

the August 31st, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

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Welcome to the August 31st, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

When I returned home from MidAmerican II last week I brought home three things with me. The first two were Souvenir Spoons for SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED. One was from the Titanic Museum in Branson, MO. and the other was from the Harry Truman Presidential Library in Independence, MO. The last thing I brought home was an incredible case of ConCrud! I have been hacking, coughing and feeling miserable for the past 10 days. I am hoping that I am on the mend, but it is still a lousy feeling. One of the big things I still have to do is to pay all the bills from the trip and get even with Gary 'Da Fish'. Normally I am the one that does the calculations for the trip where we all share the expenses. This time I just acted like a shulb and let Gary do the books. In other words, I just drove and enjoyed myself. Maybe I'll feel better this week and get the car serviced and do my portion of the finances. But then again, there is always next week.

The one high point of the week is that we celebrated my father-in-law's 92nd Birthday last weekend. It was great when the family gathered to celebrate Popee's birthday and there was tons of cake and ice cream. But it got kind of lonely around the house when everybody went home and it was quiet. I guess I really am the Little House on the Prairie type that loves to have the family around.

Next weekend is DragonCon and the Spraker Clan is heading for the event. SWMBO said she saw Brandy, Empress of the Known Universe, and Beth, Destroyer of Worlds, at the Goodwill store looking for supplies to make costumes for the Convention. The Spraker Clan looks like they are cranking up for a fun weekend. But, Alexander the Grape will be staying home and helping me get the yard in shape for the coming winter. I know it's going to cost me, but I definitely enjoy it when we spend some time together.

So on that "Family Note", why don't y'all sit back and relax because here's the best in gossip, jokes and science for your reading pleasure!

Uncle Timmy

<G>~<O>~<S>~<S>~<I>~<P>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<S>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>~<I>

SURPRISE! IT'S OFFICIAL!

From: "Stephanie Osborn"

Gentleman Aegis Book 1, Sherlock Holmes and the Mummy's Curse, has WON a Silver Falchion Award for YA!

<http://www.killernashville.com/2016-killer-nashville-silver-falchion-finalists/>

Go to the link and scroll down -- winners in each category are BOLDED!

Ostensibly this is called a "nonfiction" category, but I think the term they were looking for was "historical fiction," because that's what the books in that category were -- mysteries with accurate historical settings.

I'm gonna go dance and have some ice cream!

CONGRATULATIONS!

<T>~<H>~<E>~<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>

From: "Frank Brayman" afranklin3@gmail.com

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I GOT MY CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT YESTERDAY MORNING....

Yesterday afternoon, I went over to the local Bass Pro Shop to get a 9mm handgun for home/personal protection.

When I was ready to pay for the pistol and some ammo, the cashier said, "Strip down, facing me."

Making a mental note to complain to the NRA about the gun control wackos running amok, I did just as she had instructed.

When the hysterical shrieking and alarms finally subsided, I found out she was referring to how I should place my credit card in the card reader!!!

As an intelligent senior citizen, I do not get flustered often. But this time, it took me a while to get my pants back on.

I've been asked to shop elsewhere in the future. They need to make their instructions to seniors a little more clear.

I still don't think I looked that bad.....Just need to wear underwear more often!

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "RAY BELOATE" beerman@rittermail.com

A LOT OF JOKES ABOUT BLONDE FEMALES FLOAT AROUND THE INTERNET - BUT THERE ARE A WHOLE GROUP OF JOKES ABOUT MEN THAT MANY DO NOT SEE.

One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his Sweatshirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me,

'What setting do I use on the washing machine?'

'It depends,' I replied. 'What does it say on your shirt?'

He yelled back, 'OHIO STATE!'

And they say blondes are dumb....(must have bought the shirt at a rummage sale.)

~~~~~

A couple is lying in bed. The man says, 'I am going to make you the happiest woman in the world...'

The woman replies, 'I'll miss you..... '

~~~~~

'It's just too hot to wear clothes today,' Jack says as he stepped out of the shower.

'Honey, what do you think the neighbors would think if I mowed the lawn like this?'

'Probably that I married you for your money, 'she replied.

~~~~~

**Q: What do you call an intelligent, good looking, sensitive man?**

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**A: A rumor**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Dear Lord,**

**I pray for Wisdom to understand my man; Love to forgive him, and Patience for his moods.**

**Because, Lord, if I pray for Strength, I'll beat him to death.**

**AMEN**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**What do you call a handcuffed man?**

**A: Trustworthy.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Q: What does it mean when a man is in your bed gasping for breath and calling your name?**

**A: You did not hold the pillow down long enough.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Q: Why do men whistle when they are sitting on the toilet?**

**A: It helps them remember which end to wipe.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Q: How do you keep your husband from reading your e-mail?**

**A: Rename the email folder 'Instruction Manuals'**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**While creating husbands, God promised women that good and ideal husbands would be found in all corners of the world ..... then He made the earth round.**

**<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>**

**From: "Mike Waldrip" [waldripk@gmail.com](mailto:waldripk@gmail.com)**

**ZOO FOOD**

**A guy starts his new job at the zoo and is given three tasks.**

**First is to clear the exotic fish pool of weeds. As he does so, a huge fish jumps out and bites him.**

**To show who is boss, he beats it to death with a spade. Realizing his employer won't be best pleased he disposes of the fish by feeding it to the lions, as lions will eat anything.**

**Moving on to the second job of clearing out the Chimp house, he is attacked by the chimps that pelt him with coconuts. He swipes at two chimps with a spade killing them both.**

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What can he do? Feed them to the lions, he says to himself, because lions eat anything... He hurls the corpses into the lion enclosure.

He moves on to the last job which is to collect honey from the South American Bees. As soon as he starts, he is attacked by the bees. He grabs the spade and smashes the bees to a pulp.

By now he knows what to do and shovels them into the lions cage because lions eat anything.

Later that day a new lion arrives at the zoo.. He wanders up to another lion and says "What's the food like here?"

The lion says: "Absolutely brilliant, today we had Fish and Chimps with Mushy Bees.

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>

### SPEEDING

Two Highway Patrol Officers were conducting speeding enforcement on I-15, just north of Oceanside, San Diego, California...

One of the officers was using a hand held radar device to check speeding vehicles approaching the crest of a hill. The officers were suddenly surprised when the radar gun began reading 300 miles per hour and climbing.

The officer attempted to reset the radar gun, but it would not reset and then it suddenly turned off.

Just then a deafening roar over the treetops revealed that the radar had in fact locked on to a USMC F/A-18 Hornet which was engaged in a low flying exercise near this, it's home base location.

Back at the California Highway Patrol Headquarters the Patrol Captain fired off a complaint to the US Marine Corps Base Commander for shutting down his equipment.

The reply came back in true USMC style:

'Thank you for your letter. You may be interested to know that the tactical computer in the Hornet had detected the presence of, and subsequently locked on to, your hostile radar equipment and automatically sent a jamming signal back to it, which is why it shut down.

Furthermore, an Air-to-Ground missile aboard the fully armed aircraft had also automatically locked on to your equipment location.

Fortunately, the Marine Pilot flying the Hornet recognized the situation for what it was, quickly responded to the missile system alert status and was able to override the automated defense system before the missile was launched to destroy the hostile radar position.

The pilot suggests you cover your mouths when cussing at them, since the video systems on these jets are very high tech.

Sergeant Johnson, as his name badge said, the officer holding the radar gun, should get his dentist to check his left rear molar. It appears the filling is loose. Also, the snap is broken on his holster."

<J>~<O>~<K>~<E>~<S>~<of>~<the>~<W>~<E>~<E>~<K>

From: "Jerry Tollett" [haleja@epbf.com](mailto:haleja@epbf.com)

TRUMP & THE POPE...

Seeking a weekend break from his campaign rallies; Donald Trump jetted to his yacht, which was docked off the coast of Italy. He invited Pope Francis and the press corps on board for a Saturday afternoon cruise. It was a rather windy day. The Pope's little hat, his zucchetto, was blown from his head and into the water.

A crewman began lowering a boat to retrieve the zucchetto. Trump told the crewman not to bother. Trump climbed down the yacht's ladder; walked across the waves, picked up the zucchetto; walked back to the yacht and handed it to the Pope. The Pope and the press corps were amazed! Donald Trump could actually walk on water!

Speculation immediately began as to how ABC, CNN, NBC, ABC, The Washington Post and New York Times would report this miraculous event to the rest of the world.

The next morning the New York Times headline read . . . DONALD TRUMP CAN'T SWIM!!!

<YOU>~<~<JUST>~<~<CAN'T>~<~<MAKE>~<~<THIS>~<~<STUFF>~<~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net)

**CONFEDERATE FLAGS TAKEN OFF 70 GRAVES AT HISTORIC CEMETERY IN BRUNSWICK**

Police say vandalism, Sons of Confederate Veterans leads say desecration

By Terry Dickson Wed, Aug 24, updated Wed, Aug 24, 2016

<http://jacksonville.com/news/crime/2016-08-24/story/confederate-flags-taken-70-graves-historic-cemetery-brunswick>

Terry.Dickson@jacksonville.com - 8/24/16  
- One of the few Confederate States of America flags that escaped thieve's notice catches the morning light on a veteran's grave at Oak Grove Cemetery in Brunswick. James C. Carter, adjutant of the Thomas Marsh Forman Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, and Hal Crowe, the camp's commander, call the theft of 70 flags from graves a desecration especially since Congress gave Confederate veterans the same status as all U.S. military veterans. (Florida Times-Union, Terry Dickson)



BRUNSWICK, GA. | A city police report describes the theft of 70 flags from the graves of Confederate veterans at Oak Grove Cemetery as theft of property.

Two officers of a Sons of Confederate Veterans camp say it was a desecration considering Congress long ago conferred the same status on the Confederate dead as other U.S. veterans.

The report of the missing flags was made August 18 by Hal Crowe, commander of the Sons of Confederate Veterans Thomas Marsh Forman Camp #485.

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The Confederate battle flag “is represented on the flags and may be the reason they were stolen and removed,” the police report says.

The flags taken were small, printed replicas of the third official flag of the Confederate State of America. A single vertical red bar takes up about a third of the flag and the rest is a white field with a battle emblem in the corner. At a cost of \$2 each, the total loss was about \$140, the report says.

But the cost is greater than that, said Crowe and James C. Carter, the adjutant of the Thomas Marsh Forman Camp.

Asked about a motive, Crowe said, “I’m not sure what to think. The officer said it was probably vandalism: Somebody just ran through here picking them up.”

Carter said he believes the flags were taken only because they had that little battle emblem.

“You wouldn’t go through any other cemetery removing American flags from graves. These are men who answered the call of their state,” he said, “just like Union soldiers answered the calls of their states.”

Indeed, state names played prominently in the Civil War. At the Battle of Antietam Creek for example, the 7th South Carolina, the 24th Georgia and the 8th Florida were among the Confederate units that faced the 22nd New York, the 7th Indiana and the 12th Massachusetts among others.

“We can’t judge them,” Crowe said. “We cannot view what these men did through our eyes of the 21st Century. We have to view them through the eyes of the 19th Century.”

Many Sons of Confederate Veterans organizations still put the more familiar battle emblems on graves. Starting three years ago, the Thomas Marsh Forman Camp switched to the national flag when it placed flags at historic Oak Grove in April for Confederate Memorial Day, Carter said.

“We put this one out to not be offensive,” Carter said of the flag.

Crowe said the flags are not meant to take a stand on any current issue.

“We don’t get in anybody’s face. We’re not a political organization. We’re a historical organization,” and membership comes from ancestry, he said.

“My great-great-grandfather, James M. Crow, was in the militia up on North Georgia. My great-great-uncle, William Crow, was with Lee at the surrender,” Crowe said.

The last names are spelled differently because his grandfather, without explaining why, decided to add an “e” to Crow, Crowe said.

Carter said his great-great-grandfather, Joshua Thomas Denton, served with Co. C of the 59th Georgia and was killed at Salem Church. Another great-great-grandfather, Zean Kirkland, was wounded at the Battle of South Mountain, he said.

Among the flags missing is one at the statesman Forman’s grave near the center of the cemetery. The ones most noticeable were those at the so called Confederate section at Oak Grove.

Those soldiers had originally been buried somewhere to the west near an old soldiers home for Confederate veterans, Carter said. The graves were moved inside Oak Grove to make way for a railroad that once ran along what is now Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, he said.

Carter said the organization does more than just put out flags. It has sponsored an essay contest in the public schools, donated to the Veterans Lounge at College of Coastal Georgia and donated

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money to preserve Capt. George Dent's kepi, a hat he wore during he war when he left Hofwyl Plantation north of Brunswick to lead the Glynn Rifles. The kepi was found just a few years ago in a trunk at what is now Hofwyl-Broadfiled State Historic Site.

Asked what they would do next, Carter said, "We'll probably be redoing this and see what happens."

WHERE DID YOU EXPECT THE HATE FOR THE CONFEDERATE FLAGS TO STOP. NOW IT'S THE DESECRATION OF THE GRAVES OF FALLEN HEROES. THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THIS IS TO FIND THE DESECRATERS AND PUT THEM IN JAIL FOR 20 YEARS OR SO. AND THAT WOULD BE THE MINIMUM THAT WOULD RECOMMENDED. THE DEAD HEROES OF 'OUR COUNTRY' SHOULD BE HONORED, NOT SPIT UPON TO JUSTIFY A POLITICAL STANCE. UT

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Keith A. Glass: [salgak@comcast.net](mailto:salgak@comcast.net)

A STARTUP BACKED BY PETER THIEL MAKES BANKROLLING CIVIL LAWSUITS EASY

Michael Nunez 8/25/2016 5:11PM

<http://gizmodo.com/a-startup-backed-by-peter-thiel-makes-bankrolling-civil-1785707590>



Image:  
Shutterstock

In courtrooms across America, investors are making money through litigation financing. The process allows investors to cover the cost of a lawsuit in exchange for a share of the financial settlement.

If this process sounds familiar to you, it's probably because it's similar to what billionaire Peter Thiel did when he secretly funded a lawsuit from Hulk Hogan against Gawker Media. It's still unclear whether Thiel benefited financially from \$140 million judgement against Gawker, but the impact of his attack is evident.

Now, a new startup wants to get more people in on the action. Two Harvard undergraduates have created a service called Legalist that uses what they call "data-backed litigation financing," analyzing civil lawsuits with an algorithm to predict case outcomes and determine which civil lawsuits are worth investing in.

The startup was developed as part of Y Combinator's Summer 2016 class. Legalist cofounder Eva Shang is a Thiel Fellow and has received a \$100,000 investment from the billionaire's foundation to build the startup. In reference to the Gawker lawsuit, Eva Shang told Business Insider, "That's the kind of thing we're staying away from here." Legalist will not be backing lawsuits by individuals, like

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Thiel did for Hogan. Instead, the company will be focusing on commercial and small-business lawsuits. (It's unclear whether the defendants of these lawsuits are other businesses or individuals.)

Legalist says it uses an algorithm of 58 different variables including, as Eva Shang told the Silicon Valley Business Journal, who the presiding judge is and the number of cases the judge is currently working on. The algorithm has been fed cases dating back to 1989 and helps people figure out how long a case will last and the risks associated with it.

In a presentation at Y Combinator's Demo Day on Tuesday, the founders claimed that the startup funded one lawsuit for \$75,000 and expects a return of more than \$1 million. Shang says the \$1.40 is earned for every \$1 spent in litigation financing, which can prove to be a profitable enterprise when you're spending hundreds of thousands of dollars.

In 2014, the largest litigation-finance business raked in \$82 million in revenue with an operating profit of \$61 million. The practice has no doubt continued to rise in popularity. With companies like Legalist making it easier for everyone to invest in lawsuits, it shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon. What could go wrong?

<YOU>~<~<JUST>~<~<CAN'T>~<~<MAKE>~<~<THIS>~<~<STUFF>~<~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Christine Cowan" [cowan1028@earthlink.net](mailto:cowan1028@earthlink.net)

THE 5000 SQ FT COLD WAR BUNKER UNDERNEATH A MODEST, SUBURBAN HOUSE IN LAS VEGAS

AUG 23, 2016

[http://twistedSifter.com/2016/08/luxury-cold-war-bunker-in-las-vegas/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+TwistedSifter+%28TwistedSifter+%29](http://twistedSifter.com/2016/08/luxury-cold-war-bunker-in-las-vegas/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+TwistedSifter+%28TwistedSifter+%29)

26 feet underneath this modest, 2 story suburban home in Las Vegas you will find a sprawling, 5,000 square foot home—complete with four-hole putting green, swimming pool, jacuzzi and sauna—and designed to withstand a nuclear blast.

The bunker home at 3970 Spencer Street was built in the 1970s by businessman Girard 'Jerry' B. Henderson, who fearing attack from the Soviets, built his first underground bunker in the 1960s in Boulder, Colorado during the height of the Cold War.



The only signs of something amiss on the surface of this underground retreat were the 'unusual' amount of ground-mounted air conditioning units that were camouflaged by clusters of rocks and boulders...



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Hmmmm



<SNIP>

THERE ARE A TON MORE PICTURES OF THE BUNKER HOUSE AT THE WEBSITE THAT YOU HAVE GOT TO CHECK OUT. IT IS REALLY UNUSUAL. UT

<YOU>~<>~<JUST>~<>~<CAN'T>~<>~<MAKE>~<>~<THIS>~<>~<STUFF>~<>~<UP!>

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

JW: Reading these quotes is a good lesson in history and philosophy.

#### ROBERT HEINLEIN QUOTES

<http://www.famous-quote.net/robert-heinlein-quotes>

Robert Anson Heinlein (1907 –1988) was a popular American science fiction writer. For decades, Heinlein was among the best-selling science fiction writers.

He made a great contribution to the genre and raised the standards of quality. Heinlein's favorite themes included the importance of self-reliance and individualism, difference between "physical" and "emotional" love, influence of culture, religion and government, and the relationship between an individual and society.



#### Robert Heinlein Quotes

**Beware of altruism. It is based on self-deception, the root of all evil.**

- Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

**The future is better than the past. Despite the crepehangers, romanticists, and anti-intellectuals, the world steadily grows better because the human mind, applying itself to environment, makes it better. With hands...with tools...with horse sense and science and engineering.**

— Robert Heinlein, *The Romantic Manifesto*

**No matter how many times you get your fingers burned, you have to trust people. Otherwise you are a hermit in a cave, sleeping with one eye open.**

— Robert Heinlein, *The Door Into Summer*

**Take sides! Always take sides! You will sometimes be wrong – but the man who refuses to take sides must always be wrong.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Double Star*

**There comes a time in the life of every human when he or she must decide to risk "his life, his fortune, and his sacred honor" on an outcome dubious. Those who fail the challenge are merely overgrown children, can never be anything else.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*

**One can judge from experiment, or one can blindly accept authority. To the scientific mind, experimental proof is all important and theory is merely a convenience in description, to be junked when it no longer fits. To the academic mind, authority is everything and facts are junked when they do not fit theory laid down by authority.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Life-Line*

**In an armed society is a polite society. Manners are good when one may have to back up his acts with his life.**

— Robert Heinlein

**You can have peace, or you can have freedom. Don't ever count on having both at once.**

— Robert Heinlein

**Obscurity is the refuge of the incompetent.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*

**There are no dangerous weapons. There are only dangerous men.**

— Robert Heinlein

**“Value” has no meaning other than in relationship to living beings. The value of a thing is always relative to a particular person, is completely personal and different in quantity for each living human—“market value” is a fiction, merely a rough guess at the average of personal values, all of which must be quantitatively different or trade would be impossible.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*

**Democracy is a poor system of government at best; the only thing that can honestly be said in its favor is that it is about eight times as good as any other method the human race has ever tried. Democracy’s worst fault is that its leaders are likely to reflect the faults and virtues of their constituents – a depressingly low level, but what else can you expect?**

— Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*

**The human race divides politically into those who want people to be controlled and those who have no such desire.**

— Robert Heinlein

**Never underestimate the power of human stupidity.**

— Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

**THIS IS MY FAVORITE HEINLEIN QUOTE AND HAVE LIVED BY IT ALL MY LIFE. UT**

**War is too serious a matter to be taught by the inexperienced.**

— Robert Heinlein

**There is no worse tyranny than to force a man to pay for what he does not want merely because you think it would be good for him.**

— Robert Heinlein

**Whether it is exerted by ten men or by ten billion, political authority is force.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*

**“Die trying” is the proudest human thing.**

— Robert Heinlein, *Have Space Suit—Will Travel*

**Sovereign ingredient for a happy marriage: Pay cash or do without. Interest charges not only eat up a household budget, awareness of debt eats up domestic felicity.**

— Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

**I am free because I know that I alone am morally responsible for everything I do. I am free, no matter what rules surround me. If I find them tolerable, I tolerate them; if I find them too obnoxious, I break them. I am free because I know that I alone am morally responsible for everything I do.**

— Robert Heinlein

**A generation which ignores history has no past and no future.**

— Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

**Democracy can’t work. Mathematicians, peasants, and animals, that’s all there is – so democracy, a theory based on the assumption that mathematicians and peasants are equal, can never work. Wisdom is not additive; its maximum is that of the wisest man in a given group.**

— Robert Heinlein

When I don't understand, I have an unbearable itch to know why.

— Robert Heinlein, *Have Space Suit—Will Travel*

Correct morality can only be derived from what man is – not from what do-gooders and well-meaning aunt Nellies would like him to be.

— Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*

Every law that was ever written opened up a new way to graft.

— Robert Heinlein, *Red Planet*

War is not violence and killing, pure and simple; war is controlled violence, for a purpose.

— Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*

Live each golden moment as if it were eternity – without fear, without hope, but with a sybaritic gusto.

— Robert Heinlein, *Stranger in a Strange Land*

No state has an inherent right to survive through conscript troops, and in the long run no state ever has. Roman matrons used to say to their sons: 'Come back with your shield, or on it.' Later on, this custom declined. So did Rome.

— Robert Heinlein

Violence, naked force, has settled more issues in history than has any other factor, and the contrary opinion is wishful thinking at its worst.

— Robert Heinlein, *Starship Troopers*

Democracy is based on the assumption that a million men are wiser than one man. How's that again? I missed something.

Autocracy is based on the assumption that one man is wiser than a million men. Let's play that over again, too. Who decides?

— Robert Heinlein

Never appeal to a man's 'better nature.' He may not have one. Invoking his self-interest gives you more leverage.

— Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

You can't conquer a free man; the most you can do is kill him.

— Robert Heinlein, *If This Goes On*

Taxes are not levied for the benefit of the taxed.

— Robert Heinlein, *The Notebooks of Lazarus Long*

The price of freedom is the willingness to do sudden battle, anywhere, at any time, and with utter recklessness.

— Robert Heinlein, *The Puppet Masters*

A human being should be able to change a diaper, plan an invasion, butcher a hog, conn a ship, design a building, write a sonnet, balance accounts, build a wall, set a bone, comfort the dying, take orders, give orders, cooperate, act alone, solve equations, analyze a new problem, pitch manure, program a computer, cook a tasty meal, fight efficiently, die gallantly. Specialization is for insects.

— Robert Heinlein

Be wary of strong drink. It can make you shoot at tax collectors... and miss.

— Robert Heinlein

Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own.

— Robert Heinlein, Stranger in a Strange Land

Morals – all correct moral laws – derive from the instinct to survive. Moral behavior is survival behavior above the individual level.

— Robert Heinlein, Starship Troopers

The best things in history are accomplished by people who get “tired of being shoved around.”

— Robert Heinlein, Have Space Suit—Will Travel

A committee is the only known form of life with a hundred bellies and no brain.

— Robert Heinlein, Methuselah’s Children

I also think there are prices too high to pay to save the United States. Conscription is one of them. Conscription is slavery, and I don’t think that any people or nation has a right to save itself at the price of slavery for anyone, no matter what name it is called. We have had the draft for twenty years now; I think this is shameful. If a country can’t save itself through the volunteer service of its own free people, then I say : Let the damned thing go down the drain!

— Robert Heinlein

<?>~<YOU JUST CAN’T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!>~<?>

**VIDEO: SURPRISE: GUN OWNERSHIP RISES TO 44% OF ALL HOMES**

By: (@SECRETSBEDARD) • 8/26/16 5:30 PM

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/surprise-gun-ownership-rises-to-44-of-all-homes/article/2600319>

After a steady decline in gun ownership in recent years, more homes are reporting having a weapon inside, according to a new survey.

Pew Research Center, in a poll on guns released Friday, showed that 44 percent of the country has a gun in the house. Some 51 percent don’t.

<S>~<C>~<I>~<E>~<N>~<C>~<E>~<S>~<T>~<A>~<R>~<T>~<S>~<H>~<E>~<R>~<E>

From: “Tim Bolgeo” [tbolgeo@comcast.net](mailto:tbolgeo@comcast.net)

**A GOOD BAN IS HARD TO FIND**

Is a fracking ban a good idea?

By Ben Adler on Aug 24, 2016

<http://grist.org/climate-energy/is-a-fracking-ban-a-good-idea/>

A bold demand has recently become standard among many U.S. environmentalists and progressives: ban fracking. Major green groups such as the Sierra Club have called for ending the practice. Bernie Sanders gave the issue more visibility when he first endorsed a national fracking ban four months ago. Then, earlier this summer, his camp pushed (unsuccessfully) for a ban to be incorporated into the Democratic Party’s platform.



But is a full-scale fracking ban a good idea? Some pro-environment policy experts and activists don't think so.

Democratic politicians are divided. Hillary Clinton has resisted a full ban on fracking. But she has embraced regulating the emissions of methane and other potential air

and water contaminants from the process, along with allowing local bans. "By the time we get through all of my conditions, I do not think there will be many places in America where fracking will continue to take place," Clinton said in a March debate. In 2012, Vermont Gov. Peter Shumlin made his state the first to ban fracking, and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo followed suit in 2014. But some governors of oil- and gas-rich states, such as Colorado's John Hickenlooper, enthusiastically promote the practice. Even California Gov. Jerry Brown, a noted climate hawk, has rejected calls to ban fracking. Leading climate activist (and Grist board member) Bill McKibben called this Brown's "environmental blind spot" in the Los Angeles Times.

So who's right? Let's examine the arguments on both sides.

#### THE CASE FOR BANNING FRACKING

There are two main arguments for banning fracking: to eliminate pollution in local communities and to reduce climate change. The local effects have been the driving force for many grassroots environmental activists.

"The ban on fracking would certainly impact the future energy mix, but that's not the reason that people are calling for a ban on fracking," says Jesse Coleman, a researcher at Greenpeace. "People are calling for a ban on fracking because it affects today's health of people living near fracking wells. There are fracking chemicals in people's blood in Wyoming and there are pollutants in people's lungs from fracking wells in Colorado."

Green leaders are following the bottom-up energy of "fracktivists" from affected communities. "What's unique about fracking is the movement is truly a grassroots movement," says Erich Pica, president of Friends of the Earth. "In New York, Pennsylvania, Colorado, and California, this bubbled up from the grassroots stating what they wanted in very clear terms: we don't want this anymore."

"Of course fracking should be banned," says Iris Marie Bloom, director of Philadelphia-based Protect Our Waters, one of those grassroots anti-fracking groups. "There is absolutely no way to handle the waste." Groups like hers are particularly concerned about polluted wastewater that's generated during the fracking process, which is often injected back underground, where it could contaminate water supplies or trigger earthquakes. Bloom also notes that when a shale formation is broken by fracking, it can release uranium or arsenic into nearby water supplies.

Cutting back on fracking would also help prevent catastrophic climate change, these activists argue. Fracking has allowed oil and gas companies to get ahold of reserves that were previously

impossible, or too expensive, to extract. By boosting supplies of oil and gas, the fracking boom has cut their prices dramatically. Ending fracking would increase oil and gas prices. That could be a good thing for the climate because it would give a market advantage to wind and solar for electricity production and push society to rely less on gasoline for transportation.

## **THE CASE AGAINST**

Some environmentalists and analysts, on the other hand, argue that banning fracking would not help the fight against climate change. Fracking has unleashed huge supplies of natural gas in the U.S., and they contend that natural gas can play an important role in curbing greenhouse gas emissions by displacing coal.

When it's burned, natural gas releases only half as much carbon pollution as coal. The natural gas boom has been a major cause of the shuttering of coal plants in the U.S. in recent years, which has contributed to a decrease in the nation's greenhouse gas emissions, according to the EPA.

But are those climate gains illusory? Recent independent studies have found that lots of natural gas leaks out of drilling and transmission infrastructure before it ever makes it to power plants or homes to be burned. Unburned natural gas is mostly methane, a highly potent greenhouse gas when it escapes into the atmosphere. The EPA's estimates don't account for this leakage, but many researchers believe the leaks may moot natural gas's perceived climate advantage over coal. This helps to explain why the Sierra Club, which used to support natural gas, changed its position and now calls for moving away from gas as quickly as possible.

Some analysts, though, like Michael Levi at the Council on Foreign Relations, argue that limiting methane leakage through regulation is the solution, not ending fracking or spurning natural gas altogether. In 2050, when our emissions need to be 80 percent lower than 1990 levels, we won't want to be using natural gas. In 2025, however, more gas would be a positive step, he says, helping us continue to shift the electricity sector away from coal. This is what politicians like Clinton mean when they call gas a "bridge" to a clean energy future.

Natural gas advocates also contend that wind and solar can't be ramped up fast enough to fully replace coal in the next few years. Coal and gas each currently account for 33 percent of U.S. electricity generation, compared to 5.3 percent for solar and wind combined. To build the solar and wind capacity to replace coal will take a long time, say these pro-gas environmentalists, and right now there aren't great options for storing wind or solar power, making them potentially problematic sources for providing power 24/7 and at peak demand times.

"We cannot make a lot of progress with rapid decarbonization in the next 20 years," says Alex Trembath, communications director at the Breakthrough Institute, a think tank founded by the heterodox environmentalists Ted Nordhaus and Michael Shellenberger. "While we improve clean energy technologies with innovation and deployment, natural gas has proved to be the biggest emissions reducer in the power sector in the last decade and can continue to replace coal while we try to make renewables cheaper. By 2040, you'll be able to replace natural gas capacity being built now with renewables."

The Environmental Defense Fund, a more mainstream green group, also argues that gas and oil will be with us for decades and so the focus should be on better regulating all methods of extraction rather than banning only fracking.

"You could wave a magic wand and ban all fracking tomorrow and many of the environmental challenges associated with oil and gas development would remain," says Mark Brownstein, vice president in the climate and energy program at EDF. "I think it's hard to make an argument that hydraulic fracturing is by itself the worst and dirtiest way to produce oil when there are so many bad and dirty ways to produce oil."

Brownstein continues, “A case in point is methane: We’ve been studying the methane issue, with leading academic institutions, for the last two and a half years. What we’ve learned is the majority of methane emissions are coming from the transportation and distribution system [for natural gas] in the U.S. Only 30 percent is coming from production and only a subset of that is coming from fracking.”

And, Brownstein says, since most regulation of oil and gas drilling happens at the state level, where it’s easier to get things done, there are opportunities for real progress. For example, EDF worked with activists and industry in Colorado to enact new rules in 2014 to curb methane emissions and other pollution from oil and gas operations. The state government wasn’t open to a fracking ban, but the regulations got relatively widespread support.

Still, regulations are only effective if they’re followed, and too often they aren’t. The Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion, for example, was caused by BP and Halliburton violating existing federal safety rules. Whether allowing fracking to proceed could be helpful to reducing emissions in a laboratory is a different question than whether it would work in the real world.

#### THE COUNTER-COUNTERARGUMENT

Anti-fracking activists also point out that the more we build up the natural gas industry now, the harder it will be to get rid of later. As gas pipelines and power plants come online, gas companies become more powerful and a political economy is built up around them. “Once permanent infrastructure for the natural gas industry is erected, it’s going to be just like the coal industry and oil industry,” says Pica. “We’re going to be fighting the titans of natural gas 10, 15 years from now.” To get a preview of how that will go, just look at the current fight over coal: Every EPA rule that might reduce coal dependence gets congressional Republicans voting to block it and state attorneys general and industry groups suing to stop it.

Also, renewables could be much more affordable, viable, and widespread by 2025 than pro-gas analysts expect. Prices for solar and wind power have plummeted far more than was predicted 10 years ago, and they could keep outpacing projections. There could be technological breakthroughs on energy storage or unforeseen economic changes. And if President Obama’s Clean Power Plan survives a court challenge and a presidential election, then federal regulations will be pushing renewables forward as well.

#### IF NOT A BAN NOW, AT LEAST SOME STRONG RULES

In the current political climate, though, a national fracking ban is as unlikely as single-payer health insurance. So some activists are focusing on repealing the “Halliburton loophole,” a provision in the 2005 energy law that exempted fracking operations from the Safe Drinking Water Act. This would be an uphill climb too, but at least Clinton recently endorsed this position.

The green groups pushing to close the loophole are seeing it as a first step toward ending fracking. They hope to raise public awareness about air and water pollution from fracking operations, creating the political momentum for state and local fracking bans, and they want to create a set of federal regulations that would make fracking more difficult or uneconomical.

“[Repealing] the Halliburton loophole is a means to an end,” says Pica. “It is more of a public disclosure piece: then you’ll be able to create public pressure and regulatory pressure to ban certain chemicals and certain types of practices.”

It’s also important to remember that the demand to ban fracking, while it might be unrealistic in the next Congress, is part of a larger aspirational agenda that calls for a wartime mobilization to combat climate change. Like calling for a carbon tax, it’s a statement of what should be done in the hopes of dragging the political system along. Absent massive government intervention, we’re going to continue burning oil and gas and it will have to come from somewhere. But massive government



intervention is what we need if we're going to dramatically slash carbon emissions. Fracking is only a necessary evil if we choose for it to be so.

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## SHOCK SURVEY: AUSTRALIA'S GREAT BARRIER REEF DOING JUST FINE

by JAMES DELINGPOLE 25 Aug 2016

<http://www.breitbart.com/london/2016/08/25/shock-study-australias-great-barrier-reef-just-fine/>



Mark Kolbe/Getty Images

Australia's Great Barrier Reef is not being killed off because of "global warming" or any other allegedly man-made non-problem, the people who know the area best have confirmed.

According to local newspaper The Courier-Mail [paywalled]

Teams of divers in a joint two-week expedition sponsored by Mike Ball Dive and Spirit of Freedom surveyed 28 sites on 24 outer shelf reefs along a 300km section of the hardest-hit part of the reef from Bathurst Head to Raine Island.

Spirit of Freedom owner Chris Eade said reports of 93 per cent bleaching on the 2300km long Great Barrier Reef had made global headlines and damaged the reputation of the \$5 billion reef tourism industry.

"Scientists had written off that entire northern section as a complete white-out," Mr Eade said.

"We expected the worst. But it is tremendous condition, most of it is pristine, the rest is in full recovery.

"It shows the resilience of the reef."

Mike Ball Dive Expeditions operations manager Craig Stephen, who conducted a similar survey on the remote reefs 20 years ago, said there had been almost no change in two decades despite the latest coral bleaching event.

"It wasn't until we got underwater that we could get a true picture of what percentage of reef was bleached," Mr Stephen said.

"The discrepancy is phenomenal. It is so wrong. Everywhere we have been we have found healthy reefs.

"There has been a great disservice to the Great Barrier Reef and tourism and it has not been good for our industry."

All right, so it's local dive operators saying this stuff and, of course, they have a vested interest in keeping the tourist industry alive.

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But if we're talking vested interests, what about all the marine biologists and environmental activists whose funding is dependent on promoting catastrophism and junk-scientific environmental scares like "ocean acidification"?

According to one scaremongering report earlier this year only 7 percent of the reef remains undamaged by "coral bleaching" – one of the dire consequences, we're repeatedly informed by experts, of global warming.

However, this was based on a survey by a local environmental activist, Professor Terry Hughes whose National Coral Bleaching Task Force is naturally somewhat dependent on proving there is a major problem. As Jo Nova reports, its findings were considered so suspect that the chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Russell Reichelt refused to endorse them in a planned joint statement. This is how Graham Lloyd reported it in the Australian [paywalled]

Dr Reichelt said maps accompanying the research had been misleading, exaggerating the impact. "I don't know whether it was a deliberate sleight of hand or lack of geographic knowledge but it certainly suits the purpose of the people who sent it out," he said.

"This is a frightening enough story with the facts, you don't need to dress them up. We don't want to be seen as saying there is no problem out there but we do want people to understand there is a lot of the reef that is unscathed."

Dr Reichelt said there had been widespread misinterpretation of how much of the reef had died.

"We've seen headlines stating that 93 per cent of the reef is practically dead," he said.

The problem is that "Great Barrier Reef doing just fine" stories don't grab headlines in quite the way "Great Barrier Reef is doomed and it's all our fault" stories do. It is, after all, one of the Seven Great Natural Wonders of the World – and therefore quite a big deal. This is why, along with polar bears and melting ice caps, it is so often seized on by climate campaigners to promote their scare narrative.

My advice is that if you ever find yourself anywhere near Cairns in Far North Queensland and you're wondering whether or not to fork out for your Great Barrier Reef dive experience is definitely, definitely to do it.

The journey to the reef takes a couple of hours and it's such a mass market experience you do feel a bit like herded cattle. Also, the sea is so rough that I'd say about 50 per cent of everyone who goes ends up vomiting furiously.

But when you get there, it's just great. Coral and other marine life of a size and variety you're unlikely to see anywhere else.

One more thing: don't get left behind. Remember the Lonergans....

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#### SPITZER GOES "BEYOND" FOR FINAL MISSION

David Szondy August 28, 2016

<http://newatlas.com/spitzer-beyond/45123/>

Beyond is the name given to the final 30-month mission extension of NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope. Starting in October, the veteran instrument will carry out new observations in astronomy, cosmology, and the search for planets beyond the Solar System.

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Launched on August 25, 2003 atop a Delta II rocket from Space Launch Complex 17B at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida, the infrared observatory went into a heliocentric orbit trailing the Earth. Due to its slower orbital speed, it drifts away from the Earth's orbit at about 0.1 astronomical units (9.3 million mi, 15 million km) per year.



Artist's concept of NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope (Credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech)

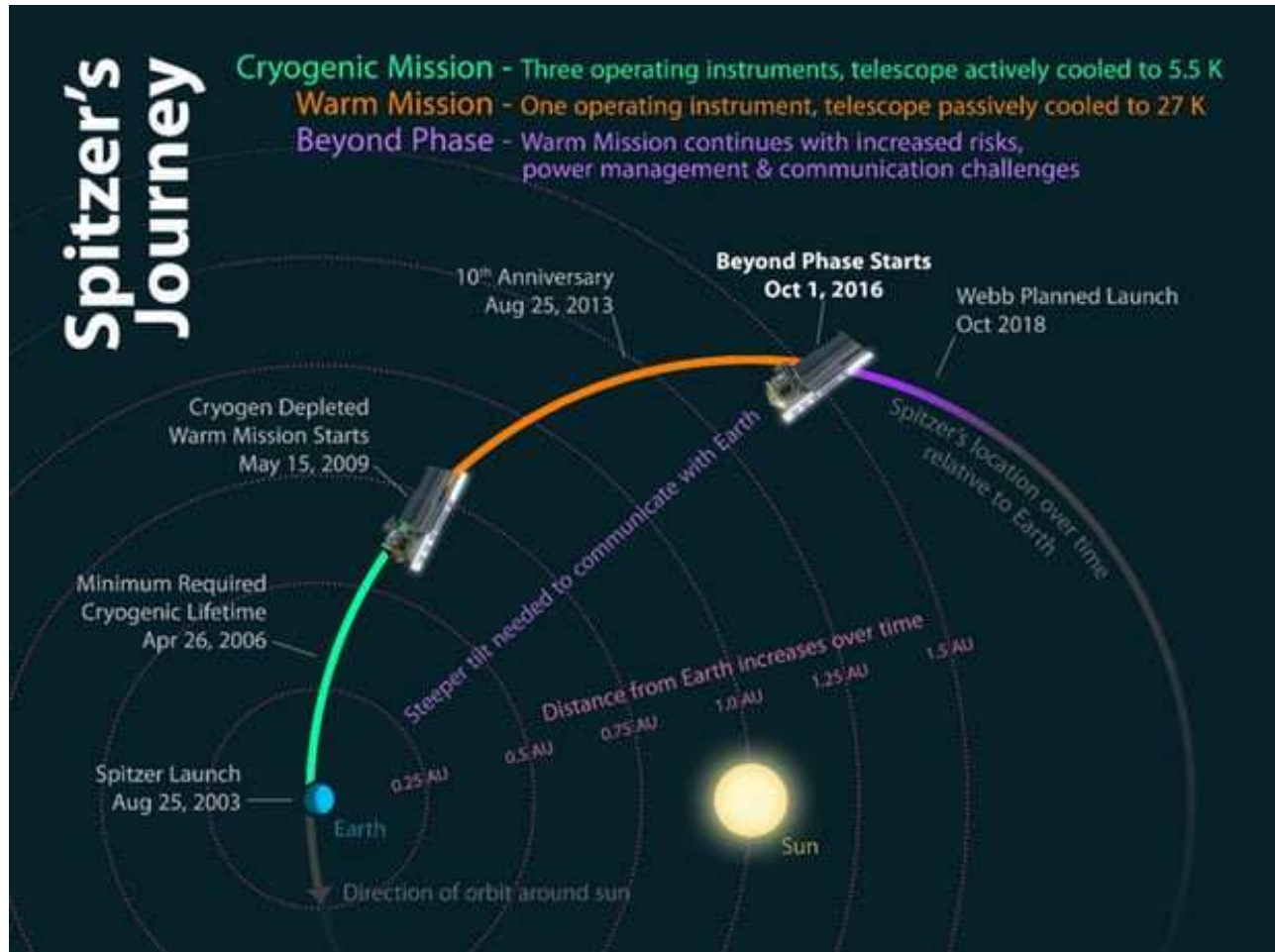
Designed for deep space infrared studies, Spitzer was equipped with an Infrared Array Camera (IRAC), Infrared Spectrograph, and a Multiband Imaging Photometer. However, the latter two required constant cooling with liquid helium to work, which ran out in 2009. NASA switched from a "cold" to "warm" mission, relying on the two still functioning cameras of the four on the IRAC that continued to operate at the "high" temperature of minus 405° F (minus 207° C, 30 Kelvin).

"With the IRAC team and the Spitzer Science Center team working together, we've really learned how to operate the IRAC instrument better than we thought we could," says Giovanni Fazio, principal investigator of IRAC. "The telescope is also very stable and in an excellent orbit for observing a large part of the sky."

NASA says that when the Beyond mission, also known as Cycle 13, starts on October 1, Spitzer will enter a new field as it observes objects that it wasn't originally designed to handle. These include distant galaxies dating back to the early Universe, the black hole resting at the core of our galaxy, and the ongoing search for exoplanets.

According to the space agency, though Spitzer wasn't built for planet hunting, it can handle the standard tests for looking for exoplanets, such as changes in the host star's light profile during planetary transits. It also has an extremely accurate star-targeting system and can control unwanted temperature changes to minimize errors.

"We never even considered using Spitzer for studying exoplanets when it launched," says Sean Carey of NASA's Spitzer Science Center at Caltech in Pasadena, California. "It would have seemed ludicrous back then, but now it's an important part of what Spitzer does."



However, NASA says that Spitzer's life extension is not without challenges. Because the telescope is drifting away from Earth, the increasing distance means that the spacecraft's antenna needs to be pointed at a higher angle. This not only exposes the telescope to more sunlight and more heat, but means that the solar panels don't get as much light, which puts stress on the batteries. It also means that NASA has to override Spitzer's safety cutouts to prevent it from going into safe mode.

"Balancing these concerns on a heat-sensitive spacecraft will be a delicate dance, but engineers are hard at work preparing for the new challenges in the Beyond phase," says Mark Effertz, the Spitzer spacecraft chief engineer at Lockheed Martin.

NASA says that Spitzer will continue its Beyond mission until the James Webb Space Telescope completes its commissioning phase after its scheduled 2018 launch.

"Spitzer is operating well beyond the limits that were set for it at the beginning of the mission," said Michael Werner, the project scientist for Spitzer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. "We never envisioned operating 13 years after launch, and scientists are making discoveries in areas of science we never imagined exploring with the spacecraft."

The video [AT THE WEBSITE](#) discusses Spitzer's continuing mission.

Source: NASA

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**ON THE ROAD AGAIN: SPACEX REUSES SHUTTLE TRANSPORTER FOR FALCON STAGES**

By Robert Z. Pearlman, collectSPACE.com Editor | August 26, 2016 02:57pm ET  
<http://www.space.com/33873-spacex-reuses-shuttle-transporter-for-falcon.html>



NASA's former Orbiter Transporter System (OTS) is seen moving a recovered SpaceX Falcon 9 stage from Port Canaveral to Kennedy Space Center, Fla. on Aug. 24, 2016. Credit: Bob Richards/Moon Express

SpaceX's new chariot for moving its rocket stages after they return to land is uniquely suited for the job, having been used to carry reusable space vehicles for close to 30 years.

The company on Wednesday (Aug. 24) delivered its latest launched and recovered

Falcon 9 first stage from the port at Cape Canaveral to a hangar at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida using a bright yellow, 76-wheel motorized vehicle. The specialized conveyor, which SpaceX acquired from NASA, was formerly employed to move space shuttle orbiters.

Previously referred to by NASA as the Orbiter Transporter System (OTS), the 106-foot-long (32 m) vehicle was last used in November 2012 to move the retired space shuttle Atlantis to its museum home at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. Described then as "the Ferrari of the OTS family," the transporter topped out the breakneck speed of 5 mph (8 km/h) when loaded with an orbiter.

Space shuttle Atlantis moving atop the Orbiter Transporter System (OTS) at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Credit: NASA

Its maximum speed without carrying a shuttle was 13 mph (21 km/h), according to NASA. The OTS was originally built to transport space shuttles at Vandenberg Air Force Base in southern California. Used in tests with the prototype orbiter Enterprise in 1985, the west coast space shuttle launches were canceled in the wake of the 1986 Challenger accident.



Three years later, the OTS was moved to Kennedy Space Center in Florida, where it was used for the next 22 years to move the orbiters between their processing hangars and the Vehicle Assembly

Building, where the winged vehicles were stacked with their solid rocket boosters and external tank before being rolled out to the launch pad.

With the end of the space shuttle program in July 2011, the OTS was deemed no longer necessary by NASA. In 2014, SpaceX purchased the vehicle at a federal surplus auction for \$37,075.

To use the former orbiter transporter to move its Falcon 9 rocket stages, SpaceX attached a large white metal mount to which the booster is secured. Prior to the OTS, SpaceX hired local contractors to move the landed stages using a multi-wheeled transporter that was towed by a truck.

The OTS is not the only shuttle-era hardware that SpaceX has put to new use. The company is also leasing NASA's Pad 39A, one of the space agency's former shuttle launch pads, where it plans to launch crews on Dragon spacecraft to the International Space Station and Falcon Heavy larger rockets beginning as soon as next year.

SpaceX also acquired two large antennas from NASA that were previously a part of the Merritt Island Launch Annex (MILA) used to track every space shuttle launch between 1981 and 2011. SpaceX intends to install the dishes at the site of its future commercial launch facility at Boca Chica beach in Brownsville, Texas, where they will track crewed missions to the space station.

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#### AGRICULTURE MINISTER: ISRAEL TO BEGIN EXPORTING MARIJUANA

by DEBORAH DANAN, 29 Aug 2016

<http://www.breitbart.com/jerusalem/2016/08/29/agriculture-minister-israel-to-begin-exporting-marijuana/>

Reuters

TEL AVIV – Israel will begin exporting medical marijuana abroad, Agriculture Minister Uri Ariel said Sunday.

Earlier this month, the Health Ministry approved measures to make medical cannabis more accessible to patients, including training 100 additional doctors to dispense prescriptions.

“In two years, we will have protocols in place that will allow farmers to grow cannabis,” Ariel told Israel Radio over the weekend, according to Israel’s online Hebrew-language magazine Cannabis.



“The Agriculture Ministry has set up specific areas for the research and trial of growing cannabis, a plant whose foremost use is the medical treatment of patients around the world,” he said.

Though its use for medical purposes was once considered taboo, the term “medicalization of marijuana” is used more and more by the Health Ministry these days.

Some 23,000 patients currently benefit from cannabis but only 36 doctors are authorized to give prescriptions. The new measures could mean that thousands more people would be able to benefit from its use.

The new legislation also included lifting the restriction on the number of growers.

It will also be available in local pharmacies.

The Justice Ministry has recently begun exploring the possibility of decriminalizing recreational use of the drug in Israel. According to the new measures, those caught using soft drugs would be fined but not charged with a crime, Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked said.

Those caught in their own homes with up to 15 grams of cannabis – considered personal use – would be charged 300 NIS (\$78), while those caught in public would be fined NIS 1,500 (\$390).

Meanwhile, Israeli doctors are putting marijuana to use in a range of research projects. Dr. Adi Eran is leading the first ever formal clinical trial to see whether marijuana can improve the lives of children and teenagers with autism.

120 individuals with autism will take part in the trial, but participants will only be administered cannabis oil that is free of the psychoactive component that causes the “high.”

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From: “Keith A. Glass: [salgak@comcast.net](mailto:salgak@comcast.net)

KAG: Now, they're arguing that the Industrial Revolution brought on "Climate Change" since day 1. . in the 1830s'.

**GLOBAL WARMING SIGNAL CAN BE TRACED BACK TO THE 1830S, CLIMATE SCIENTISTS SAY**

Peter Hannam, AUGUST 25 2016 - 5:04AM

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/climate-change/global-warming-signal-can-be-traced-back-to-the-1830s-climate-scientists-say-20160823-gqz260.html>

When Charles Dickens, the English novelist, was detailing the "soft black drizzle" of pollution over London, he might inadvertently have been chronicling the early signs of global warming.

New research led by Australian scientists has pegged back the timing of when humans had clearly begun to change the climate to the 1830s.

Climate warming began 180 years ago

An international research project has found human-induced climate change is first detectable in the Arctic and tropical oceans around the 1830s, earlier than expected.

That's about half a century before the first comprehensive instrumental records began – and about the time Dickens began his novels depicting Victorian Britain's rush to industrialise.

The findings, published on Thursday in the journal Nature, were based on natural records of climate variation in the world's oceans and continents, including those found in corals, ice cores, tree rings and the changing chemistry of stalagmites in caves.

Helen McGregor, an ARC future fellow at the University of Wollongong and one of the paper's lead authors, said it was "quite a surprise" the international research teams of dozens of scientists had

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been able to detect a signal of climate change emerging in the tropical oceans and the Arctic from the 1830s.

"Nailing down the timing in different regions was something we hadn't expected to be able to do," Dr McGregor told Fairfax Media.

Interestingly, the change comes sooner to northern climes, with regions such as Australasia not experiencing a clear warming signal until the early 1900s (see chart).

Nerilie Abram, another of the lead authors and an associate professor at the Australian National University's Research School of Earth Sciences, said greenhouse gas levels rose from about 280 parts per million in the 1830s to about 295 ppm by the end of that century. They now exceed 400 ppm.



Global warming, with its devastating impacts on coral reefs already being experienced, started earlier than previously thought, researchers have found. Photo: Morane Le Nohaic

Understanding how humans were already altering the composition of the atmosphere through the 19th century means the warming is closer to the 1.5 to 2 degrees target agreed at last year's Paris climate summit than most people realise.

"We are only talking about a small effect during the 19th century because the increases in greenhouse gases were small compared to the very rapid changes that we see today," Dr Abram said.

Miner wearing a headlamp at the Lithgow Colliery, near Sydney, in December 1932.

"But when you combine that with the fact we're already



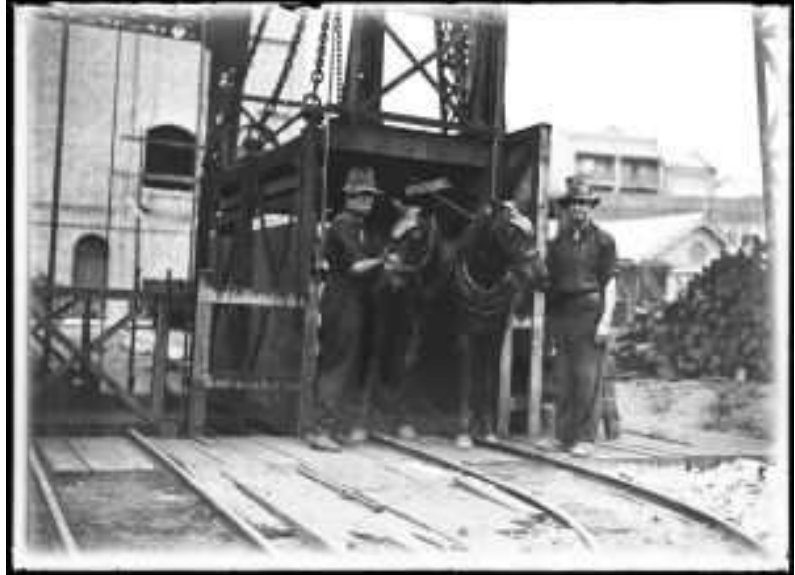
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frighteningly close to that 1.5 degrees target [compared with pre-industrial levels], then even adding a little bit extra human contribution makes a difference."

Will Steffen, a member of the Australian Climate Council and an emeritus professor at ANU, said the paper shows an extra "couple of tenths of one degree" must be added to what are generally taken to be the baselines of warming since key instrumental records start from the 1880s.

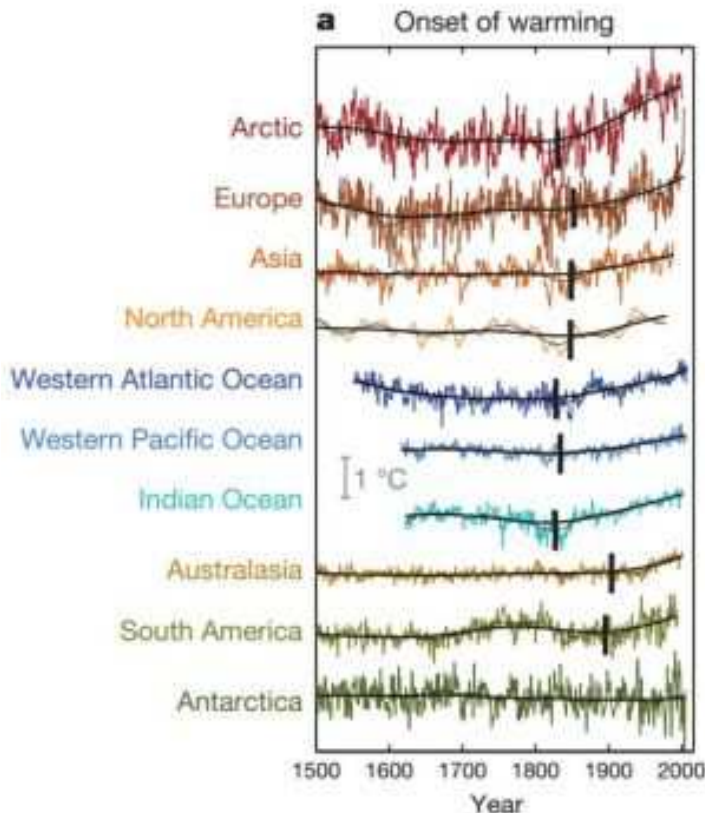
Miners and their horses at the Balmain Colliery near Sydney, from the 1930s. Photo: Fairfax Media



"For the first time we see really clearly what that warming was and when it started," Professor Steffen said.

He said the authors' definition of a "time of emergence" when average temperatures exceeded the previous normal range of variability was also an important concept relevant to today's observations.

"That is why we are seeing such extensive [coral] bleaching, why we're seeing burning of Tasmanian forests, and similarly dire ecological effects in other parts of the world," Professor Steffen said. "It's because these ecosystems are outside of their comfort zones, well and truly."



A chart from the Nature paper shows the onset times of warming depicted by the vertical bar in each region's plot.

Dr Abram said more research is needed to understand what the lagging warming in the southern hemisphere means for nations such as Australia, as well as the rest of the world.

The models and observations have a "really lovely agreement" for the northern hemisphere and tropical oceans, "but when we turn that around to look at the southern hemisphere, the models and the data aren't telling us the same story", she said.

Dr McGregor said the oceans had been doing humans a big favour by absorbing most of the extra heat being trapped by greenhouse gases – more than 90 per cent – but much is still to be learnt about whether this phenomenon can continue.

"What's going to change, when is this heat going to be released, and what are the

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thresholds for changing the climate?" she said. "I wonder – what climate surprises do we have ahead of us?"

Malte Meinshausen, associate professor at the Climate & Energy College at the University of Melbourne, said greenhouse gas concentration began to turn upwards for carbon dioxide from about 1765 with the Industrial Revolution.

Methane concentrations began ticking higher from about 1700 as agriculture became more intensive.

KAG: Guess what ended in the 1830s: The Dalton Minimum and the Little Ice Age.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalton\\_Minimum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalton_Minimum)

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From: "Christine Cowan" [cowan1028@earthlink.net](mailto:cowan1028@earthlink.net)

VIDEO: THIS BATTERY HAS BEEN RUNNING FOR 176 YEARS AND NO ONE'S QUITE SURE HOW

AUG 26, 2016

<http://twistedifter.com/videos/longest-running-battery-ever/#.V8EQ508HaEs.email>

In a laboratory at Oxford University the Oxford Electric Bell has been constantly ringing since 1840 and no one's quite sure how.

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**ÖTZI THE ICEMAN'S WILD WARDROBE REVEALED**

DNA reveals Ötzi's leather overcoat was made of a grab bag of at least four different individual animals

By Tia Ghose, LiveScience on August 18, 2016

[http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/oetzi-the-iceman-s-wild-wardrobe-revealed/?WT.mc\\_id=send-to-friend](http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/oetzi-the-iceman-s-wild-wardrobe-revealed/?WT.mc_id=send-to-friend)

Assemblage of images of the Iceman's clothing as on display at the Museum of Archaeology, Bolzano. From Top Left: A shoe with grass interior (left) and leather exterior (right), the leather coat (reassembled by the museum), leather loincloth, grass coat, fur hat, and leather leggings. Credit: Institute for Mummies and the Iceman

Ötzi the Iceman's hard-core leather outfit would have made animal rights activists shudder.

The 5,300-year-old iceman mummy, whose remarkably preserved body was found frozen in the Tyrolean Alps in Austria, once sported an outfit made almost completely of



animal skin, new genetic evidence suggests. And scientists even know which animals were used to make this Stone Age getup.

"We have discovered that the iceman's clothes were composed of an array of different animals," said study co-author Niall O'Sullivan, a doctoral candidate in archaeology at the University College Dublin in Ireland and researcher at the Institute for Mummies and the Iceman, EURAC research in Bolzano, Italy.

The new findings reveal even more about one of the best-studied mummies on Earth.

## **MOST FAMOUS OF MUMMIES**

Ötzi the Iceman was first discovered by hikers in the Ötztal Alps, along the border with Austria and Italy, in 1991. Since then, the astonishingly well preserved body has been scrutinized down to the tiniest detail, from his clothing, to his day job, to his last meal, to his likely cause of death and poor oral hygiene. A genetic analysis in 2013 even found some of the iceman's living relatives.

A 2008 study determined that some of the hair from Ötzi's animal-skin clothing came from domesticated animals. Yet despite decades' worth of extensive analysis of minute details, researchers had yet to determine exactly which animals contributed their skin to Ötzi's fashion sense.

An assemblage of equipment associated with the Iceman as displayed at the Museum of Archaeology in Bolzano. From left to right: stone dagger, bows, leather quiver, tinder fungus, birch fungus and birch bark.

Credit: Institute for Mummies and the Iceman



To answer that question, O'Sullivan and his colleagues attempted to gather genetic data from Ötzi's outfit. This could be a tricky task, as the leather might have been treated by scraping, intense heating and exposure to fatty acids, the researchers wrote in the study, which was published today (Aug. 18) in the journal *Scientific Reports*. Later, researchers handling the garments might have contaminated the material, while the freeze-drying used to preserve it could have further damaged the genetic material, the researchers said.

## **MENAGERIE OF ANIMALS**

By using more modern, next-generation sequencing techniques that amplify certain target strands of DNA, the team was able to identify the species associated with each piece of clothing. Ötzi's leather overcoat was made of a grab bag of at least four different individual animals from two species—sheep and goat—while his lighter coat was made of sheep. His leggings were made of goatskin, perhaps because that type of animal skin provided the suppleness needed for walking, the researchers hypothesized in the paper. To top off the wardrobe, his leather shoes were stuffed with grass, and he sported shoelaces derived from wild cow, or auroch, the researchers found.

This outfit would have been quite toasty in the chilly Alpine region, as most of the clothing would have been stuffed with grass or other filling to add extra warmth, O'Sullivan said.

His furry hat was once part of a brown bear, while his quiver was made from a roe deer. Those findings suggest that Ötzi had access to trapped or hunted game.

"It is probable that the Iceman was not a hermit. He likely traded furs or domestic animals," O'Sullivan told Live Science in an email.

However, without any written history, there's no definitive way to know whether Ötzi trapped those animals himself or traded for them—or whether Ötzi himself was a skilled tailor or he procured the finished clothing somehow, O'Sullivan added.

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**ABSOLUTELY & TOTALLY POLITICALLY INCORRECT & AS FAR TO THE CENTER AS YOU CAN GO!**

From: "Jim Woosley" [Jimwoosley@aol.com](mailto:Jimwoosley@aol.com)

**SYRIA, ISIS RESPONSIBLE FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS ATTACKS, UN INQUIRY FINDS**

FoxNews.com, Published August 24, 2016

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2016/08/24/syria-isis-responsible-for-chemical-weapons-attacks-un-inquiry-finds.html>

Russia stops using Iranian air base for airstrikes on Syria

Syrian government troops and ISIS terrorists carried out chemical attacks in the war-torn nation during 2014 and 2015, according to an investigation by the United Nations and a global chemical weapons watchdog.

The so-called Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM) found that forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad were responsible for two chlorine attacks in Idlib governorate, one in Talmenes on April 21, 2014 and one in Sarmin on March 16, 2015. And it said ISIS was "the only entity with the ability, capability, motive and the means to use sulfur mustard" gas in Marea in Aleppo governorate on Aug. 21, 2015.

The JIM said three other cases it investigated pointed toward government responsibility but weren't conclusive and three more cases were inconclusive. It called for further investigations in several instances.

The report does not attribute blame for the August 2013 sarin attack on the Damascus suburb of Ghouta that killed hundreds of civilians. The attack came a year after President Obama had said that the use of chemical weapons by Assad's forces would cross a "red line."

"The international community must act to hold accountable those who act in defiance of such fundamental international norms," U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Samantha Power said in a statement. "It is essential that the members of the Security Council come together to ensure consequences for those who have used chemical weapons in Syria."

In September 2013, Assad agreed to turn over all of its chemical weapons stockpile for destruction under the terms of a deal brokered by the U.S. and Russia. However, Western intelligence officials say Damascus has not turned over "every single bit" of its chemical arsenal as required by the agreement.

*the August 31st, 2016 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPHDAY!*

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After the deal was agreed to, the U.N. Security Council passed a resolution saying that in the event of non-compliance, "including ... any use of chemical weapons by anyone" in Syria, it would impose measures under Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter.

In the intervening months, Russia and China have used their Security Council veto to protect the Assad government from further U.N. action, including referrals to the International Criminal Court.

Fox News' Jonathan Wachtel and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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TACKY ALERT: THE FOLLOWING VIDEO IS VERY POWERFUL AND IS VERY DISTRESSING TO ME. BUT IT DOES HAVE AN ELEMENT OF TRUTH THAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN OUR SOCIETY. EVEN THOUGH ALMOST EVERY FIBER IN MY BEING SAYS I SHOULD NOT PRINT THIS LINK, IT THINK THAT IT WOULD BE A DISSERVICE TO MY READERS IF I DIDN'T. I DO NOT AGREE WITH SOME OF WHAT THE VIDEO SAYS, BUT THE CORE OF THE TALK CONTAINS A LARGE AMOUNT OF TRUTH WHETHER WE LIKE TO ADMIT IT OR NOT. I AM A CHILD OF THE 60'S AND HAVE ALWAYS HOPED FOR A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL OF MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY. SOMETIMES I WONDER WHAT IT GOING ON.

From: "Jerry Tollett" [haleja@epbf.com](mailto:haleja@epbf.com)

SUBJECT: WHY ARE MOST MURDERS COMMITTED BY NIGGAZ?

Powerful stuff!!!

Be prepared for the explanation and why niggaz should be banned in stead of guns:

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/QwCCj8Dx-gk>

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From: LaDona Johnston's Facebook Page

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