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Houston artist converts airport relic into cool installation art



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

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U.S. expects immediate action from China on trade commitments

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States expects immediate action by China on trade issues after a deal reached by the countries' leaders, including lower tariffs on automobiles and measures against intellectual property theft and forced technology transfers, a White House official said on Monday.

U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to hold off on new tariffs for 90 days during talks in Argentina on Saturday, declaring a truce following months of escalating tensions on trade and other issues.

That 90-day period will begin on Jan. 1, White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow told reporters.

The Chinese offered more than \$1.2 trillion in additional commitments on trade, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin said on Monday. Kudlow said that figure was a broad benchmark and referred to private transactions for buying U.S. goods, subject to market conditions.

China also committed immediately to start lifting tariffs and non-tariff barriers, including reducing its 40 percent tariffs on autos, Kudlow said.

"We expect those tariffs to fall to zero," he told reporters.

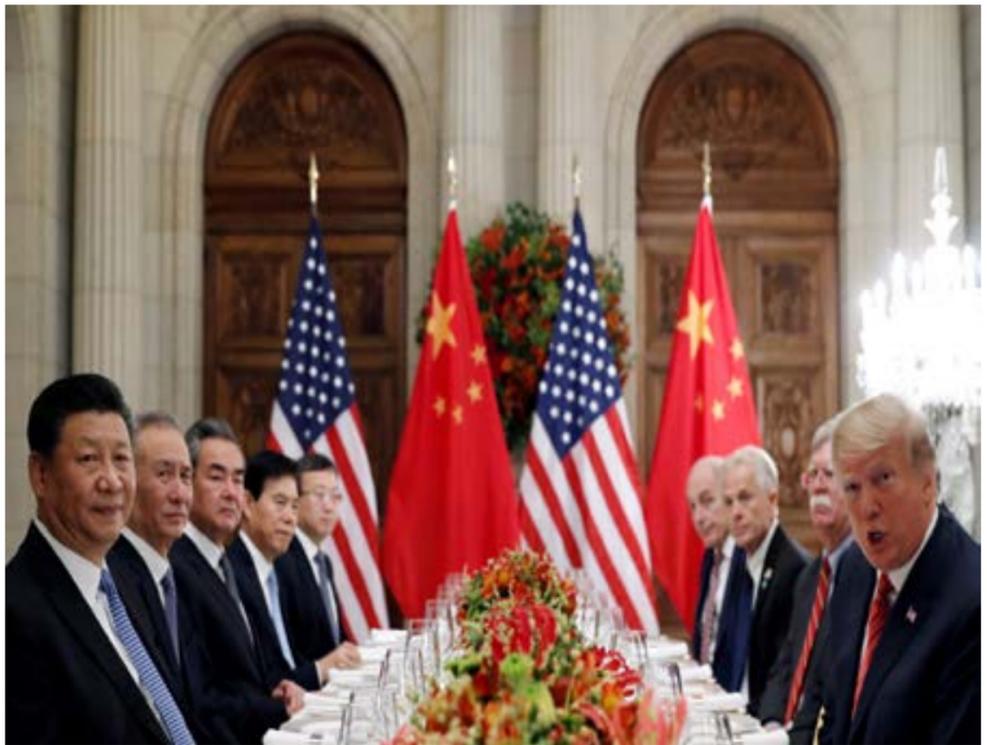
Americans will get majority ownership in companies in China for the first time, which should help address top U.S. concerns about including intellectual property theft and forced technology transfers.

None of the commitments were agreed to in writing and specifics had yet to be hammered out.

Mnuchin said there was a shift in tone at Buenos Aires from past discussions as Xi offered a clear commitment to open China's markets to U.S. companies.

"This is the first time that we have a commitment from them that this will be a real agreement,"

U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping attend a working dinner after the G20 leaders summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina December 1, 2018. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque Mnuchin told CNBC.



FILE PHOTO: U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping meet after the G20 in Buenos Aires

Kudlow, director of the National Economic Council, said he, Mnuchin and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer held two private meetings with China's Vice Premier Liu He in Argentina and he told them that Beijing would move immediately on the new commitments.

"The history here with China promises is not very good. And we know that," Kudlow said. "However, I will say this: President Xi has never been this involved."

Honor guard, cannon as former President Bush begins last trip to Washington

HOUSTON (Reuters) - A military honor guard loaded the body of former U.S. President George H.W. Bush onto Air Force One on Monday for a final trip to Washington and the start of four days of mourning the man who led the nation as the Cold War ended.

Cannons fired in tribute at a Texas Air National Guard base outside Houston where the 41st president's flag-draped casket was loaded onto the presidential jet, called "Special Air Mission 41" for the flight to Joint Base Andrews outside of Washington.

His son, former President George W. Bush, was set to join family, friends and aides of the former executive for the flight.

The deceased Bush will lie in state at the U.S. Capitol Rotunda from Monday through Wednesday, when a state funeral is scheduled at the National Cathedral.

Bush died at his Houston home on Friday night, seven months after his wife Barbara died. After services in Wash-

ington, there will be another funeral in Houston on Thursday followed by burial at the Bush Presidential Library in College Station, Texas.

Bush served two terms as vice president under fellow Republican President Ronald Reagan before his own stint in the Oval Office from 1989 to 1993, a time that saw the end of the Cold War as well as the United States' routing of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's army in the 1991 Gulf War.

He failed to win a second term after breaking a no-new-taxes pledge.

Trump has ordered the federal government to close on Wednesday and both the New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq will be closed on Wednesday in observance. U.S. bond and options markets were also due to be closed, with energy and foreign exchange markets expected to remain open.



The flag-draped casket of former U.S. President George H.W. Bush is carried by a joint services military honor guard to the hearse, at Andrews Air Force Base

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Houston artist converts airport relic into cool installation art

Houston artist Jo Ann Fleischhauer can see the artistic value in almost anything, even an abandoned control tower at George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Fleischhauer spent hours on end breathing new life into the defunct structure, illuminating constellations along the tower so weary travelers can enjoy a brief whimsical experience during their layovers. The result: a newly completed light installation "Trapping Time."

"I'm hoping when people board planes they don't whip their shades down immediately, that they look," Fleischhauer told Houston Chronicle staff arts critic Molly Glentzer. "I'm hoping it's like a, 'What the hell is that up there?' kind of a thing."

Glentzer described the challenges this artist had to overcome to create this visually compelling piece, including climbing winding stairs to the top of the tower, a dark ascent into the tower that no longer has electricity.



Work crews install the sculpture Archivaldo, which is part of the "Wings of the City" exhibit that includes nine bronze sculptures by famed Mexican artist Jorge Marin.

The Atropos Key, by sculptor Hannah Stewart has been on top of the Hill on Hermann Park since 1972. In Greek mythology, along with her sister, Atropos was responsible for the destiny of humans.

Home appreciation rates could nearly halve by 2020, Freddie Mac says

As mortgage rates continue to rise, annual home appreciation rates could nearly halve by 2020, according to Freddie Mac.

The mortgage-finance company has released its forecast for the next two years, predicting that annual growth in home prices, which increased 7.2 percent in 2017 and are on track to grow 5.1 percent in 2018, will drop to 2.9 percent in 2020. In the next two years, Freddie Mac believes the total amount of loans taken out on single-family homes will drop by \$30 billion.

"Almost all the trends in the U.S. housing mar-

ket have been negative in recent months as housing market activity continues to adjust to higher mortgage rates," the forecast read.

As a result, Freddie Mac revised many of its estimates downward and stated, "If new-home sales are to resume growth in 2019, builders may have to shift their focus to more modestly priced homes and smaller homes to help offset housing affordability concerns."

While rising costs will make affordable homes a challenge, Freddie Mac said that modular housing, which can be built off-site, may help lower construction costs.



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Editor's Choice



The casket of former U.S. President George H.W. Bush arrives at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland



Family members watch as the flag-draped casket of former U.S. President George H.W. Bush is carried by a joint services military honor guard during an arrival ceremony, at Andrews Air Force Base



The casket of former U.S. President George H.W. Bush arrives at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland



Former U.S. President George W. Bush along with former first lady Laura Bush walks from Special Air Mission 41, the plane that carried his father, former President George H.W. Bush, to Washington, at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland



Van leaves the construction site of the new Mexico City International Airport in Texcoco



An Egyptian doctor makes a test during an unprecedented campaign that aims to test 50 million people to detect and treat hepatitis C patients in a bid to eliminate the disease by 2022, in Cairo



CSA astronaut David Saint-Jacques unites with the rest of the crew members on ISS



Soccer Football - 63rd Ballon d'Or - The Grand Palais, Paris, France - December 3, 2018 Martin Solveig and Paris St Germain's Kylian Mbappe REUTERS/Benoit Tessier

The passing of George H. W. Bush has evoked deep sadness across the nation and has brought condolences from all corners of the world as he is remembered for the "kinder gentler" man that he was and as the statesman who guided the country through challenging times.

President Bush passed away on the evening of Friday, November 30, 2018, at 10:10 PM CST surrounded by family members and friends at his home in Houston, Texas. President Trump has designated Wednesday, December 5, 2018, as a national day of mourning for the late president and has issued a proclamation directing that the American flag be displayed at half-staff at the White House and on all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and over U.S. embassies and consular offices around the world for the next 30 days.

This page is dedicated to the memory of the late president through photos that show him through the years from his college days, his service as a military pilot, his political career including ambassador, Vice President and President of the United States and as a dedicated family man.



George H.W. Bush
President Bush's Love For Baseball Started In His College Days At Yale



As captain of the Yale University baseball team, George Herbert Walker Bush played in the first two College World Series in 1947 and 1948. Bush played first base for the Yale University Bulldogs.

The Passing Of The Forty-First President of the United States Of America

George H. W. Bush 1924 - 2018

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



A quintessential baseball man President Bush attended many Houston Astros baseball games. Upon hearing of the Pearl Harbor attack, Bus joined the Navy to become an aviator



Upon hearing of the Pearl Harbor attack, while a student at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, George Bush decided he wanted to join the Navy to become an aviator. He enlisted in the Navy on his 18th birthday and began preflight training at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. As part of Air Group 51, his squadron was based on USS San Jacinto in the spring of 1944. During the return of his aircraft from a mission, Ensign Bush's aircraft made a forced water landing. The destroyer, USS Clarence K. Bronson, rescued the crew, but the plane was lost.



Candidate George Bush with wife Barbara on the campaign trail

In foreign affairs, Bush excelled



President George H.W. Bush shares a joke with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on December 3, 1989.



George H.W. Bush is remembered in Beijing for helping stop ties with Washington from going off the rails, observers say. The trust and personal ties he spent years building often proved invaluable in bilateral relations. "Bush has packed much into his life: war hero, ambassador, CIA chief, VP and President."



Three generations of the Bush family are shown below



George Bush was a dedicated family man.



A Bush family portrait from 1992. President Bush was a close friend of former U.S. president Bill Clinton



"His friendship has been one of the great gifts of my life," Clinton writes of his predecessor.

Many paid tribute at the gate outside of former President George H.W. Bush's residence



Houstonians say goodbye to hometown hero.

President Donald Trump Responds To The Loss Of Former President George H.W. Bush



"Through his essential authenticity, disarming wit and unwavering commitment to faith, family and country, President Bush inspired generations of his fellow Americans to public service — to be, in his words "a thousand points of light" illuminating the greatness, hope, and opportunity of America to the world."

- President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump

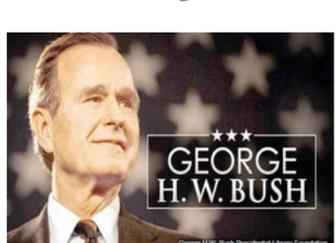
President Trump will attend George H.W. Bush's funeral and has named Wednesday, December 5th as a national day of mourning.

Bush was a dedicated family man



Former President Bush and wife Barbara on their wedding day and a recent photo last year.

A Life Of Service Well-Lived: President George H.W. Bush



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Marriott's reservation database has been hacked, potentially affecting hundreds of millions of guests who have stayed in the hotel chain's properties since 2014, the company announced last Friday.

In a press release on its website, the company said it was first alerted that an unauthorized party had attempted to access its guest reservation database for its Starwood properties, which comprises hotel chains including the W and Four Points by Sheraton, on September 8. An investigation revealed that there had been "unauthorized access to the Starwood network since 2014," and that approximately 500 million guests' personal information had been compromised.

The hotel chain said Friday the hack affects its Starwood reservation database, a group of hotels it bought in 2016 that includes the St. Regis, Westin, Sheraton and W Hotels.

Marriott said hackers had gained "unauthorized access" to the Starwood reservation system since 2014, but the company only identified the issue last week.

"The company recently discovered that an unauthorized party had copied and encrypted information, and took steps towards removing it," Marriott said in a statement.

Marriott warns that it can't confirm if the hackers were able to decrypt the credit card numbers.

"We deeply regret this incident happened," Marriott president and CEO Arne Sorenson said in a statement. "We fell short of what our guests deserve and what we expect of ourselves. We are doing everything we can to support our guests, and using lessons learned to be better moving forward."

The hotel chain said it has reported the hack to law enforcement.

MARRIOTT HOTEL BREACH

- 500 MILLION GUESTS
- STARWOOD RESERVATION DATABASE
- BEGAN IN 2014
- DISCOVERED LAST WEEK

Marriott said it will begin emailing guests affected by the breach and has created an informational website. There's also a call center that's been set up.

The company said it's giving guests a free membership to WebWatcher, a personal

The Hack Exposed Guest Information Dating Back To 2014

More Than 500 Million Marriott Guests' Information Has Been Hacked

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



information monitoring service. It's also telling guests to monitor their loyalty accounts for suspicious activity, change their account passwords and check credit card statements for unauthorized activity.

Friday's revelation marks one of the biggest corporate data breaches in history. It's second behind one involving Yahoo, which said in 2017 that 3 billion accounts encompassing several of its brands were compromised. AdultFriendFinder revealed in 2016 that 412 million accounts were hacked.

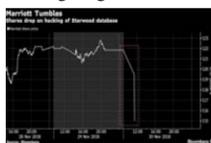
Because the hack involves customers in the European Union and the United Kingdom, the company might be in violation of the recently enacted General Data Protection Regulation.

Mark Thompson, the global lead for consulting company KPMG's Privacy Advisory Practice, told CNN Business that hefty GDPR penalties will potentially be slapped on the company.

"The size and scale of this thing is huge," he said, adding that it's going to take several months for regulators to investigate the breach. He said there's a trend for class action lawsuits in these cases.

In the United States, the New York Attor-

ney General's office said it has opened an investigation into the data breach. The office told CNN Business that the company hasn't yet notified the AG about the data breach, which is required under state law. The attorneys general of Maryland and Pennsylvania have also said that they are investigating.



Marriott's (MAR) stock is plunging on the news, falling more than 6% in trading.

The combined company has 6,700 properties in more than 129 countries.

For roughly 327 million of those guests, the data breach revealed "some combination of name, mailing address, phone number, email address, passport number, Starwood Preferred Guest ('SPG') account information, date of birth, gender, arrival and departure information, reservation date, and communication preferences," according to the company's statement. Other guests' credit card numbers and expiration dates also may have been accessed.

Who is affected by the Marriott hack?

The hack affected an estimated 500 million guests who have stayed at Marriott's Starwood brand hotels since 2014. Those properties include the W Hotels, the St. Regis, Sheraton Hotels & Resorts, Westin Hotels & Resorts, Element Hotels, Aloft Hotels, the Luxury Collection, Tribute Portfolio, Le Méridien Hotels & Resorts, Four Points by Sheraton, Design Hotels, and Starwood-branded timeshares, according to the company. (Marriott acquired Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide in 2016 for \$13.6 billion.)

Marriott will begin emailing guests whose information may have been compromised on November 30, the company said in a statement. It has also set up a dedicated website and call center for guests who have questions about the hack and whether their information was compromised, and is giving guests in the US, UK, and Canada free year-long subscriptions to WebWatcher, a software that alerts users of potential identity theft or fraud.



"The names, addresses, passport numbers and other sensitive personal information that was exposed is of greater concern than the payment info, which was encrypted," Ted Rossman, an industry analyst at CreditCards.com, told Skift, a business-to-business media company that reports on the travel industry. "People should be concerned that criminals could use this info to open fraudulent accounts in their names."

Rossman recommended that anyone whose information may have been compromised freeze their credit cards to pre-

vent the hackers from opening fraudulent accounts in their name.

How to protect yourself against big data breaches and hacks

Marriott is by no means the first big company to get hacked. Mashable keeps a running list of companies that have been hacked, including eBay, Home Depot, and Chipotle. Target was hacked in 2005, and again in 2014; the second breach affected 70 million people. In 2017, hackers targeted the credit reporting agency Equifax, exposing the information of more than 145 million customers — nearly half the total US population.



After last year's Equifax hack, Wired put together a guide to protecting yourself and your information. Some of the tips are straightforward, like changing your passwords and using a password manager instead of reusing passwords from site to site. They also suggest that you check the website HaveIBeenPwned (here: <https://haveibeenpwned.com>) to see if your information is floating around somewhere on the internet without your knowledge. If your information has been compromised, the good news is that passwords and credit card numbers are easy to change. If hackers got access to your Social Security number, though, Wired suggests you keep an eye on your bank account from now until the end of time.



Even if your information wasn't compromised in the Marriott hack, it's possible that at some point, your name, address, credit card information, or even your Social Security number has been exposed through some kind of corporate hack. The Marriott hack is being described as one of the biggest data breaches in history — and it's unlikely to be the last. (Courtesy vox.com)

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