

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

US conducts airstrikes against Somalia extremists, 62 dead

NAIROBI, Kenya — Six U.S. airstrikes that killed more than 60 people in a coastal Somali town were preemptive strikes to prevent a major extremist attack, according to a Somali intelligence officer.

The U.S. military said today it carried out four strikes on Dec. 15 in which 34 people were killed and two more on Dec. 16 which killed 28. The air attacks targeted Gandarsho, south of the capital, Mogadishu.

No civilians were injured or killed in the attacks, the military said.

The strikes were carried out in close coordination with Somalia's government and were "conducted to prevent al-Shabab from using remote areas as a safe haven to plot, direct, inspire, and recruit for future attacks," said the U.S. military statement.

Al-Shabab uses parts of southern and central Somalia to plot and direct extremist attacks, steal humanitarian aid, extort the local populace to fund its operations, and shelter radicals.

With these attacks, the U.S. military has carried out at least 46 airstrikes so far this year against al-Shabab, which is allied to al-Qaida and Africa's most active Islamic extremist group. The group is fighting to establish its version of Shariah law in Somalia, controls rural southern and central parts of the country and continues to stage deadly attacks in Mogadishu and other cities.

White House closer to partial shutdown with wall demand

WASHINGTON — Pushing the government to the brink of a partial shutdown, the White House is insisting that Congress provide \$5 billion to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border despite lawmaker resistance from both parties.

Without a resolution, parts of the federal government will shut down at midnight Friday.

President Donald Trump kept up the pressure on Democrats today, tweeting: "Time for us to save billions of dollars a year and have, at the same time, far greater safety and control!"

On Sunday, White House senior adviser Stephen Miller said: "We're going to do whatever is necessary to build the border wall to stop this ongoing crisis of illegal immigration."

Asked if that meant having a government shutdown, he said: "If it comes to it,

absolutely."

Trump said last week he would be "proud" to have a shutdown to get Congress to approve a \$5 billion down payment to fulfill his campaign promise to build a border wall. But the president doesn't have the votes from the Republican-controlled Congress to support funding for the wall at that level.

The Democratic congressional leaders, Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, have proposed no more than \$1.6 billion, as outlined in a bipartisan Senate bill. The money would not go for the wall but for fencing upgrades and other border security. Democrats also offered to simply keep funding at its current level, \$1.3 billion.

Texas judge rules entire 'Obamacare' law is invalid

WASHINGTON — A federal judge's ruling that the Obama health law is unconstitutional has landed like a stink bomb among Republicans, who've seen the politics of health care flip as Americans increasingly value the overhaul's core parts, including protections for preexisting medical conditions and Medicaid for more low-income people.

While the decision by the Republican-appointed judge in Texas was sweeping, it has little immediate practical impact because the Affordable Care Act remains in place while the legal battle continues, possibly to the Supreme Court.

HealthCare.gov, the government's site for signing up, was taking applications Saturday, the deadline in most states for enrolling for coverage next year, and those benefits will take effect as scheduled Jan. 1. Medicaid expansion will proceed in Virginia, one of the latest states to accept that option. Employers will still be required to cover the young adult children of workers, and Medicare recipients will still get discounted prescription drugs.

But Republicans, still stinging from their loss of the House in the midterm elections, are facing a fresh political quandary after U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor said the entire 2010 health law was invalid.

Warnings about the Texas lawsuit were part of the political narrative behind Democrats' electoral gains. Health care was the top issue for about one-fourth of voters in the November election, ahead of immigration and jobs and the economy, according to Vote-Cast, a nationwide survey for The Associated Press. Those most concerned with health care supported Democrats overwhelmingly.

A coalition of Democratic state officials led by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra will appeal O'Connor's decision, most likely to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit in New Orleans.

Storm: Wind speeds to peak sometime tonight

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South winds, starting this afternoon and extending through early Tuesday morning, will likely reach 30 mph to 45 mph — with gusts of up to 65 mph — in cities like Astoria and Cannon Beach. On beaches and headlands, the winds could reach 40 mph to 55 mph with gusts of 80 mph, potentially higher in open and elevated places like Cape Disappointment.

The peak of the strong winds is expected between 6 p.m. today and 4 a.m. Tuesday. More than 3 inches of rain is also expected. A flood watch was issued for late tonight through Wednesday

afternoon. Damage to trees and power lines and power outages are possible. "We work hard to prevent outages, but heavy rain and wind make it difficult to predict when and where an outage will happen," said David Lucas, vice president of operations for Pacific Power. "Our crews will be out there during the thick of it to help get the lights back on, but their safety and the safety of the public is our No. 1 priority."

Along with heavy wind and rain, seas are also expected to be high. Breakers may range from 28 feet to 38 feet later this evening.

Large drift logs and heavy

debris may be hidden in the surf. Significant sand and dune erosion could also occur.

"Do not walk or climb on jetties, rocks or low coastal cliffs as it will be extremely hazardous," the National Weather Service said. "Stay out of the surf zone, especially (Monday) afternoon through Tuesday."

The entrance to the Columbia River was closed to recreational and uninspected commercial vessels this morning, but reopened temporarily. The entrance was expected to close again around 3 p.m., Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class Levi Read said.

Zinke resigns as interior secretary amid numerous probes

WASHINGTON — Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, facing federal investigations into his travel, political activity and potential conflicts of interest, will leave the administration at year's end, President Donald Trump said Saturday. In his resignation letter, he said "vicious and politically motivated attacks" against him had "created an unfortunate distraction" in fulfilling the agency's mission.

Trump, in tweeting Zinke's departure, said the former Montana congressman "accomplished much during his tenure" and that a replacement would be announced next week. The Cabinet post requires Senate confirmation.

Zinke is leaving weeks before Demo-

crats take control of the House, a shift in power that promises to sharpen the probes into his conduct. His departure comes amid a staff shake-up as Trump heads into his third year in office facing increased legal exposure due to intensifying investigations into his campaign, business, foundation and administration.

Zinke, 57, played a leading part in Trump's efforts to roll back federal environmental regulations and promote domestic energy development. The ethics probes include one centered on a Montana land deal involving a foundation he created and the chairman of an energy services company, Halliburton, that does business with the Interior Department. Investigators also are reviewing his decision to block two tribes from opening a casino in Connecticut and his redrawing of boundaries to shrink a Utah national monument.

Zinke's travels with his wife, Lola Zinke, also had come under scrutiny.

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THE DAILY ASTORIAN TV SCHEDULE Evening listings MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING			A - Charter Astoria/ Seaside - L - Charter Long Beach											DECEMBER 17	
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)	The Great Christmas Light Fight (N)	C'mas Light Fight (SF) (N)			The Year in Memoriam (N)		News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel		
3 KOMO	4	KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Great Christmas Light Fight (N)	C'mas Light Fight (SF) (N)			The Year in Memoriam (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(35) Jimmy Kimmel		
4 KING	5	NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	Evening News (N)	Extra	The Voice "Live Finale, Part One"				Talent "A Holiday of Champions" (N)		KING 5 News (N)	(35) Tonight Show		
6 KOIN	7	KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Neighborhood (N)	H.Together (N)	Magnum "The Woman Who Never Died"			Bull "Home for the Holidays"		News (N)	(35) Colbert		
8 KIRO	7	KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	Ent. Tonight (N)	Neighborhood (N)	H.Together (N)	Magnum "The Woman Who Never Died"			Bull "Home for the Holidays"		KIRO 7 News (N)	(35) Colbert		
9 KGW	7	KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	The Voice "Live Finale, Part One"				Talent "A Holiday of Champions" (N)		News (N)	(35) Tonight Show		
9 KRCW	3	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Arrow "The Demon"			Legends "Hot Wet American Bummer"		News (N)	Friends	Two and a Half		
10 KOPB	10	This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Antiques Rd. "Junk in the Trunk 8" (N)			Ore. Experience	Ore. Experience	Mormon Choir		Independent Lens "Man on Fire"		
12 KPTV	12	6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	The Resident "About Time"			9-1-1 "Dosed"		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)		
13 KPDX	13	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Prime News (N)			Prime News (N)		Big Bang Theory	Family Guy	American Dad!		
14 KCQP	14	Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	The Resident "About Time"			9-1-1 "Dosed"		Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)		
20 TB5	20	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Final Space		
22 KZJO	22	Black-ish	Black-ish	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9 (N)			Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half		
23 ESPN	29	(5:15) NFL Football New Orleans Saints at Carolina Panthers (L)		(1:15) SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		(1:15) SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)			NFL PrimeTime		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		SportsCenter		
29 ESPN2	30	Poker World Series		Poker World Series		Poker World Series			College Football	SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)	30 for 30 "42 To 1"		To Be Announced		
31 NICK	31	The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	Henry Danger	Santa Hunters ("14, Family) Breanna Yde, Benjamin Flores Jr.	SpongeBob	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends		
32 DISN	32	(5:45) Finding Dory ("16, Ani) Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres.		(25) Raven's Home		Coop & Cami	Raven's Home	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Raven's Home		
34 FAM	34	(5:10) A Christmas Carol		(15) *** The Nightmare Before Christmas ('93) Chris Sarandon.		(55) Paddington (2014, Family) Nicole Kidman, Hugh Bonneville, Ben Whishaw.			(20) *** Captain Phillips (2013, Docu-Drama) Barkhad Abdi, Tom Hanks.				The 700 Club		
35 FMC	35	(4:40) Spider-Man ('02) Tobey Maguire. ** Spider-Man (2002, Action) Willem Dafoe, Kirsten Dunst, Tobey Maguire.													
36 LIFE	36	** Under the Mistletoe ('06) Jaime Ray Newman, Michael Shanks.				Christen Pen Pals (2018, Romance) Niall Matter, Michael Gross, Sarah Drew.		(05) Dear Santa (2011, Drama) Gina Holden, Emma Duke, Amy Acker.							
38 ROOT	38	(5:30) Undefeated DFL Soccer FSV Mainz at RB Leipzig				Mark Few (N)	Press Pass (N)	UFC UFC 110					Fight Sports (N)		
39 FS1	39	UFC UFC Fight Night				PBC Countdown	PBC Countdown	TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.				Fair Game		
43 SPIKE	43	Mom	Mom	Friends	Friends	*** Twister (1996, Action) Bill Paxton, Jami Gertz, Helen Hunt.					Cops	Cops	Cops		
44 COM	44	(15) The Office 2/2 (50) The Office "St. Patrick's Day"		Friends	Friends	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office 2/2		
45 HIST	45	The Curse of Oak Island "Rick's Big Bang Theory"				The Curse of Oak Island: Digging Deeper (N)							(05) The Real Story of Christmas		
46 A&E	46	The First 48 "Fatal Call"		First 48 "The House on Madrona Street"		The First 48 Detectives investigate real-life murders.							(05) The First 48		
47 TLC	47	Extreme Coupon	Extreme Coupon	Love List "Feelings of Abandonment"	Love List "Starter Home Stagnation"	Long Lost Family "She's Gone" (N)			Think You Are "Regina King" (N)		Think You Are "Matthew Morrison" (N)		Think You Are "Lea Michele"		
48 DISC	48	OutlawsMemphis "Desert Do-Over"		Memphis "Arms Drop, Friendships Stop"	Memphis "Arms Drop, Friendships Stop"	OutlawsMemphis "Bad Boyz For Life"			Street Outlaws "Last Point Race"		Street Outlaws "Last Point Race"		To Be Announced		
49 NGE0	49	Mars "Power Play"		Area 51: The CIA's Secret		One Strange Rock "Escape"			Mars "The Shake Up" (N)		The Boiling River (N)		StarTalk "Author Patricia Cornwell" (N)		
50 TNT	50	(5:30) The Intern (2015, Comedy) Anne Hathaway, Adam DeVine, Robert De Niro.		*** Love Actually (2003, Romance) Hugh Grant, Colin Firth, Emma Thompson.		*** The Santa Clause 2 (2002, Family) Elizabeth Mitchell, Eric Lloyd, Tim Allen.			*** The Santa Clause 2 (2002, Family) Elizabeth Mitchell, Eric Lloyd, Tim Allen.				Love Actually ('03) Emma Thompson.		
51 AMC	51	Donkey! ('15) Caper Merry Madagascar		*** The Santa Clause 2 (2002, Family) Elizabeth Mitchell, Eric Lloyd, Tim Allen.		*** The Santa Clause 2 (2002, Family) Elizabeth Mitchell, Eric Lloyd, Tim Allen.									
52 USA	52	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Monday Night Raw							Modern Family (35) Modern Fam		
53 FOOD	53	Holiday Baking "Holiday Artistry"		Holiday Baking "Light and Inspiring"		Holiday Baking "New Family Classics"			Hol.Bake "Gifts Of Greatness" (SF) (N)		Cookie "Colorful Christmas" (SF) (N)		Ginger "Ultimate Holiday Celebration"		
54 HGTV	54	Love It or List It		Love It or List It "Home Working Woes"		Love/List "Starter Home Stagnation"			Love It or List It (N)		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters		
56 FX	56	(5:00) ** The Amazing Spider-Man 2 ('14) Emma Stone, Andrew Garfield.		*** Pitch Perfect 2 (2015, Comedy) Rebel Wilson, Elizabeth Banks, Anna Kendrick.		*** Pitch Perfect 2 (2015, Comedy) Rebel Wilson, Elizabeth Banks, Anna Kendrick.			Anderson Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		*** Pitch Perfect 2 ('15) Rebel Wilson, Anna Kendrick.		
57 CNN	57	Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon			Anderson Cooper 360		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		
58 FNC	58	Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night Hard news and analysis of the most compelling stories.			Hannity		Hannity		Fox News @ Night		
61 CNBC	61	American Greed: Scam		American Greed: Scam		American Greed: Scam			American Greed: Scam		American Greed: Scam		Paid Program		
63 BRAV	63	Vanderpump Rules "Reunion" Pt. 2 of 2		Vanderpump R. "A Decent Proposal"		Vanderpump Rules			Vanderpump Rules "Passport Edition"		Unanchored (N)		Watch What (N) Vanderpump Rules		
64 TCM	64	(5:00) Lady on a Train Deanna Durbin.		** Lady in the Lake ('46, Mst) Audrey Totter, Leon Ames, Robert Montgomery.		** Fitzwilly (1967, Comedy) Barbara Feldon, Edith Evans, Dick Van Dyke.			** Fitzwilly (1967, Comedy) Barbara Feldon, Edith Evans, Dick Van Dyke.				Crooks Anonymous ('62) Leslie Phillips.		
65 SYFY	65	(5:05) *** Iron Man 3 ('13, Act) Gwyneth Paltrow, Guy Pearce, Robert Downey Jr..		*** The Fifth Element (1997, Sci-Fi) Milla Jovovich, Gary Oldman, Bruce Willis.					Futurama		Futurama		Futurama		
162 RFD	162	Rancher (N)	Red Steagall (N)	Horse Master 2/2	Horse of the West	Craig Cameron	Rural Eve. News	Rural America "Live" "TKI Crop Quality"		American Rancher	Red Steagall		Product Showcase		