

CRASH: Niehaus steered across center line into oncoming lane

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facts constituting something more than careless. Case law is fact driven and a matter of degrees of negligence is not easily identified even among the experts."

About 45 members of the outlaw Gypsy Jokers Motorcycle Club on May 2 at 10:30 p.m. were driving on the John Day Highway, passing through Fossil to a motorcycle rally at Bear Hollow Park. Niehaus left the park rally five miles away and was returning home when she drove her passenger car across the centerline into the motorcycleists.

The crash resulted in the death of two riders at the scene, a third death weeks later, and injuries to six riders that included broken legs and hips, as well as head injuries and lower leg amputations.

"The survivors and their families are having to adapt to the physical, mental and

emotional injuries of this catastrophic life changing event," Humphreys and Ladd stated.

"This crash scene was chaotic," Humphreys and Ladd stated. "Lisa Niehaus was trapped in the car. First responders tried to render aid for victims. The responders expressed grave concern for the safety of Lisa Niehaus. Several statements by some riders indicated Lisa Niehaus's safety was in question. First responders noted the scene was extremely volatile."

Niehaus made two calls just after the crash. Noise interrupted the first, according to the statement, and during the second Niehaus told her friend she was in a crash and "being beaten."

Law enforcement sought search warrants, and the court approved some but denied others, including a warrant for Niehaus' blood and

urine the day after the crash. Humphreys and Ladd said Niehaus was not in custody overnight, and without a drug recognition expert to confirm she was impaired when she crashed, a toxicology report alone is not sufficient to prove she was under the influence at the time.

Eyewitnesses and evidence show Niehaus steered across the center line into the oncoming lane. She had a dog on her lap, a cellphone within reach and marijuana in the car, according to Humphreys and Ladd. She claimed the motorcycle headlights blinded her and she closed her eyes. Evidence showed most of the headlamps on the bikes were on low beam.

Humphreys and Ladd reported several state agencies assisted in the case, and several considered the crash "merely an accident."

Ladd's office, then, "became the sole advocate

for the victims in this horrific crash, though others may not have done the same."

While the Oregon Constitution provides specific rights to crime victims, the law allows exemptions if a court finds the incident involves elements of organized crime. Ladd and Humphreys stated the court ruled this case was excepted from victim rights protection.

That angered some of the victims, family and friends in this case and prompted comments that cause concern for the safety of the district attorney and the victim assistant in Wheeler County.

Even so, Ladd and Humphreys stated that the crime victims' compensation rights in the case were not suspended, and the district attorney's office continues to ensure monetary compensation is available to victims and their families through the state's Crime Victims Compensation Program.

FACTORY: 'It's really to keep up with demand'

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established in 1972 and currently has 450 employees. The new line is expected to be up and running by January 2019, supporting growth in North America and overseas exports to Asia.

"It's really to keep up with demand," Stoolman said.

Mark Morgan, Hermiston assistant city manager, said the project is the largest investment in the history of the Greater Hermiston Enterprise Zone, both in terms of capital investment and annual payroll.

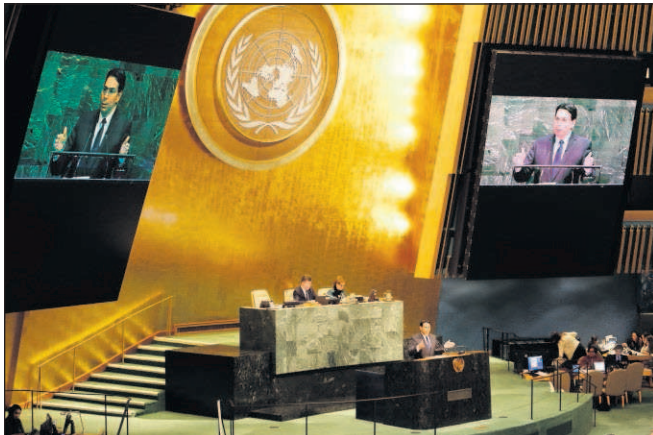
"We're very happy that Lamb Weston is choosing to make this investment in the Hermiston area," Morgan said. "This is an advanced operation, so these are not your run-of-the-mill processing jobs. We antic-

ipate these full time jobs to pay an average of at least \$18 per hour, plus benefits."

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown also approved an award from the state's Strategic Reserve Fund to move the project forward, which she said is part of her focus to boost the economy statewide.

"In addition to supporting our rural economies and booming agriculture industry, this investment provides critical workforce training opportunities in well-paying jobs in Eastern Oregon," Brown said.

Nathan Buehler, spokesman for Business Oregon, said the state is indeed finalizing the contract on a half-million dollar loan to Lamb Weston. That loan will include requirements for job creation, workforce training and building a wastewater system at the site.



AP Photo/Mark Lennihan

Danny Danon, Israel's ambassador to the U.N., speaks at the General Assembly, Thursday at United Nations headquarters. President Donald Trump's threat to cut off U.S. funding to countries that oppose his decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital has raised the stakes in Thursday's U.N. vote and sparked criticism of his tactics, with one Muslim group calling it bullying or blackmail.

ISRAEL: Will have no effect on plan to move American Embassy to Jerusalem

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abstained and 21 were absent.

The resolution reaffirmed what has been the United Nations' stand on the divided holy city since 1967: that Jerusalem's final status must be decided in direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians.

The Trump administration made it clear the vote would have no effect on its plan to move the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. And Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said afterward that he completely rejects the "preposterous" resolution.

Palestinian Ambassador Riyad Mansour called the vote a victory not only for the Palestinians but for the United Nations and international law, saying U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley "failed miserably" in persuading only seven countries aside from the U.S. and Israel to vote against the resolution.

"And they used unprecedented tactics, unheard of in the diplomatic work at the U.N., including blackmail and extortion," he said.

The United States and Israel had waged an intensive lobbying campaign against the measure, with Haley sending letters to more than 180 countries warning that Washington would be taking names of those who voted against the United States. Trump went further, threatening a funding cutoff: "Let them vote against us. We'll save a lot. We don't care."

But in the end, major U.S. aid recipients including Afghanistan, Egypt, Jordan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Tanzania and South Africa supported the resolution. Egypt received roughly \$1.4 billion in U.S. aid this year, and Jordan about \$1.3 billion.

The nine countries voting "no" were the U.S., Israel, Guatemala, Honduras, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, the Marshall Islands and Togo. American allies including the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan and New Zealand opposed the United States.

The absent countries included Kenya, which was the fifth-largest recipient of U.S. aid last year, Georgia and Ukraine, all of which have close U.S. ties.

After the vote, Haley tweeted a photo naming the 65 nations that voted no,

abstained or were absent, and said: "We appreciate these countries for not falling to the irresponsible ways of the UN."

She later sent invitations to the 65 ambassadors inviting them to a reception on Jan. 3 to thank them for their friendship with the United States.

The U.S. is scheduled to dispense \$25.8 billion in foreign aid for 2018. Whether Trump follows through with his threat against those who voted "yes" remains to be seen.

But within hours, the Trump administration appeared to be backing away from its funding threats. In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said cuts to countries that opposed the U.S. are not a foregone conclusion.

"The president's foreign policy team has been empowered to explore various options going forward with other nations," Nauert said. "However, no decisions have been made."

During the debate, Arab, Islamic and non-aligned nations urged a "yes" vote on the resolution, which was sponsored by Yemen and Turkey.

Yemeni Ambassador Khaled Hussein Mohamed Alyemany warned that Trump's recognition of Jerusalem undermines any chance for peace in the Mideast and "serves to fan the fires of violence and extremism."

He called Trump's action "a blatant violation of the rights of the Palestinian people and the Arab nations, and all Muslims and Christians of the world," and "a dangerous violation and breach of international law."

On Wednesday, Trump complained that Americans are tired of being taken advantage of by countries that take billions of dollars and then vote against the U.S. Haley echoed his words in her speech to the packed assembly chamber, threatening not only member states with funding cuts, but the United Nations itself.

Haley said the vote will make no difference in U.S. plans to move the American Embassy, but it "will make a difference on how Americans look at the U.N., and on how we look at countries who disrespect us in the U.N."

"And this vote will be remembered," she warned.



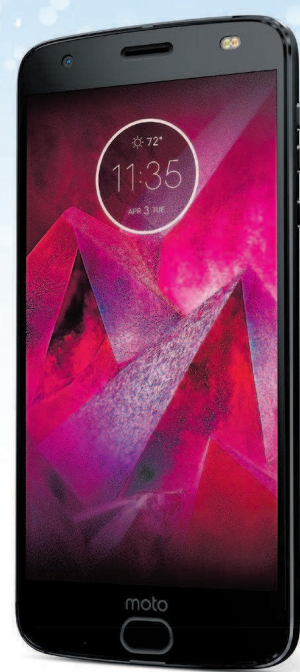
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