



Inside C2

Southern DAILY

Make Today Different

Southern Daily News is published by Southern News Group Daily

Publisher: Wea H. Lee
President: Catherine Lee
Editor: John Robbins

Address: 11122 Bellaire Blvd., Houston, TX 77072
E-mail: News@scdaily.com

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 | www.today-america.com | Southern News Group

White House expert tells hearing that Trump made improper 'demand' of Ukraine



Former U.S. special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker; and Tim Morrison, former senior director for European and Russian affairs on the National Security Council, are sworn in to testify before a House Intelligence Committee hearing as part of the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., November 19, 2019. REUTERS/Jonathan Ernst

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A White House official testified in the impeachment inquiry against President Donald Trump on Tuesday that the president's request that Ukraine investigate a domestic political rival was an improper "demand," as he fended off Republican efforts to cast doubt on his competence and loyalty to the United States.

Army Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, the White House National Security Council's top Ukraine expert and a decorated Iraq war veteran, testified at the third public impeachment hearing before the U.S. House of Representatives Intelligence Committee, wearing his blue dress military uniform and medals.

Both Vindman and a second witness - Jennifer Williams, an aide to U.S. Vice President Mike Pence - raised concerns about requests made by Trump in a July 25 telephone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that is at the heart of the impeachment investigation threatening Trump's presidency.

RELATED COVERAGE

Former White House aide felt no pressure to resign over impeachment

McConnell says 'inconceivable' U.S. Senate will have votes to remove Trump

See more stories

During the call, Trump asked Zelenskyy to carry out two investigations that would benefit him politically, including one targeting Democratic political rival Joe Biden. The other involved a debunked conspiracy theory embraced by some Trump allies that Ukraine, not Russia, interfered in the 2016 U.S. election.

Vindman and Williams were among the U.S. officials who listened in during the call.

"Frankly, I couldn't believe what I was hearing. It was probably an element of shock that maybe, in certain regards, my worst fear of how our Ukrainian policy could play out was playing out," Vindman said. Williams told the committee that Trump's call with Zelenskyy was unusual and inappropriate because "it involved discussion of what appeared to be a domestic political matter."

Ahead of the July call, Trump had frozen \$391 million in U.S. security aid approved by Congress to help Ukraine combat Russia-backed separatists in the eastern part of the country. Trump was seeking a Ukrainian investigation of Biden, a leading contender for the Democratic nomination to face Trump in the 2020 presidential election, and Biden's son Hunter, who had served on the board of a Ukrainian energy firm called Burisma. Kurt Volker, a former diplomat who was involved in discussions to get Zelenskyy's government to investigate corruption, said he did not know that was effectively a request to investigate Biden.

"In retrospect, I should have seen that connection different, and had I done so, I would have raised my own objections," he said in prepared testimony.

Former U.S. special envoy to Ukraine Kurt Volker; and Tim Morrison, former senior director for European and Russian affairs on the National Security Council, are sworn in to testify before a House Intelligence Committee hearing as part of the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington,

Former National Security Council Russia expert Tim Morrison also was due to testify later on Tuesday.

'CHARACTER ATTACKS'

Vindman, whose family fled the Soviet Union four decades ago when he was 3 years old and settled in the United States, told lawmakers that "character attacks" against public servants testifying in the impeachment inquiry were "reprehensible." Even as he was testifying, the White House's official Twitter account attacked his judgment - even though he is a current White House official, and the president's son Donald Trump Jr. assailed him in a separate Twitter post as "a low level partisan bureaucrat and nothing more."

Vindman, a U.S. citizen born in Ukraine, was asked by a Republican lawyer at the hearing whether he would consider becoming part of the Ukrainian government - an offer that was made by a Zelenskyy adviser. Vindman responded that he is an American and would not consider such an offer, calling it "comical."

Republican Representative Jim Jordan told Vindman that his White House bosses had questioned his judgment, but Vindman read from a July employee evaluation that called him "brilliant" and said he exercised "excellent judgment."

Trump has attacked both Williams and Vindman on Twitter as "Never Trump" witnesses, a term he uses to describe Republicans who oppose him. Some of Trump's allies in the conservative media have questioned Vindman's loyalty to the United States.

Asked by Democratic Representative Jim Himes if he would call himself a "a Never Trumper," Vindman responded: "I'd call myself never partisan."

C.Y. LEE LEGAL GROUP, PLLC

李中原律師

DANIEL LEE 精通國語、英語
法學博士 ATTORNEY AT LAW 粵語、西班牙語
資深出庭辯護律師



Of Counsel Mark Thering and Of Counsel Glenn Loethen.

專精 刑事事故/車禍意外/人身傷害 歡迎來電預約:
家庭法/離婚官司/子女扶養 832-632-4639
商業/房產糾紛/各類案件 英語、國語、粵語、西班牙語



E-mail: manager.v@houstondivorcenow.com

www.leelegalgroup.com

為服務華人社區已於美南新聞大樓一樓設有辦公室

11122 Bellaire Blvd., Suite 103, Houston, TX 77072 (Tues-Thur 9:00am-5:00pm)

1305 Prairie St., Ste. 300, Houston, TX 77002 (Mon-Fri 9:00am-5:00pm)



正茂商業屋頂

JH Roofing Inc.

Office: 713-678-0711



- ★ 精於抓漏及各種維修
- ★ 更換各式商業屋頂
- ★ 提供年度屋頂保養檢驗 (預防維修, 避免重大損失)
- ★ 擁有多種品牌商業屋頂安裝的執照或證書
- ★ 九年商業大樓檢驗師經驗
- ★ 協助冰雹、風災及火災理賠
- ★ 美南地區唯一華人專業商業屋頂公司

誠信、敬業、價格合理、有保險
經驗豐富的黃正茂團隊為您服務!

We Serve The Following Area:
* Houston, TX
* Dallas/Fortworth, TX
* Austin, TX
* Nationwide

Headquarter:
705 K Ave #7, Plano, TX 75074

Office:
972-235-2525
Text: 972-235-2626
Email: info@jh-roofing.com

Houston:
5233 Bellaire Blvd #177 Bellaire, TX 77401
Tel: 713-678-0711

Without a China trade deal, the U.S. will hike tariffs: Trump

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The United States would raise tariffs on Chinese imports if no deal is reached with Beijing to end a trade war, U.S. President Donald Trump said on Tuesday, threatening an escalation of the spat that has damaged economic growth worldwide.

Trade commission finds Chinese mattress imports hurt U.S. industry
Speaking at a cabinet meeting at the White House, Trump said he had a good relationship with China, noting that China was "moving along." However, he said China would have to make a deal "I like."

"If we don't make a deal with China, I'll just raise the tariffs even higher," he told a room filled with senior U.S. officials. The United States and China have been locked in successive waves of tit-for-tat tariffs that have roiled financial markets and threatened to drag growth in the global economy to its lowest rate since the 2007-2008 financial crisis.

Hopes were high that a partial trade deal could be signed at a summit in Santiago, Chile that was scheduled for mid-November. The summit was canceled amid unrest in Chile and a path forward for a deal remains unclear.

Sticking points include how and when to reduce tariffs and how much U.S. agricultural products China would commit to buy.

White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said last week that the two countries were getting close to an agreement to end the 16-month-long trade war, but he gave no further details on the timing of a possible deal.

Still, Chinese state media outlet Xinhua said "constructive talks" were held by phone on Saturday between China's Vice Premier Liu He, U.S. trade representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin.



U.S. House approves bill to avert government shutdown

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday approved legislation to avert a widespread government shutdown later this week with a bill extending temporary federal funding through Dec. 20.

The legislation passed the House by a vote of 231-192, with all but a dozen Republicans voting against the funding.

It now goes to the Senate, which will aim to approve it before midnight Thursday when existing funds expire. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell on Monday said the White House had indicated its support for the bill.

This second stop-gap bill since September is needed because Congress has not completed a series of regular appropriations bills for the fiscal year that began on Oct. 1. That in part is because of disagreements between Republican President Donald Trump and Democrats, who control the House, over the billions of dollars he wants to build a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

The same disagreements resulted in a record-long, 35-day partial government shutdown that began late last December and extended into early 2019.



公众听证通知

德克萨斯州哈里斯郡大都会交通局(METRO)

特此给出通知，得克萨斯州哈里斯郡交通运输管理局 (METRO) 的董事会将于2019年12月3日星期二中午12点召开公众听证会，以接受关于提议的2020年2月改变的公众评论。提议的服务改变包括：

重新调整路线5、20、283和292；计划更改路线4、5、8、11、25、27、40、45、47、49、63、82、87、98、102、214、217、222、265、297、298和344；实施新的433 METRO Rapid Uptown路线；并终止了33号线。

提议的路线地图和可用的时间表副本将于2019年11月19日星期二在线和在以下地点提供给公众查看：

METRO行政办公楼 - 1900 Main Street, Houston, TX, 77002, 工作日上午8:00到下午5:00

2019年12月3日星期二中午的公众听证会将在1900 Main Street, Houston, TX的2楼会议室召开 (由METRO 6、11、32、44、51、52、54、82、85、102、137、160、161、162、249路线和METRO rail服务)。

如何对服务更改发表意见

- 于2019年12月3日参加公众听证会。
- 将评论邮寄给我们，收件人为：METRO, ATTN: February 2020 Service Change, 1900 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002。
- 将评论传真给我们，标题提到“February 2020 Service Change”，传真号码为：(713) 652-7956。
- 致电METRO的客户关怀热线，电话号码为：(713) 635-4000。
- 在METRO的网站 - RideMETRO.org提交评论。

意见不应迟于公开听证会的日期及时间被METRO收到。

对残疾人的帮助

可以为残疾人士提供支持服务或另一种格式的公文副本。有听觉障碍的人士，请在公众听证会之前至少五 (5) 个工作日致电(713) 750-4271。

语言翻译

任何人士如需要语言翻译或特别通讯设施，请致电(713)739-4018或通过电子邮件 METROPublicAffairs@RideMETRO.org与METRO Public Affairs联络。我们会尽一切合理的努力来满足您的需要。

1. 该公众听证会符合联邦交通运输部2010年5月1日公布的通知9030.1D的要求，页码IV-13。
2. METRO在其服务、方案和活动中在许可、进入、处理或雇佣方面不因残疾而有所歧视。
3. METRO 致力于确保没有人因种族、肤色或民族出身而被排除或被剥夺其运输服务，这一点受到1964年“公民权利法”第六章的保护。



RideMETRO.org • 713.635.4000
所有METRO車輛100% 設有殘疾人無障礙設施。

Free Education on Understanding Medicare
from Physicians Life Insurance Company

Join us for Medicare 101*
Parts A, B, C & D

We'll discuss and educate you on:

- Making the most of your rights, options and entitlements
- Parts A, B, C & D
- How to enroll in Medicare
- What Medicare does and doesn't cover
- Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement insurance
- And much more!



Date:
July 27, 2019

Time:
2 pm

Place:
Clear Lake Freeman Library
16616 Diana Lane
Houston TX 77062

RSVP to save your seat today!

David Wang
Agent
Office: 713-667-0724
Cell: 281-486-5732
davidjwang1@gmail.com



*Medicare 101 sessions are insurance sales presentations.

We are not connected with, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Federal Medicare Program. This is a solicitation of insurance. An agent may contact you.

Editor's Choice



The 20th Annual Latin Grammy Awards – Photo Room– Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S., November 14, 2019 – Kany Garcia poses backstage with her awards for Best Singer/Songwriter Album for “Contra El Viento” and Best Short Form Music Video for “Banana Papaya”.



Palestinian demonstrator argues with an Israeli border policeman during a protest against Jewish settlements in the Israeli-occupied West Bank



A protester sleeps on the campus of the occupied Hong Kong Polytechnic University, in Hong Kong, China, November 15, 2019. REUTERS/Thomas Peter TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Police detain a demonstrator during a protest against Chile's government in Santiago



A man carries a woman on his back through the flooded St. Mark's Square during a period of seasonal high water in Venice, Italy, November 14, 2019. REUTERS/Flavio Lo Scalzo TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



A man gets beaten by anti-government demonstrators during a protest in Central, Hong Kong, China November 14, 2019. REUTERS/Athit Perawongmetha TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



An Iraqi demonstrator uses a slingshot during ongoing anti-government protests in Baghdad, Iraq November 14, 2019. REUTERS/Alaa al-Marjani TPX IMAGES OF THE DAY



Protests against Chile's government in Santiago

JAPAN TO DUMP ONE MILLION TONS OF RADIOACTIVE WATER INTO PACIFIC



Shown Above: A dead sea lion on California's coast shows high radiation readings.

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

"The operator of the ruined Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant will dump huge quantities of contaminated water from the plant site directly into the Pacific Ocean, Japan's environment minister has said - a move that would enrage local fishermen.

Tepeco (Tokyo Electric Power Company) admitted last year that the water in its tanks still contained contaminants beside tritium, even though they had already treated the waste materials.

"The only option will be to drain it into the sea and dilute it," the environment minister, Yoshiaki Harada, told a news briefing in Tokyo on September 10, 2019.

One recent study by Hiroshi Miyano, who heads a committee studying the decommissioning of Fukushima Daiichi at the Atomic Energy Society of Japan, said it could take 17 years to discharge the treated water after it has been diluted to reduce radioactive substances to levels that meet the plant's safety standards. Any decision to dispose of the waste water into the sea would anger local fishermen, who have spent the past eight years

rebuilding their industry. Nearby South Korea has also voiced concern over the impact it would have on the reputation of its own seafood.

Last month, Seoul summoned a senior Japanese embassy official to explain how Fukushima Daiichi's waste water would be dealt with.

The government spent 34.5bn yen (£260m) to build a frozen underground wall to prevent groundwater reaching the three damaged reactor buildings. The wall, however, has succeeded only in reducing the flow of groundwater from about 500 tonnes a day to about 100 tonnes a day.



Japan has come under renewed pressure to address the contaminated water problem before Tokyo hosts the Olympics and Paralympics next summer.

Six years ago during the city's bid for the games, the prime minister, Shinzo Abe, assured the international community that the situation was 'under control'."

Many experts, government officials of other nations, Japanese residents and activists strongly disagree.

"The government must commit to the only environmentally acceptable option for managing this water crisis which is long term storage and processing to remove radioactivity, including tritium," Shaun Burnie, senior nuclear specialist with Greenpeace Germany, said in an email.

As far back as 2014, the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) recommended a controlled release of all this water into the ocean as 'the safest course of action', and Japan's Nuclear Regulation Agency (NRA) has made similar recommendations.

A 'Tritiated Water Task Force' convened by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in 2013 (PDF) examined five options in detail, including evaporating it and releasing it into the atmosphere, releasing it into the atmosphere as hydrogen gas, injecting it into deep geologic strata, storing it underground, and diluting it and discharging it into the ocean.

For reasons of cost, available technology, time required, and 'safety', in its final report issued in June, 2016, the task force concluded that ocean discharge was the least objectionable approach. Bottom line...dumping the nuclear waste is cheap and the currents will carry it away from Japan.



Japan seems to expect the world to accept the unproven myth that the ocean can "clean up" their mess by dissolving all the deadly radiation.

As the Associated Press plainly noted: "The floating debris will likely be carried by currents off of Japan toward Washington, Oregon and California before turning toward Hawaii and back again toward Asia, circulating in what is known as the North Pacific gyre, said Curt Ebbsmeyer, a Seattle oceanographer who has spent decades tracking flotsam. "All this debris will find a way to reach the West coast or stop in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch," a swirling mass of concentrated marine litter in the Pacific Ocean, said Luca Centurioni, a researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego."

And this process will be repeated over and over again as long as Japan continues to release radiation into the ocean. Japan does not dare release the waste into the atmosphere because history has shown that radiation will continue to fall on the earth for hundreds, or even thousands of years.



Japan is an island nation without adequate land mass to safely store these contaminants away from human populations. They cannot respond quickly to the problem like Russia did to their "toxic accident," and so they are looking at between 40 to 100 years of "making room"

for a million tons of waste water every 8 years plus the daily accumulation of solid waste, recontaminated land, each rain, typhoon, earthquake, fire and each time the wind blows that will negatively affect all their efforts.

From the leading newspaper in Japan: "Treated water at the Fukushima plant is far too unsafe to be dumped very soon." "Steps to purify radioactive water build-up at the stricken Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant have come to naught, forcing the operator, Tokyo Electric Power Co., to go back to the drawing board."

METI (Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry) has been pushing TEPCO to accelerate the processing of contaminated water to show the world gathering in Japan for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics that the situation in Fukushima was under control and the region well on its way to rebuilding." As of June, 2018, Tepco listed 850,000 tons of contaminated nuclear waste water was already in tanks. (Courtesy The Guardian UK)



美南報業/電視/網站/傳媒總社 SOUTHERN NEWS GROUP

Media | Newspaper | Television | Yellow Pages | Printing

The Largest Asian Independent Multi-media Group In Houston & USA.



美南國際電視網
Southern Television



美南新聞日報(總社)
Southern Chinese Daily News



休士頓黃頁
Houston Chinese Yellow Pages



休士頓旅遊指南
Houston Travel Guide



今日美國網站
today-america.com



美南國際貿易中心
International Trade Center
www.itchouston.org



美南印刷廠
U.S.A. Printing



美國美南拉瑪爾大學環球職業教育中心
Global center for Professional Education Lamar University -SNG



美南光聲電訊傳媒集團
Phonoscope-Southern News Group Telecom Media Group



SOUTHERN NEWS GROUP

T 281-498-4310
F 281-498-2728

ad@scdaily.com
www.today-america.com

11122 Bellaire Blvd
Houston, TX 77072

The 2019 Flu Season Is Predicted To Be Bad – The Public Is Encouraged To Get A Flu Shot



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

Flu seasons are notoriously unpredictable, but there are already clues that the upcoming season may be especially difficult.

Flu season in the Southern Hemisphere can be an indication of what's to come in the Northern Hemisphere, and the recent flu season in Australia, where winter has just ended, arrived early and with a vengeance. A particularly virulent flu strain, H3N2, dominated.

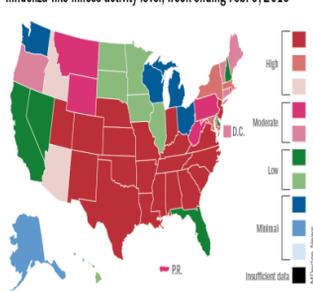
Additionally, a pediatric flu death has already been reported in the U.S. — a 4 year old in California who had underlying health problems.

"We should never forget that the flu still kills," Dr. Cameron Kaiser, a public health officer for Riverside County, California, said in a news release announcing the death.

"A death so early in the flu season suggests this year may be worse than usual," Kaiser warned.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that last year, there were 37 million to 43 million flu illnesses in the U.S., and 36,400 to 61,200 flu-related deaths. Last year's flu season ran from Oct. 1, 2018, to May 4.

Influenza-like illness activity level, week ending Feb. 9, 2019



Note: Based on data from the U.S. Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network. Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The 2019 Flu Season Has "Staying Power."

Is it too early to get the flu vaccine? No. Doctors say people should get the flu vaccine now, and certainly before Thanksgiving.

"The concern with delaying it is that some people who might have the opportunity to get vaccinated now may not have that opportunity later," said Dr. Robert Atmar, a professor of medicine and an infectious disease expert at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

"The most important thing is for people to get their flu vaccine, and get it before the epidemic starts," he said.

Most healthy people who get the shot in September can expect some protection through the spring. But older adults may want to schedule their vaccination for sometime in October.

"There is a concern that some older people may have their immunity wane simply because their immune system is more frail, less robust," Dr. William Schaffner, a professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Flu activity usually picks up in October and November, peaks around February, and can last well into the spring months. The CDC recommends everyone over age 6 months be vaccinated against the flu, especially expectant mothers.

Pregnant women who get the flu tend to have complications similar to those over 65. The shot offers protection for both the woman and her unborn baby.

It takes about two weeks to build immunity to influenza after getting the vaccine. But even then, the flu vaccine offers only partial protection. Last year, the vaccine didn't work well: Its overall effectiveness was 29 percent.

Doctors blamed the poor match on a surprise second wave of H3N2 flu activity late in the season.



Why should I get the flu vaccine even if it doesn't work well?

There is plenty of evidence that the vaccine can ease the severity of the flu if you do get sick. Doctors say people who

get the vaccine generally don't feel as sick if they do wind up with the flu, and they're less likely to develop complications of the virus, including pneumonia and death.

"Partial protection frequently gets overlooked, and we shouldn't forget that," Schaffner said.

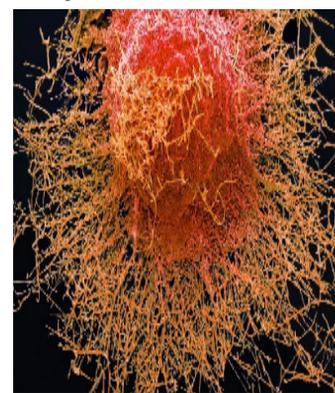
"Because it's those complications that do you in."

What's more, research published last year found the risk for heart attack or stroke increases the month after a person is diagnosed with the flu. The mechanism is likely one of inflammation and stress in the body caused by the virus.

A specific flu shot call Fluzone may be best for older adults. "For people over age 65, there is evidence that the high-dose vaccine will provide greater than a standard dose vaccine," Atmar said.

is one of the country's most severe ever, sickening more than 272,000 and killing 662:

•It also started in April, two months earlier, and peaked in June and July compared to the usual peak between August and September.



A human cell infected with the H3N2 flu virus, responsible for Australia's and the U.S.'s worst recent flu outbreaks. The same strain may dominate this year, too. Steve Gschmeissner/Science Source

•The 2017 flu season was Australia's deadliest in 20 years and was followed by the 2017-18 US season that killed nearly 80,000.

•In the US, there has already been one pediatric death recorded after a 4-year-old boy from California died from flu-related complications last year. (Courtesy <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/>)

IT'S FLU SEASON.

PROTECT YOURSELF. PROTECT OTHERS. GET A FLU SHOT.

Fluzone and the standard dose shots available this year include protection against several influenza strains, including H1N1 and H3N2.

FluMist, the nasal spray favored by kids and anyone else averse to needles, is also back this year. (Courtesy nbcnews.com)

Related

Australia Just Had a Bad Flu Season. That May Be a Warning for the U.S. The flu season just ending in Australia

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER Houston Texas

國際貿易中心

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

We Build Bridges To International Business

國際化商貿 從這裡出發

辦公室招租 Office for Rent

- 位置極佳，近中國城5分鐘。
- 環境高雅，安全安靜，包水電，免費高速網絡，辦公傢具
- 有大型停車場。
- Great location, 5 minutes drive from Chinatown.
- Safe and quiet work place with water and electricity, free high-speed Internet, office furniture.
- There has a large parking lot.

舉辦活動最佳地點 Event rental

- 場地寬敞 設備齊全
- 有大型停車場。
- The great location to host various of events in Chinatown area.
- Spacious place with a large parking lot.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER-HOUSTON

Southern News Group 11110 Bellaire Blvd., Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77072

Corporate Office-Houston, Texas USA Tel:(832)448-0190 Fax:(281)498-2728