

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Trump recorded discussing pay for Playboy model

WASHINGTON — Two months before the 2016 election, Donald Trump and his former lawyer discussed plans to pay for a former Playboy model's story of an alleged affair, according to a secretly recorded tape of the conversation released amid an escalating feud between the president and his longtime personal attorney.

The audio recording, surreptitiously made by Trump's former personal lawyer Michael Cohen, appears to contradict the Trump campaign's later claim that the president knew nothing about a media company's purchase of model Karen McDougal's story and any efforts to keep it from becoming public.

The tape captures the soon-to-be elected president and his lawyer discussing logistics of financing and whether to "pay with cash," although the sound is muffled and Trump's instructions on that are unclear. Lawyers for Trump and Cohen are disputing what was said.

The tape was provided to CNN on Tuesday by Cohen's attorney, Lanny Davis, and signals a new level of open hostility between the president and the man who once described himself as Trump's "fixer." Cohen, who is under federal investigation for potential bank fraud and campaign finance violations, has shown a growing willingness to reveal damaging information.

Trump vented on Twitter today about the release of the surreptitious tape.

"What kind of a lawyer would tape a client? So sad!" he said. "Is this a first, never heard of it before? Why was the tape so abruptly terminated (cut) while I was presumably saying positive things?"

Trump accuses China of using 'vicious' tactics

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump accused China today of "vicious" tactics on trade as he prepared for tough negotiations with European leaders in an escalating trade battle among



AP Photo/Noah Berger

Vehicles leave Yosemite Valley as smoke from the Ferguson Fire fills the sky.

Heart of Yosemite to close as crews battle raging wildfire

LOS ANGELES — Campsites and lodges emptied out after disappointed tourists were ordered to leave the heart of Yosemite National Park by noon today, as firefighters battled to contain a huge wildfire just to the west that has threatened the park's forest and sent up smoke that obscured grand vistas of waterfalls and sheer granite faces.

Yosemite Valley will be closed until at least Sunday, along with a winding, mountainous, 20-mile stretch of California's State Route 41 that leads in, park spokesman Scott Gediman said.

At least a thousand campground and hotel bookings will be canceled — to say nothing of the impact on day visitors, park workers and small businesses along the highway, Gediman said. Rangers went to campsites one at a time to inform visitors of the closures. Hotel guests got phone calls and notes on their doors.

"This is the prime visitor season, so this wasn't an easy decision to make," Gediman said. "This was purely for safety's sake."

Officials were quick to point out that Yosemite wasn't under imminent danger from the Ferguson Fire. Authorities decided on the closure to allow crews to perform protective measures such as burning away brush along roadways without having to deal with traffic in the park that welcomes 4 million visitors annually.

The last time the 7.5-mile-long valley was closed because of fire was 1990, he said.

Yosemite Valley is the centerpiece of the visitor experience, offering views of landmarks such as Half Dome, Sentinel Dome, Bridal Veil Fall, El Capitan and Yosemite Falls. The glacial valley has been enveloped by a choking haze of smoke from the Ferguson Fire.

world powers.

Trump tweeted that China was specifically targeting U.S. farmers with retaliatory tariffs because "they know I love & respect" them. His defense came after his administration announced a plan to provide \$12 billion in emergency relief for farmers who have been slammed by the president's trade disputes with China and other countries.

Addressing the China trade relationship, Trump wrote on Twitter, "They are being vicious in what will be their failed attempt. We were being nice — until now!"

Chinese President Xi Jinping said at an international summit in South Africa that the

world faces "a choice between cooperation and confrontation," in remarks that criticized escalating U.S. tariffs on goods from China and other major trading partners. He warned that those who pursue "economic hegemony" will "only end up hurting themselves."

The president was meeting at the White House later today with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker and other European officials as their trade dispute threatens to spread to automobile production.

Trump has placed tariffs on imported steel and aluminum, saying they pose a threat to U.S. national security, an argument that the European Union

and Canada rejects. He has also threatened to slap tariffs on imported cars, trucks and auto parts, potentially targeting imports that last year totaled \$335 billion.

The European Union has warned that it will retaliate with tariffs on products worth \$20 billion if Trump puts duties on cars and auto parts from Europe.

Study: Water is buried on Mars

NEW YORK — A huge lake of salty water appears to be buried deep in Mars, raising the possibility of finding life on the red planet, scientists

reported today.

The discovery, based on observations by a European spacecraft, generated excitement from experts. Water is essential to life as we know it, and scientists have long sought to prove that the liquid is present on Mars.

"If these researchers are right, this is the first time we've found evidence of a large water body on Mars," said Cassie Stuurman, a geophysicist at the University of Texas who found signs of an enormous Martian ice deposit in 2016.

Scott Hubbard, a professor of astronautics at Stanford University who served as NASA's first Mars program director in 2000, called it "tremendously exciting."

"Our mantra back then was 'follow the water.' That was the one phrase that captured everything," Hubbard said. "So this discovery, if it stands, is just thrilling because it's the culmination of that philosophy."

The study, published in the journal Science, does not determine how deep the reservoir actually is. This means that scientists can't specify whether it's an underground pool, an aquifer-like body, or just a layer of sludge.

IS claims suicide blasts in Syria

DAMASCUS, Syria — A series of suicide bombings and attacks that sparked fighting between local armed groups in southern Syria killed around 90 people today, a local health official and activists said, spreading mayhem in a province that has been relatively quiet throughout Syria's seven-year conflict. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the carnage.

The coordinated attacks — the worst in recent months — had all the hallmarks of IS even before it claimed responsibility and were reminiscent of the group's horrific assaults over the past years in Syria, already ravaged by civil war.

The bombings in the city of Sweida, including a motorcycle bomber who struck at a busy vegetable market, were apparently timed to coincide with attacks by a militant group linked to IS on a number of villages in the province, also called Sweida. It triggered deadly clashes between pro-government fighters and residents who picked up weapons to defend their hometowns on one side, and IS militants on

the other.

Al-Ikhbariya state-run TV showed images from several locations in the province and its capital where the bombers blew themselves up. State-run news agency SANA said 38 people were killed in the suicide bombings and blamed the Islamic State group. The breakdown of the fatalities from the attacks was not immediately known.

Sweida health official Hassan Omar told The Associated Press by phone that 90 people were killed in the suicide blasts and subsequent fighting in Sweida, and that 80 people were wounded. The Britain-based Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group put the overall death toll at more than 100.

The rare attacks in Sweida, populated mainly by Syria's minority Druze, came amid a government offensive elsewhere in the country's south. Government forces are battling the IS-linked group near the frontier with Israeli-occupied Golan Heights and near the border with Jordan. The group also has a small presence on the eastern edge of Sweida province.

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THE DAILY ASTORIAN



TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY EVENING												JULY 25	
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 of Fortune	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Modern Family	Amer. Housewife	Shark Tank		KATU News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Modern Family	Amer. Housewife	Shark Tank		KOMO 4 News (N)	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
5	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 Special (N)	KING 5 News	Evening	World of Dance "The Duels 1" (N)				Reverie "Despedida" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight (N)	Big Brother (N)		TKO: Knock Out "I Got a Dad Bod" (N)	SEAL Team "Call Out"			News (N)	(:35) Colbert
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Big Brother (N)		TKO: Knock Out "I Got a Dad Bod" (N)	SEAL Team "Call Out"			KIRO News (N)	(:35) Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	World of Dance "The Duels 1" (N)				Reverie "Despedida" (N)		KGW News (N)	(:35) Tonight Show
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Burden of Truth "Pilot" (P) (N)		Originals "The Tale of Two Wolves" (N)	News at 10 (N)	Friends		Two and a Half	Two and a Half
10	KOPB	(10) Journeys in Japan	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Natural "Surviving Against the Odds" (N)	Kingdoms of the Sky "Andes" (N)		Nova "Treasures of the Earth: Power"			Earth's Natural Wonders	
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	MasterChef "Rise or Fall" (N)	To Hell & Back "Fetch Bistro" (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	MasterChef "Rise or Fall" (N)	To Hell & Back "Fetch Bistro" (N)		Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)			News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal (N)		Conan	
22	KZJL	(22) Friends	Friends	Pre-match	MLS Soccer Seattle	Sounders FC at San Jose Earthquakes (L)		Post-match	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory		Two and a Half	Two and a Half
29	ESPN	(29) (4:00) MLB Baseball	Bos./Bal. (L)	SportsCenter (N)		Soccer International Champions Cup AC Milan vs. Manchester United (L)			SportsCenter (N)			SportsCenter (N)	
30	ESPN2	(30) (5:00) Soccer		Soccer International Champions Cup AS Roma vs. Tottenham Hotspur (L)					SportsCenter (N)			SportsCenter (N)	
31	NICK	(31) The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends	(:35) Friends
32	DISN	(32) QUIZney/BigCity	Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Bug Juice	Andi Mack	Raven's Home	Big City Greens	Stuck in Middle	Bizaardvark	Bug Juice	Andi Mack	Bunk'd
34	FAM	(34) *** 10 Things I Hate About You '99	Julia Stiles, Heath Ledger.	YoungHungry (N)	Young (F) (N)	*** The Waterboy (1998, Comedy) Kathy Bates, Henry Winkler, Adam Sandler.	*** R.I.P.D. (2013, Action) Jeff Bridges, Ryan Reynolds.	*** FXM Presents	*** R.I.P.D. (2013, Action) Jeff Bridges, Ryan Reynolds.	(:55) FXM Presents		The 700 Club	
35	FMC	(35) Movie	(:50) Penguins of Madagascar ('14) Voices of Chris Miller, Tom McGrath.	WomenLA "Beauty and the Booze" (N)	Little Women "Kicking and Screaming"	WomenLA "Beauty and the Booze" (N)	Little Women "Sins and the City" (N)	(:05) Psychic (N)	(:35) Psychic (N)	(:05) Psychic (N)	(:35) Psychic (N)	(:05) Seven Year "At the Flip of a Switch"	
36	LIFE	(36) Grey's Anatomy "Mama Tried"	Little Women "Kicking and Screaming"	WomenLA "Beauty and the Booze" (N)	Little Women "Sins and the City" (N)	(:05) Psychic (N)	(:35) Psychic (N)	(:05) Psychic (N)	(:35) Psychic (N)	(:05) Psychic (N)	(:35) Psychic (N)	(:05) Seven Year "At the Flip of a Switch"	
39	ROOT	(39) Mariners Access	Hot Rod			Poker Heartland Tour		WPT Poker Five Diamond Classic	BIG3 Basketball				
39	FS1	(39) UFC's Road to the Octagon		UFC Knockouts (N)	UFC Main Event	MLB Whiparound (L)		TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.			Speak for Yourself	
43	SPIKE	(43) (4:30) Red (2010, Action) Bruce Willis.	*** Red 2 (2013, Action) Helen Mirren, John Malkovich, Bruce Willis.						Yellowstone "Coming Home" (N)			Two and a Half	Two and a Half
44	COM	(44) South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	The Daily Show	The Opposition
45	HIST	(45) Pawn Stars "La La Land"	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Sniper: The Ultimate America's best snipers compete in an annual event. (N)	OzzyandJack "I Am Ice Cream Man"	OzzyandJack "Grand Ole Osbournes" (N)	SIX "The Reckoning" (N)	SIX "The Reckoning" (N)	SIX "The Reckoning" (N)	SIX "The Reckoning" (N)	SIX "The Reckoning" (N)
46	A&E	(46) OzzyandJack "The Devil Made Me Do It"	OzzyandJack'sDetour "Twisted Sister"						Wahlburgers (N)	(:05) Dr. Pimple "This Cyst Persists" (N)	(:05) Dr. Pimple "This Cyst Persists" (N)	(:05) My 600-lb Life "Sean and Dottie"	(:05) My 600-lb Life "Sean and Dottie"
47	TLC	(47) My 600-lb Life "Lupe and Brittani" 1/2	My 600-lb Life "Lupe and Brittani" 2/2	Air Jaws (N)	Air Jaws: Back from the Dead (N)	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	SharkCam Stakeout	SharkCam Stakeout	Shark After Dark	Shark After Dark
48	DISC	(48) Underworld, Inc. "The Money Laundry"	Drugs, Inc. "Euro Coke"						Drugs, Inc. "Hallucinogens"			Drugs, Inc. "Dallas Dope Cowboys"	Hercules ('14, Adv) Dwayne Johnson.
50	TNT	(50) NCIS: New Orleans "My City"	NCIS:NewOrleans "Sic Semper Tyrannis"	*** Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice (2016, Action) Henry Cavill, Gal Gadot, Ben Affleck.					WPT Poker Five Diamond Classic	BIG3 Basketball			
51	AMC	(51) *** Hancock (2008, Action) Charlize Theron, Jason Bateman, Will Smith.	NCIS "Blast From the Past"	NCIS "Trapped"	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Suits "Pecking Order" (N)	Colony "What Goes Around" (SF) (N)	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Double Strands"		
52	USA	(52) NCIS "We Build, We Fight"	Guy's "Blast From the Past"	NCIS "Trapped"	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Suits "Pecking Order" (N)	Colony "What Goes Around" (SF) (N)	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Double Strands"		
53	FOOD	(53) NCIS "We Build, We Fight"	Guy's "Blast From the Past"	NCIS "Trapped"	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Suits "Pecking Order" (N)	Colony "What Goes Around" (SF) (N)	Law & Order: S.V.U. "Double Strands"		
54	HGTV	(54) Property "Expecting the Unexpected"	Property Bros. "Modern Must-Have"	Property Brothers "Mad About Plaid"	Property Brothers "Mad About Plaid"	Buying and Selling (N)	Buying and Selling (N)	Buying and Selling (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	Flipping Virgins "Beyond the Junk" (N)	Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation
56	FX	(56) (5:00) *** Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol (11) Tom Cruise.		*** Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation (2015, Action) Simon Pegg, Jeremy Renner, Tom Cruise.					Cuomo Prime Time	Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon
57	CNN	(57) Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Cuomo Prime Time	Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon
58	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	The Ingraham Angle	Fox News @ Night	Fox News @ Night	Fox News @ Night	Hannity	Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	The Ingraham Angle
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		The Deed "12 Steps to Success" (N)	The Deed "12 Steps to Success" (N)	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	Shark Tank	The Deed "12 Steps to Success"	The Deed "12 Steps to Success"		Paid Program	Paid Program
63	BRAV	(63) The Real Housewives		The Real Housewives	The Real Housewives	The Real Housewives "Wigging Out"	The Real Housewives (N)	The Real Housewives (N)	Wives "Guess Who's Arguing at Dinner?"	Wives "Guess Who's Arguing at Dinner?"		Watch What (N)	Real Housewives
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) The Foxes of Harrow	(:15) Tamango (1958, Drama) Curd Jurgens, Jean Servais, Dorothy Dandridge.						(:15) A Band of Angels (1957, Drama) Sidney Poitier, Yvonne De Carlo, Clark Gable.	(:15) A Band of Angels (1957, Drama) Sidney Poitier, Yvonne De Carlo, Clark Gable.		Mandingo (75)	Mandingo (75)
65	SYFY	(65) (1:15) The Legend of Hercules ('14, Action) Gaia Weiss, Scott Adkins, Kellan Lutz.	(:15) *** Gods of Egypt (2016, Adventure) Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, Brenton Thwaites, Gerard Butler.						Face Off "Immortals Interrupted"	Face Off "Immortals Interrupted"			
162	RFD	(162) Dude Ranch	Cowboy Moments	Women's Rodeo	Equestrian Nation	Team Roping 2/2	Rural Eve. News	ReMastered	Cowboy TV	Dude Ranch	Cowboy Moments	Product Showcase	Product Showcase

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