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Exclusive: With a piece of paper, Trump called on Kim to hand over nuclear weapons



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Mueller report on Trump and Russia to be made public by mid-April: Barr

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. Attorney General William Barr plans to make public a redacted copy of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's nearly 400-page investigative report into Russian interference in the 2016 election by mid-April, "if not sooner," he said in a letter to lawmakers on Friday. "Everyone will soon be able to read it on their own," Barr wrote in the letter to the top Democrats and Republicans on the Senate and House Judiciary committees.

He said he was willing to appear before both committees to testify about Mueller's report on May 1 and May 2.

On March 22, Mueller completed his 22-month probe and Barr on Sunday sent a four-page letter to Congress that outlined the main findings. Barr told lawmakers that the investigation did not establish that members of the election campaign of President Donald Trump conspired with Russia.

Nadler says Mueller report should be released to Congress without redactions

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U.S. House Republican says it would be illegal to release full Mueller report

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Speaking to reporters at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Palm Beach, Florida on Friday Trump said he had "great confidence" in Barr. Asked whether he agreed with Barr's decision to release the Mueller report to the public, Trump said, "If that's what he'd like to do I have nothing to hide. This was a hoax. This was a witch hunt."

Leading congressional Democrats are pressing for a quick release of the entire Mueller report.

"We need to see the Mueller report ASAP, with only those redactions that are absolutely necessary to protect intelligence sources and methods. Congress and the American people need the full story about what happened in 2016," said Senator Mark Warner, the senior Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee.



FILE PHOTO: U.S. Attorney General William Barr leaves his house after Special Counsel Robert Mueller found no evidence of collusion between U.S. President Donald Trump's campaign and Russia in the 2016 election in McClean, Virginia

U.S. consumer spending soft, inflation benign as economy slows

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. consumer spending barely rose in January and income increased modestly in February, suggesting the economy was fast losing momentum after growth slowed in the fourth quarter.

The report from the Commerce Department on Friday also showed price pressures muted in January, with a measure of overall inflation posting its smallest annual increase in nearly 2-1/2 years. The Federal Reserve last week brought its three-year campaign to tighten monetary policy to an abrupt end.

The U.S. central bank abandoned projections for any interest rate hikes this year after increasing borrowing costs four times in 2018, in a nod to the slowing economy, low inflation and rising headwinds to growth. The economy is losing steam as the stimulus from \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts as well as increased government spending dissipates.

"Unless some positive shock hits the economy, by the fall, we are likely to be

back to where we were before the tax cut bill was passed," said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pennsylvania.

Consumer spending, which accounts for more than two-thirds of U.S. economic activity, edged up 0.1 percent as households cut back on purchases of motor vehicles. Spending fell 0.6 percent in December.

U.S. new home sales rise to 11-month high in February

U.S. new home sales rise to 11-month high in February

Economists polled by Reuters had forecast consumer spending increasing 0.3 percent in January. The release of the January consumer spending figures was delayed by a five-week partial shutdown of the federal government that ended on Jan. 25.

When adjusted for inflation, consumer spending gained 0.1 percent in January after dropping 0.6 percent in December.





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Exclusive: With a piece of paper, Trump called on Kim to hand over nuclear weapons

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - On the day that their talks in Hanoi collapsed last month, U.S. President Donald Trump handed North Korean leader Kim Jong Un a piece of paper that included a blunt call for the transfer of Pyongyang's nuclear weapons and bomb fuel to the United States, according to the document seen by Reuters.

Trump gave Kim both Korean and English-language versions of the U.S. position at Hanoi's Metropole hotel on Feb. 28, according to a source familiar with the discussions, speaking on condition of anonymity. It was the first time that Trump himself had explicitly defined what he meant by denuclearization directly to Kim, the source said.

A lunch between the two leaders was canceled the same day. While neither side has presented a complete account of why the summit collapsed, the document may help explain it.

The document's existence was first mentioned by White House national security adviser John Bolton in television interviews he gave after the two-day summit. Bolton did not disclose in those interviews the pivotal U.S. expectation contained in the document that North Korea should transfer its nuclear weapons and fissile material to the United States.

The document appeared to represent Bolton's long-held and hardline "Libya model" of denuclearization that North Korea has rejected repeatedly. It probably would have been seen by Kim as insulting and provocative, analysts said.

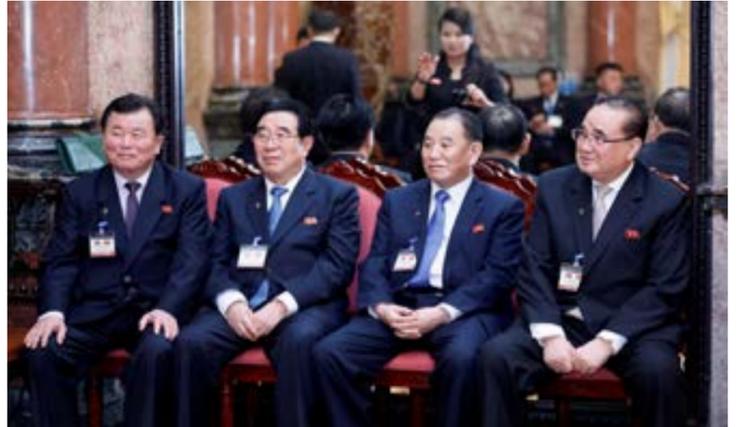
Trump had previously distanced himself in public comments from Bolton's approach and said a "Libya model" would be employed only if a deal could not be reached.

The idea of North Korea handing over its weapons was first proposed by Bolton in 2004. He revived the proposal last year when Trump named him as national security adviser. The document was meant to provide the North Koreans with a clear and concise definition of what the United States meant by "final, fully verifiable, denuclearization," the source familiar with discussions said. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The State Department declined to comment on what would be a classified document. After the summit, a North Korean official accused Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo of "gangster-like" demands, saying Pyongyang was considering suspending talks with the United States and may rethink its self-imposed ban on missile and nuclear tests.

The English version of the document, seen by Reuters, called for "fully dismantling North Korea's nuclear infrastructure, chemical and biological warfare program and related



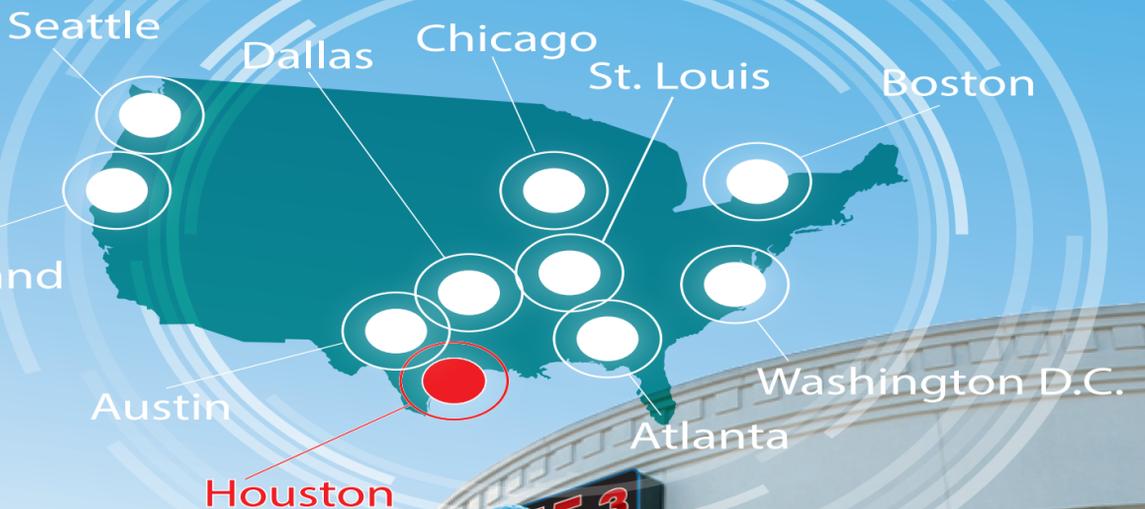
FILE PHOTO - U.S. President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un sit down for a dinner during the second U.S.-North Korea summit at the Metropole Hotel in Hanoi, Vietnam February 27, 2019. Also pictured at right are U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney REUTERS/Leah Millis/File Photo



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Editor's Choice



Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó attends a meeting with supporters in Caracas



People react as a tear gas canister lands behind a stage as supporters of Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó, who many nations have recognised as the country's rightful interim ruler, gather in Caracas, Venezuela, March 29, 2019. REUTERS/Manuere Quintero NO RESALES. NO ARCHIVES



Supporters of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro protest against opposition leader Juan Guaidó in Caracas, Venezuela March 29, 2019. REUTERS/Ivan Alvarado



U.S. Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-NY) speaks to members of the media following a televised town hall event in New York



Mourners attend the funeral service for the victims of a truck that crashed into a crowd of people in Nahuala



People pose together for a selfie photo in front of a blossom tree in bloom near the White House in Washington



A pro-Brexit protester with a face mask looks on at the March to Leave demonstration in London, Britain March 29, 2019. REUTERS/Toby Melville TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Participants attend military patriotic games at a stadium in rebel-held Donetsk

Two Young Hackers Win \$375,000 And A Model 3 For Finding A Tesla Bug



Tesla awarded two researchers a Tesla Model 3 after they found a vulnerability in the vehicle's infotainment system which allowed them to commandeer the vehicle.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

Two 20-something computer hackers exposed a security bug in the Tesla Model 3 that allowed them to hack into the electric car's internal web browser. Instead of getting in trouble, they walked away with their own Model 3, along with a total of \$375,000 in prize money. Richard Zhu and Amat Cama are the hacking duo known as team Flouroacetate, and the pair of computer security researchers recently dominated Pwn2Own, an annual competition that attracts some of the world's top hackers. Zhu and Cama identified a JIT (or "just-in-time") bug in the Model 3's web browser that allowed them to hack into the car's system and write a message on the car's dash-

board display screen, the Zero Day Initiative said in a blog post. For their effort, the pair was allowed to keep the car and they also won \$35,000 just for that one hack. (The Model has a starting price of \$35,000.)



Zero Day Initiative @thezdi

That's a wrap! Congrats to @flouroacetate on winning Master of

Pwn. There total was \$375,000 (plus a vehicle) for the week. Superb work from this great duo. 879 6:54 PM - Mar 22, 2019 307 people are talking about this Twitter Ads info and privacy Pwn2Own hands out prize money to competitors who identify bugs in products from huge tech companies like Tesla, Apple, Microsoft and others. Over the course of this year's three-day competition, Zhu and Cama won a total of \$375,000 across multiple hacking events that included exploiting bugs in products like Apple's Safari browser and Microsoft Windows. (The event handed out a total of \$545,000 in prizes, according to the Zero Day Initiative.)

Cybersecurity company Trend Micro's Zero Day Initiative has run the Pwn2Own competition for over a decade but the event in Vancouver last week marked the first time that Tesla put up one of its vehicles to be hacked for potential vulnerabilities.

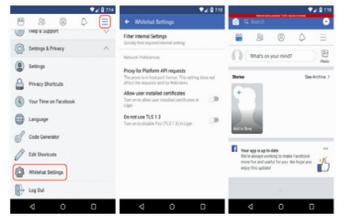


Tesla CEO Elon Musk

Meanwhile, Tesla responded to the Flouroacetate team's victory by thanking the duo for their work and the company promised to release a software update to fix the issue. "We entered Model 3 into the world-renowned Pwn2Own competition in order to engage with the most talented members of the security research community, with the goal of soliciting this exact type of feedback. During the competition, researchers demonstrated a vulnerability against the in-car web browser..." Tesla said in an e-mail statement to CNBC Make It. "In the coming days, we will release a software update that addresses this research. We understand that this demonstration took an extraordinary amount of effort and skill, and we thank these researchers for their work to help us continue to ensure our cars are the most secure on the road today." Tesla launched its own "bug bounty" program in 2014 and the company currently offers rewards of as much as \$15,000 to hackers who alert Tesla to vulnerabilities in the company's software. (Courtesy cnbc.com)

Related

New "Whitehat Settings" option available in Facebook, Messenger, and Instagram Android apps. Facebook rolls out 'Whitehat Settings' to help bug hunters analyze traffic in its mobile apps



Facebook made a significant concession to vulnerability researchers last week by adding a special setting to Facebook accounts to accommodate whitehat security research. The new option, named "Whitehat Settings," introduces a mechanism through which security researchers can bypass Facebook's Certificate Pinning security mechanism. Certificate Pinning normally protects traffic that originates from Facebook mobile apps against sniffing operations. But according to Facebook, when security researchers turn on the "Whitehat Settings" option, Facebook will intentionally break its Certificate Pinning mechanism for that account, so the researcher can intercept, sniff, and analyze the traffic that originates from within. Facebook said it implemented the "Whitehat Settings" option at the behest of security researchers who were having a hard time bypassing the Certificate Pinning security measure. (Courtesy https://www.zdnet.com/)

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Half of Older Americans Have Nothing in Retirement Savings



Half of Older Americans Have Nothing in Retirement Savings

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

(Bloomberg) -- The bad news is that almost half of Americans approaching retirement have nothing saved in a 401(k) or other individual account. The good news is that the new estimate, from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, is slightly better than a few years earlier. Of those 55 and older, 48 percent had nothing put away in a 401(k)-style defined contribution plan or an individual retirement account, according to a GAO estimate for 2016 that was released Tuesday. That's an improvement from the 52 percent without retirement money in 2013. Two in five of such households did have access to a traditional pension, also known as a defined benefit plan. However, 29 percent of older Americans had neither a pension nor any assets in a 401(k) or IRA account. The estimate from the GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, is a

brief update to a more comprehensive 2015 report on retirement savings in the U.S. Both are based on the Federal Reserve's Survey of Consumer Finances. The previous report found the median household of those age 65 to 74 had about \$148,000 saved, the equivalent of an inflation-protected annuity of \$649 a month. "Social Security provides most of the income for about half of households age 65 and older," the GAO said.



The Employee Benefit Research Institute estimated earlier this month that 41 percent of U.S. households headed by someone age 35 to 64 are likely to run out of money in retirement. That's down 1.7 percentage points since 2014. EBRI found these Americans face a combined retirement deficit of \$3.83 trillion. (Courtesy <https://finance.yahoo.com>)

Related
A Different View: Half of Older Americans Are Not Without Retirement Savings

If you were a government agency that produced a study whose headline result was repeatedly misinterpreted, what would you do when you updated that study? Maybe hold back on the headlines that were misinterpreted? Not if you were the federal Government Accountability Office, which in an update to previous work

declared this week that 48% of U.S. households aged 55 and over in 2016 "had no retirement savings." That claim is factually incorrect, and the way it will be interpreted by politicians and the press will only make it less true. Senator Bernie Sanders has repeatedly cited the GAO's past results, rephrasing them in ways that are entirely rational for a non-specialist but which lead to radically incorrect results. A recently as January 2019 Sanders tweeted: "Today, in America, more than half of older workers have no retirement savings – zero. That is unacceptable. We must create an economy that works for all of us, not just the wealthy few."



Photo of a retired couple using a digital tablet while relaxing at home. (Photo/Getty Images) But, as FactCheck.org and others have noted, this statistic – derived from the Federal Reserve's Survey

of Consumer Finances – excludes anyone who has only a traditional defined benefit pension. If we count both retirement accounts and traditional pensions, 72% of households aged 55 and over have retirement savings. That's up from only 64% in 1989 – so things are getting better, not worse. But you wouldn't know that from the press coverage. Excluding traditional pensions from "retirement savings" defies common sense, and it isn't even justifiable on a technical level. In the National Income and Product Accounts and the Federal Reserve's Financial Accounts of the United States, household wealth includes both defined contribution retirement plan assets such as IRAs and 401(k)s and the future benefits owed to employees via traditional defined benefit pensions. I can't see why the GAO's headline number would categorize this group – most of whom are public sector employees with generous pensions – as "non-savers," especially when that limited definition of retirement savers has already caused confusion. (Courtesy forbes.com)

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