

## WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

## Trump says he'll nominate Barr for attorney general

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said today he will nominate William Barr, the late President George H.W. Bush's attorney general, to serve in the same role.

Trump made the announcement while departing the White House for a trip to Missouri. He called Barr "a terrific man" and "one of the most respected jurists in the country."

"I think he will serve with great distinction," Trump said.

If confirmed by the Senate, Barr would succeed Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who was forced out by Trump in November following an acrimonious tenure. Sessions' chief of staff, Matthew Whitaker, is currently serving as acting attorney general.

Trump's fury at Sessions for recusing himself from the Russia investigation — which helped set in motion the appointment of special counsel Robert Mueller — created deep tensions between Trump and his Justice Department. He sometimes puts the word "Justice" in quotes when referring to the department in tweets and has railed against its leaders for failing to investigate his 2016 campaign rival, Hillary Clinton, as extensively as he would like.

Democrats will presumably seek reassurances during confirmation proceedings that Barr, who as attorney general would be in a position to oversee Mueller's investigation, would not do anything to interfere with the probe.

Barr was attorney general between 1991 and 1993, serving in the Justice Department at the same Mueller oversaw the department's criminal division. Barr later worked as a corporate general counsel and is currently of counsel at a prominent international law firm, Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

## Trump names State spokeswoman Nauert for UN ambassador

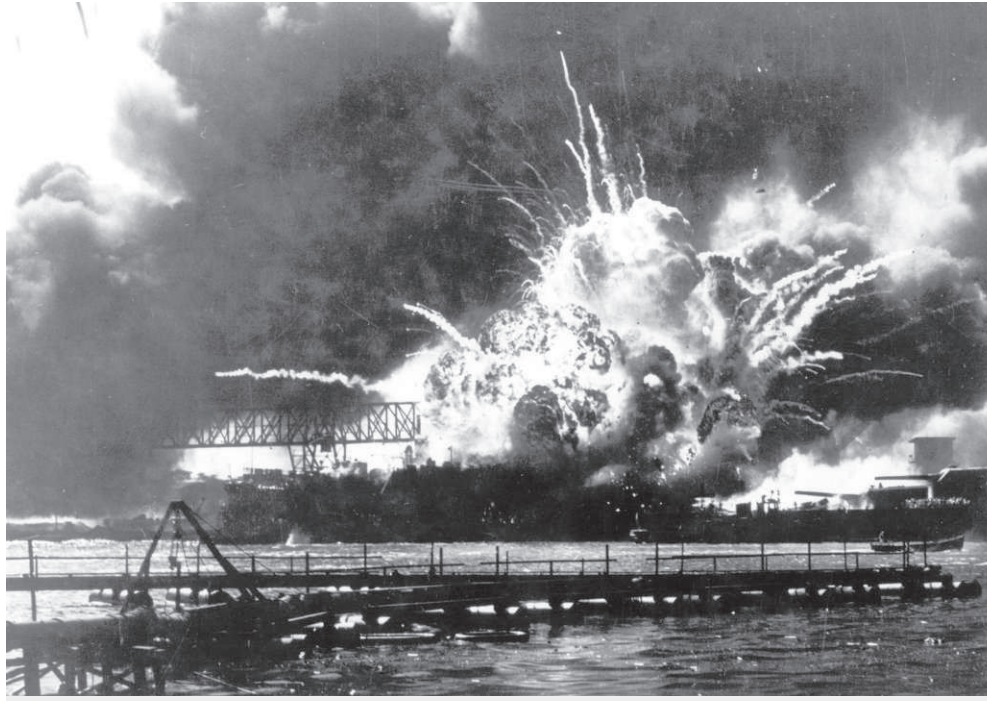
WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump announced today he's nominating State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert to be the next U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

"Heather Nauert will be nominated," Trump said. "She's very talented, very smart, very quick, and I think she's going to be respected by all."

If she is confirmed by the Senate, Nauert, a former Fox News Channel reporter who had little foreign policy experience before becoming State Department spokeswoman, will replace Nikki Haley. Haley, a former South Carolina governor, announced in October that she would step down at the end of this year. Nauert would be a leading administration voice on Trump's foreign policy.

Nauert catapulted into the upper echelons of the State Department's hierarchy when Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was fired in March and replaced with Mike Pompeo. Nauert was then appointed acting undersecretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs and was for a time the highest-ranking woman and fourth highest-ranking official in the building.

Nauert, who did not have a good relationship with Tillerson and had considered leaving the department, told associates at the time she was taken aback by the promotion offer and rec-



U.S. Navy

The destroyer USS Shaw explodes after being hit by bombs during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

## Pearl Harbor survivors gather in Hawaii for attack remembrance

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — About 20 survivors are expected to gather at Pearl Harbor today to pay tribute to the thousands of men lost in the Japanese attack 77 years ago.

The youngest of the veterans are in their mid-90s. The Navy and National Park Service will jointly host the remembrance ceremony at a grassy site overlooking the water and the USS Arizona Memorial.

Attendees are expected to observe a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m., the time the attack began on Dec. 7, 1941. Hawaii Air National Guard F-22 jets are scheduled to fly overhead in "missing man formation" to break the silence.

No survivor from the USS Arizona will attend the ceremony this year, as none of the men were able to make the trip to Hawaii.

The Arizona sank after two bombs hit the ship, triggering tremendous explosions. The Arizona lost 1,177 sailors and Marines, the greatest number of casualties from any ship. Most remain entombed in the sunken hull of the battleship at the bottom of the harbor.

Altogether, the Pearl Harbor attack killed nearly 2,400 U.S. servicemen.

Dozens of those killed have been recently identified and reburied in cemeteries across the country after the military launched a new effort to analyze bones and DNA of hundreds long classified as "unknowns."

This led to the 2015 exhumation of 388 sets of remains from the USS Oklahoma buried in a national cemetery in Honolulu. The Oklahoma had the second highest number of dead after the Arizona at 429, though only 35 were identified in the immediate years after the attack.

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has identified 168 sailors and Marines from the Oklahoma since the exhumations three years ago. It has said it expects to identify about 80 percent of the 388 by 2020.

commended a colleague for the job. But when White House officials told her they wanted her, she accepted.

That role gave her responsibilities far beyond the news conferences she held in the State Department briefing room. She oversaw public diplomacy in Washington and all of the roughly 275 overseas U.S. embassies, consulates and other posts. She was in charge of the Global Engagement Center that fights extremist messaging from the Islamic State group and others, and she has a seat on the U.S. Agency for Global Media that oversees government broadcast networks such as Voice of America.

## Ship saves British sailor after storm in Southern Ocean

LONDON — A cargo ship rescued a British sailor today after a violent storm ripped off

her mast and flung her yacht end over end in the Southern Ocean as she competed in a solo round-the-world race.

British sailor Susie Goodall tweeted "ON THE SHIP!!!" soon after the Hong Kong-registered MV Tian Fu arrived at her location. The cargo vessel had been traveling from China to Argentina when it diverted to reach her.

Race officials have been in regular radio

contact with the 29-year-old Goodall, who lost her mast 2,000 miles west of Cape Horn near the southern tip of South America.

Her engine failed and could not be restarted, limiting her ability to maneuver in seas with 13-foot swells. Without an engine, her stricken yacht, the DHL Starlight, had to drift with its sea anchor before the master of the MV Tian Fu could maneuver the 40,000-ton cargo ship alongside it.

Goodall was the youngest entrant and the only woman in the Golden Globe competition that began July 1 in Les Sables-d'Olonne, France. Only five of the 18 skippers who began the race still remain. They are trying to sail roughly 30,000 miles alone, nonstop and without outside assistance before returning to the same French port.

## Hart steps down as Oscars host over his past anti-gay tweets

NEW YORK — Just two days after being named host of the Academy Awards, comedian Kevin Hart stepped down following an outcry over past homophobic tweets.

Capping a swift and dramatic fallout, Hart wrote on Twitter early today that he was withdrawing as Oscars host because he didn't want to be a distraction. "I sincerely apologize to the LGBTQ community for my insensitive words from my past."

Thursday evening, the comedian had refused to apologize for tweets that resurfaced after he was announced as Oscars host on Tuesday. In a video on Instagram, Hart said the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences gave him an ultimatum: apologize or "we're going to have to move on and find another host."

Hart has since deleted some of the anti-gay tweets, mostly dated from 2009-2011. But they had already been screen-captured and shared online. In 2011, he wrote in a since-deleted tweet: "Yo if my son comes home & try's 2 play with my daughters doll house I'm going 2 break it over his head & say n my voice 'stop that's gay.'"

Hart's attitudes about homosexuality were also a well-known part of his stand-up act. In the 2010 special "Seriously Funny," he said "one of my biggest fears is my son growing up and being gay."

It's not the first time an Oscars host has been derailed by anti-gay remarks. Ahead of the 2012 Academy Awards, producer Brett Ratner, who had been paired with host Eddie Murphy, resigned days after using a gay slur at a film screening. Murphy soon after exited, as well.

That year, a tried-and-true Oscars veteran — Billy Crystal — jumped in to save the show, hosting for his eighth time. This time, speculation has already been rampant that few in Hollywood want the gig, for which few win glowing reviews.

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a double dose of health and  
happiness topped with good fortune.

May the joys of the Holiday Season be with  
you now and throughout the New Year.

  
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