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After Saudi attack, Britain's Johnson proposes new negotiation on Iran deal



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## Trump says he's not taking talk of impeachment over Ukraine seriously



U.S. President Donald Trump attends the 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit at U.N. headquarters in New York City, New York, U.S., September 23, 2019. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri

NEW YORK (Reuters) - U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday shrugged off talk about impeachment over reports that he had asked his Ukrainian counterpart to launch an investigation that could damage Democratic political rival Joe Biden. Asked how seriously he was taking the threat of impeachment by Congress, Trump said, "Not at all seriously." On Sunday, Trump acknowledged that he discussed Democratic presidential hopeful Biden and his son in a July 25 call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The Wall Street Journal and the New York Times on Friday said Trump repeatedly asked the Ukrainian leader in the call to investigate the involvement of Biden's son, Hunter, with a Ukrainian energy company. He also asked Zelenskyy to work with his personal lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, who had been urging Ukrainian officials to investigate Joe Biden and his family. As he arrived at the United Nations for the General Assembly on Monday, Trump told reporters: "We had a perfect phone call with the president of Ukraine. Everybody knows it. It's just a Democrat witch hunt." Trump did not provide evidence the allegations were politically motivated. Media reports about the phone call stemmed from a classified whistleblower report from the U.S. intelligence community. The call has sparked a political battle between Democrats warning of a national security threat and Republicans turning it into an attack on former vice president Biden, a frontrunner in the field of Democrats seeking to challenge Trump in the 2020 presidential election.

tion. Democrats are outraged that Trump may have sought help in the election from a foreign country, especially after Special Counsel Robert Mueller concluded Russia waged a widespread influence and propaganda campaign to help Trump win in 2016. IMPEACHMENT OR NOT? "He thinks he can get away with it. The president thinks he can act with impunity," Democratic Senator Chris Murphy said at a news conference in Hartford, Connecticut. The Democratic leader of a key congressional panel said on Sunday the pursuit of Trump's impeachment may be the "only remedy" to the situation. However, it is far from clear whether there is enough support for Democrats in the House of Representatives to launch impeachment proceedings. Any such effort would face a hurdle getting through the Republican-led Senate. The media reports about the phone call also said Trump repeatedly asked Zelenskyy to investigate whether Biden misused his position as vice president under former President Barack Obama to threaten to withhold U.S. aid unless a prosecutor who was looking into the gas company in which Biden's son was involved was Biden has confirmed he wanted the prosecutor fired but denies it was to help his son. Biden said the wider U.S. government, the European Union and other international

institutions also wanted the prosecutor fired for his alleged failure to pursue major corruption cases.

U.S. President Donald Trump attends the 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit at U.N. headquarters in New York City, New York, U.S., September 23, 2019. REUTERS/Carlo Allegri  
A top official in Zelenskyy's administration told Reuters

that Ukraine wants to stay out of the domestic political battle in Washington and that any attempt by either side to take advantage of Ukraine would damage relations.

Ukrainian officials have been reluctant to divulge details of the call.

"It was a conversation between two presidents. Whatever was discussed, even if they spoke about spaceships, I am not going to comment on it, because this was a conversation between two presidents," said Oleksandr Danylyuk, the top official of the body responsible for coordinating national security.

"It is the U.S. internal affairs and we have nothing to do with that," he told Reuters.



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# After Saudi attack, Britain's Johnson proposes new negotiation on Iran deal

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson pushed for a new negotiation beyond a 2015 nuclear between Iran and world powers after attacks on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities, bringing his country closer to U.S. calls for a tougher deal with Tehran.

European leaders have struggled to dampen a brewing confrontation between Tehran and Washington since U.S. President Donald Trump pulled out more than a year ago from a deal that assures Iran access to world trade in return for curbs on its nuclear program.

The United States reimposed sanctions on Iran last year and tightened them sharply this year. Iran has responded by breaching some of the limits on nuclear material in the deal and has set an October deadline to reduce its nuclear commitments further unless the Europeans keep their promises to salvage the pact.

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U.S. to intensify pressure on Iran after Saudi oil attacks, but seeks collective response: envoy Trump on Iran meeting: 'We'll see what happens' See more stories

The European powers party to the deal - France, Britain and Germany - have until now remained united despite pressure from Washington. But an attack on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities on Sept. 14, which Riyadh and Washington have blamed on Iran, is testing that unity. Iran denies responsibility for the attack on Saudi Arabia.

Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi movement, which has been battling a Saudi-led military coalition that includes the UAE, has claimed responsibility for the strikes.

"How do we respond to what the Iranians plainly did? What the UK is doing is trying to bring peo-

ple together and de-escalate tensions," Johnson told Sky News as world leaders gathered at the United Nations in New York

"Whatever your objections to the old nuclear deal with Iran, it's time now to move forward and do a new deal."

A government spokesman later clarified that Johnson still supported the 2015 pact and wanted to find a way to bring Tehran into compliance.

Johnson was already at odds on Monday morning with French President Emmanuel Macron over who to blame for the attack, blaming Tehran directly.

Those words were in stark contrast to Macron, who has been extremely cautious not to point the finger directly at Tehran, fearing that it could increase tensions.

FILE PHOTO: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson leaves after a meeting with Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel in Luxembourg, September 16, 2019. REUTERS/Yves Herman/File Photo

Macron has led a European push over the summer to find a compromise between Washington and Tehran and wants to use the U.N. meeting as an opportunity to revive diplomacy.

His efforts have stalled in recent weeks, with Iran reducing its commitments to the nuclear accord, and the United States refusing to ease sanctions that have strangled its oil exports, a mainstay of the Iranian economy.

**SLIM HOPES FOR DIPLOMACY**

The attack on Saudi oil facilities has complicated matters. Hopes at the end of August that Trump and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani could meet at the United Nations now seem slim.



FILE PHOTO: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson leaves after a meeting with Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel in Luxembourg, September 16, 2019. REUTERS/Yves Herman/File Photo

"We haven't received any requests this time, yet, for a meeting and we have made it clear a request alone will not do the job," Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif told reporters in New York. "A negotiation has to be for a reason, for an outcome, not just for a handshake." He said there are prerequisites for a meeting - Iran has demanded the United States lift all sanctions - and then there could be a meeting between Iran, the United States, France, Britain, Germany, Russia and China - the original parties to the nuclear deal - but there would be no bilateral meeting. Macron on Monday also appeared to distance himself from the nuclear deal saying he was not "obsessed" with it.

"France is trying to put together proposals to avoid an escalation," he told reporters. FILE PHOTO: Remains of the missiles which Saudi government says were used to attack an Aramco oil facility, are displayed during a news conference in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia September 18, 2019. REUTERS/Hamad I Mohammed/File Photo He reiterated previous ideas that any framework for future negotiations needed to focus on keeping a system in place to monitor Iran's current nuclear program, discuss Iran's post-2025 nuclear activities, its ballistic missile program and its regional influence.



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# Editor's Choice



The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Prince Harry and his wife Meghan, are seen during a Justice Desk initiative in Nyanga township, on the first day of their African tour in Cape Town, South Africa, September 23, 2019. REUTERS/Toby Melville



People run as Haiti's Senator Jean Marie Ralph Fethiere holds a gun in Port-au-Prince, Haiti September 23, 2019. REUTERS/Andres Martinez Casares TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



The Soyuz MS-15 spacecraft for the new International Space Station (ISS) crew is transported from an assembling hangar to the launchpad ahead of its upcoming launch, at the Baikonur Cosmodrome



Kenyan people gather at the site of a collapsed school classroom, in Nairobi



Prince Harry and Meghan begin their Africa tour in Cape Town



16-year-old Swedish Climate activist Greta Thunberg speaks at the 2019 United Nations Climate Action Summit at U.N. headquarters in New York City, New York, U.S.



71st Primetime Emmy Awards - Show - Los Angeles, California, U.S., September 22, 2019. Phoebe Waller-Bridge celebrates after winning for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for "Fleabag." REUTERS/Mike Blake TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau speaks during an election campaign stop in Brampton

## Adoptees Still Pushing For Citizenship; Legislation Re-introduced In 2018



Members of the Adoptee Rights Campaign took their story to the Hill for a briefing co-hosted by Sen. Mazie Hirono (D-Hawaii) and Adam Smith (D-Wash.), as well as former Rep. Bill Delahunt, who led the effort to pass the Child Citizenship Act in 2000. The Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018 was introduced on March 8. Photo from the Adoptee Rights Campaign.

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

The Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2018 will provide U.S. citizenship for adoptees whose parents failed to finalize citizenship for them during their childhood despite being adopted as young children by U.S. citizens.

"International adoptees who were adopted by American parents and raised as Americans should have the same rights of citizenship as biological children," said Hirono in a press release yesterday. "I'm proud to work with Senator Blunt to close the loophole in the Child Citizenship Act and right this wrong."

The loophole has received widespread attention in the last few years with high profile cases like Adam Crapser who was deported to Korea, despite having been adopted by American citizens as a toddler. Crapser, like Korean adoptee Philip Clay, was deported after an arrest that flagged their citizenship status. Once deported to their country of birth adoptees face any number of challenges, starting with not knowing the language and not being connected to anyone there. At age 42, Clay jumped from the 14th story of a Korean apartment building to his death May 21, 2017.

Despite these high profile cases, The Adoptee Citizenship Act failed to pass during the 114th Congress in late 2016. But adoptees haven't given up advocating for the passage of this bill.



An estimated 35,000-75,000 international adoptees are impacted and living in the United States without citizenship despite being adopted by American citizens and raised in this country their entire lives, according to statistics from the Adoptee Rights Campaign.

In 2000, the Child Citizenship Act was passed to help remedy this problem for intercountry adoptees, making citizenship automatic for children adopted internationally. But the passage of that law was only made applicable for international adoptions from 2000 forward, leaving all those adopted prior to that

without citizenship and vulnerable to deportation if they did not go through the naturalization process while they were minors.

"Closing the existing loopholes in the Child Citizenship Act will ensure international adoptees are treated equally under U.S. law," said Rep. Adam Smith, in a press release today. This bill will positively impact thousands of Americans, by granting citizenship they should have had in the first place and fostering stability in their lives and communities. I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this important legislation."



**In 2016, an immigration judge ruled that Korean American adoptee, Adam Crapser, will not be granted relief from pending deportation to South Korea. Crapser, who is married and has three small children, was adopted by an American couple at the age of three and is alienated from his birth country and culture.**

Fortunately for Kim-Alessi, she has her permanent resident status, which allows her to remain in this country and be gainfully employed. But she is not allowed to vote, collect government benefits or apply for federal employment.

"This bill is going to monumentally life-changing," said Kim-Alessi who in recent years had succumbed to the idea that she would remain a permanent legal resident her entire life. "Since I've never been a citizen, it's hard to opine in all the ways this would impact me." (Courtesy

<https://chronicleofsocialchange.org/>)

### Related

**Bill aims to protect Korean-American adoptees from deportation**



**Korean-American adoptees are drawing attention to a petition and calling on Congress to support a law to prevent deportations of legal adoptees. File Photo by Kevin Dietsch/UPI | License Photo**

NEW YORK, May 29 (UPI) -- Tens of thousands of international adoptees in the United States, many of them of Korean descent, are under threat of potential deportation because of neglected paperwork.

Adoptees legally adopted by U.S. citizens need better protection, and a new law could lift them out of immigration limbo, said Jenny Town, a leading analyst in Washington on North Korea affairs, and managing editor of 38 North.

The Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2019 would allow certain adoptees, whose applications for U.S. citizenship were never filed with the government before 2000, to acquire automatic citizenship, she said.



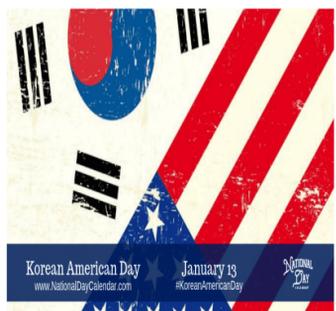
Town, herself a Korean-American adoptee, has been circulating the petition, calling on Congress to support the new law. But the request is being made at a time when the Trump administration continues to pursue a wall at the Mexico border, and the president's supporters want to curtail immigration.

The act, if passed, would also allow deported adoptees to return to the United States.

Town is concerned the current mood in Washington could hurt their chances.

"On the policy side of immigration, people view this as criminals coming back, or trying to come back, regardless of the type of crime," Town said.

The petition is being circulated online following the high-profile deportation of Adam Crapser, a South Korea-born adoptee brought to the United States at age 3 but deported in 2016 over criminal convictions, including unlawful possession of a firearm and assault.



Town said Crapser is one of many cases of deportations. Other adoptees were forcibly removed because of minor violations, even unpaid parking tickets, she said.

Town, who was adopted when she was 3 years old, said the South Korean experience with inter-country adoptions offers a cautionary tale.

While many children needed homes, others were "recruited from poor families" in past decades.

"The system wasn't regulated," Town said. "That's where the problem stems from." (Courtesy <https://www.upi.com/>)

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Close to 50,000 people gathered for what Mr Trump called a “profoundly historic event” on Sunday in Houston.

The “Howdy, Modi!” event was billed as one of the largest ever receptions of a foreign leader in the US.

Mr Modi, however, may face a frostier reception at the UN General Assembly. He is likely to face criticism over tensions in Indian-administered Kashmir, which he stripped of its special status last month, promising to restore the region to its “past glory”.

The region has been in lockdown for more than a month with thousands of activists, politicians and business leaders detained.

Trade talks and the UN General Assembly are on the Indian prime minister’s agenda during his week-long visit to the United States.



**Narendra Modi and Donald Trump leave the stage holding hands at Houston’s NRG Stadium.**

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, who has been the most vocal international leader to oppose India’s Kashmir move, is also in the US for the UN conference. Like Mr Modi, he will have a one-on-one meeting with Mr Trump on the sidelines of the summit.

A 90-minute show, featuring 400 performers, warmed up the crowd before Mr Modi and Mr Trump shared the stage. “I’m so thrilled to be here in Texas with one of America’s greatest, most devoted and most loyal friends, Prime Minister Modi of India,” Mr Trump told the crowd.

In his speech, Mr Modi said India has

## ‘Howdy, Modi!’ Trump Hails Indian PM At ‘Historic’ Texas Rally



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump have spoken to tens of thousands of Indian Americans at a rally in Houston, Texas. Modi said, “It is my honor to introduce you to my family.”

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

a “true friend” in the White House, describing Mr Trump as “warm, friendly, accessible, energetic and full of wit”.

“From CEO to commander-in-chief, from boardrooms to the Oval Office, from studios to the global stage... he has left a lasting impact everywhere,” Mr Modi said.

*This was exactly the kind of crowd size and energy Personal-touch diplomacy played to perfection*

---Brajesh Upadhyay, BBC News, Houston

President Trump loves at his rallies.

Only here the chants were for Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr Trump was the superstar invited to the party. But the crowd did not disappoint him either and greeted him with chants

of “USA!”, most heard at Trump rallies.



The event, dubbed “Howdy, Modi!”, was attended by an estimated 50,000 people.

The personal-touch diplomacy with Mr Modi’s trademark bear hugs was played to perfection.

This rally has been called a win-win for both the leaders. For President Trump,

it was a chance to court Indian-Americans for the 2020 presidential election race where Texas could emerge as a battleground state. For Mr Modi, a PR triumph and picture with the president of the United States may help him shrug off the criticism over his recent strong-arm policies at home.

Houston’s NRG Stadium, where the event was hosted, was the first stop for Mr Modi, whose Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) won a landslide victory in this year’s Indian elections.

Greeted by a standing ovation, Mr Trump used his speech to heap praise on Mr Modi, who he said was doing a “truly exceptional job for India” and its people. Mr Trump also paid tribute to the Indi-

an-American community, telling them “we are truly proud to have you as Americans”.

The US has a population of about 4 million Indians who are seen as an increasingly important vote bank in the country.



Apart from Mr Trump, organisers also invited Democrats to the event - House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer was among those who spoke.

The 2010 US census shows that Texas is home to the fourth-largest Indian-American population in the country after California, New York and New Jersey.

Analysis of voting patterns shows the community tends overwhelmingly to support the Democrat party.

No stranger to nationalist rhetoric himself, Mr Trump compared security at the US-Mexico border to the tensions between India and Pakistan in the tinder-box Kashmir region.

“Both India and US also understand that to keep our communities safe, we must protect our borders,” Trump said.

In India, the rally was closely watched, with most mainstream media outlets running live news updates of what was transpiring on stage.

The event had been making headlines for days before as well.

On Twitter, many people shared instant analysis and opinions of what was taking place on the stage with the sentiment being overwhelmingly positive. Many praised Mr Modi for what they saw as his statesmanship and diplomatic acumen with a lot of praise coming in for the US president as well. (Courtesy <https://www.bbc.com/news/world->)



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