's statement.

Those ports are in Yemeni cities of Aden, Mocha and Mukalla. For ports in rebel-held or disputed territories, such as the city of Hodeida, the mission said it has asked the U.N. to send a team of experts to discuss ways to make sure weapons can't be smuggled in.

The Saudi-led coalition hopes that will prevent "the smuggling of weapons, ammunitions, missile parts and cash that are regularly being supplied by Iran and Iranian accomplices to the Houthi rebels," the statement said.

US-targeted IS in Somalia could be a 'significant threat'

MOGADISHU, Somalia — The Islamic State group's growing presence in Somalia could become a "significant threat" if it attracts fighters fleeing collapsing strongholds in Syria and Iraq, experts say, and already it seems to be influencing local al-Shabab extremists to adopt tactics like beheadings.

The U.S. military this month carried out its first drone strikes against IS fighters in Somalia, raising questions about the strength

of the group that emerged just two years ago. A second strike targeted the fighters on Sunday, with the U.S. saying "some terrorists" were killed.

The Islamic State group burst into public view in Somalia late last year as dozens of armed men seized the port town of Qandala in the northern Puntland region, calling it the seat of the "Islamic Caliphate in Somalia." They beheaded a number of civilians, causing more than 20,000 residents to flee, and held the town for weeks until they were forced out by Somali troops, backed by U.S. military advisers.

Since then, IS fighters have stormed a hotel popular with government officials in Puntland's commercial hub of Bossaso and claimed their first suicide attack at a Bossaso security checkpoint.

This long-fractured Horn of Africa nation with its weak central government already struggles to combat al-Shabab, an ally of al-Qaida, which is blamed for last month's truck bombing in the capital, Mogadishu, that killed more than 350 in the country's deadliest attack.

Desperate Rohingya swim 2.5 miles from Myanmar to Bangladesh

SHAH PORIR DWIP, Bangladesh — Nabi Hussain owes his life to a yellow plastic oil container.

The 13-year-old Rohingya boy couldn't swim, and had never even seen the sea before fleeing his village in Myanmar. But he clung to the empty container and struggled across the water with it for about 2 1/2 miles, all the way to Bangladesh.

Rohingya Muslims escaping the violence in their homeland of Myanmar are now so desperate that some are trying to swim to safety in neighboring Bangladesh. In just a week, more than three dozen boys and young men used cooking oil containers like life rafts to swim across the mouth of the Naf River and wash up ashore in Shah Porir Dwip, a fishing town and cattle trade spot.

"I was so scared of dying," said Nabi, a lanky boy in a striped polo shirt and checkered dhoti. "I thought it was going to be my last day."

Although Rohingya Muslims have lived in Myanmar for decades, the country's Buddhist majority still sees them as invaders from Bangladesh. The government denies them basic rights, and the United Nations has called them the most persecuted minority in the world. Just since August, after their homes were torched by Buddhist mobs and soldiers, more than 600,000 Rohingya have risked the trip to Bangladesh.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN



TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING				NOVEMBER 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 (N)		Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel Fortune (N)	Dancing With the Stars "Semifinals" (N)				The Good Doctor "22 Steps" (N)		KATU News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	Dancing With the Stars "Semifinals" (N)				The Good Doctor "22 Steps" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
5	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	KING 5 News (N)	Evening	The Voice "The Playoffs" The remaining artists perform in front of the judges. (N)				The Brave "Stealth" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Kevin Can Wait (N) 9JKL (N)	Super Donuts (N)	Me, Myself & I (N)		Scorpion "Faire Is Foul" (N)		KOIN 6 News (N)	(3:5) Colbert
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Kevin Can Wait (N) 9JKL (N)	Super Donuts (N)	Me, Myself & I (N)		Scorpion "Faire Is Foul" (N)		KIRO News (N)	(3:5) Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Live at 7 (N)	Inside Edition	The Voice "The Playoffs" The remaining artists perform in front of the judges. (N)				The Brave "Stealth" (N)		KGW News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Supergirl "Midvale" (N)		Valor "I Got Your Six" (N)		News at 10 (N)	Mom	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
10	KOPB	(10) This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antique "Junk in the Trunk: Seven" (N)		An Oregon Experience "Modoc War"		Antiques Rd. "Junk in the Trunk: Three"		POV "Almost Sunrise" (N)	
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Lucifer "Off the Record" (N)		The Gifted "eXtreme measures" (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
13	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's News (N)		9 O'Clock News (N)		Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game	The Game
13	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lucifer "Off the Record" (N)		The Gifted "eXtreme measures" (N)		Q13 News at 10 (N)		Q13 News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy "It's a Trap!"		Family Guy	Family Guy	American Dad!	American Dad!	Conan	
22	KZJO	(22) Friends	Friends	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
29	ESPN	(29) (5:15) NFL Football Miami Dolphins at Carolina Panthers (L)				(2:20) SportsCenter Scott Van Pelt presents the day in sports. (N)				NFL PrimeTime		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt	SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt
30	ESPN2	(30) NCAA Basketball Wagner at Missouri (L)				E:60	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	SportsC Featured		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt		E:60	
31	NICK	(31) Henry Danger	The Thundermans	Paradise Run (N)	School of Rock	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Friends Pt. 1 of 2	Friends Pt. 2 of 2
32	DISN	(32) Jessie	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Andi Mack 1/2	K.C. Undercover	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home	Stuck in Middle	Liv and Maddie	Bizaardvark	Raven's Home
34	FAM	(34) (4:00) Harry Potter & the Prisoner of... (15) *** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (5:50) Hotel Transylvania 2 (15) Adam Sandler. (35) FXM Presents				Mr. Peabody & Sherman (14) Ty Burrell. (45) FXM Presents						The 700 Club	
38	LIFE	(38) All About Christmas Eve (2012, Romance) Chris Carmack, Haylie Duff. (45) FXM Presents				A Gift Wrapped Christmas (15) Travis Milne, Beverley Mitchell, Meredith Hagner. (45) FXM Presents				Heaven Sent (16, Rom) Marley Shelton, Mallory James Mahoney, Christian Kane.			
39	ROOT	(39) (4:00) NCAA Football	Mark Few (N)	Rodeo Chase Hawks Rough Stock	Focused	Press Pass (N)	NCAA Football					NASCAR Race Hub	UFC Top Ten
39	FS1	(39) (5:30) NCAA Basketball Rider at Xavier (L)		Speak for Yourself	TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.							
43	SPIKE	(43) Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops
44	COM	(44) Futurama	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	The Daily Show (N)	The Opposition (N)
45	HIST	(45) American Pickers "Twin at all Costs"	American Pickers	"Tough Nut to Crack"	American Pickers "Pedal Pushers"	American Pickers "Frank's Big Day" (N)	(05) Pawn Stars (N)	(35) Pawn Stars (N)	(05) Pawn Stars (N)	(35) Pawn Stars (N)	(05) Pawn Stars (N)	(35) Pawn Stars (N)	(35) Pawn Stars (N)
46	A&E	(46) Intervention "Elena"	Intervention	Elizabeth Smart "Autobiography: Part One"	Elizabeth Smart "Autobiography: Part One"	Elizabeth Smart "Autobiography: Part Two" (N)		(35) Elizabeth Smart "Autobiography: Part One"					
47	TLC	(47) Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	Long Lost Family	Long Lost Family (N)	L.I. Medium "50 Is the New 35" (N)		(05) The Healer "How Can That Be?" (N)	(10) Long Lost Family				
48	DISC	(48) Fast N' Loud "Cruisin' for a Bruisin'"	Fast N' Loud "All About the Bad Bass"	Fast N' Loud: Revved Up (N)	Fast N' Loud: Revved Up (N)	Fast N' Loud		To Be Announced		Anaconda: Silent Killer		Fast N' Loud (N)	Super Snake!
49	NGEO	(49) Amazing Heroes (N)	Untamed Americas "Mountains"			Mr. Peabody & Sherman (14) Ty Burrell. (45) FXM Presents							
50	TNT	(50) *** 50 First Dates (04, Romance) Drew Barrymore, Rob Schneider, Adam Sandler. (15) AMC *** The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001, Fantasy) Ian McKellan, Sean Astin, Elijah Wood. (45) FXM Presents				Mr. Peabody & Sherman (14) Ty Burrell. (45) FXM Presents				Heaven Sent (16, Rom) Marley Shelton, Mallory James Mahoney, Christian Kane.			
51	AMC	(51) (5:00) *** The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001, Fantasy) Ian McKellan, Sean Astin, Elijah Wood. (45) FXM Presents				Mr. Peabody & Sherman (14) Ty Burrell. (45) FXM Presents				Heaven Sent (16, Rom) Marley Shelton, Mallory James Mahoney, Christian Kane.			
52	USA	(52) Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWVE Monday Night Raw						The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship...	(05) Damnation "Sam Riley's Body"
53	FOOD	(53) Holiday Baking "Re-Gifting"	Holiday Baking	"Holiday Hoopla"	Holiday Baking "Holiday Party Delights"	Holiday Baking "Season of Sharing" (N)				Cookie "Traditions Turned Trendy" (N)		Vegas Cakes	Teeny Tiny Thank
54	HGTV	(54) Love It/List It "Too Close for Comfort"	Love It or List It "Pool House Problems"	Love It or List It "Pool House Problems"	Tiny House, Big (N) Tiny House, Big (N)	Tiny House, Big (N) Tiny House, Big (N)				House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
57	FX	(57) (5:30) *** 2 Guns (2013, Action) Mark Wahlberg, Paula Patton, Denzel Washington. (57) CNN *** Tonight With Don Lemon				CNN Tonight With Don Lemon				Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
58	FNC	(58) Hannity	Anderson Cooper 360	The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank		American Greed "Top Gun of Fraud"		American Greed: Scam		American Greed "The Real 'War Dogs'"		Paid Program	
63	BRV	(63) Housewives "An Unexpected Thaw"	Real Housewives "A Case of the Vickis"			Orange County Social (N)		The Real Housewives (N)		Wives Dallas "Reunion Part 2" 2/2 (N)		WatchWhat (N)	Real Housewives
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Force of Evil (c45) The Man I Married (40) Francis Lederer, Joan Bennett. (15) *** The Racket (51, Crime Story) Robert Ryan, Don Porter, Robert Mitchum. (15) *** Never Been Kissed (99) Michael Vartan, Drew Barrymore.				Mr. Peabody & Sherman (14) Ty Burrell. (45) FXM Presents				Heaven Sent (16, Rom) Marley Shelton, Mallory James Mahoney, Christian Kane.			
65	SYFY	(65) Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama	Futurama
102	RFD	(102) American Rancher	Red Steagall	Horse Master	Inside Reining	Craig Cameron	Rural Eve. News	Alan Jackson: Precious Memories		American Rancher	Red Steagall	Product Showcase	