

Welcome to the May 3rd, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMP DAY!

This has been a quite week around Casa Bolgeo with nothing much happening. I am all in for a little relaxation. One of the things I have been thinking about it humor. I have been producing an Ezine for years and when I started most of the jokes that were going around were prose. Now the most inventive humor going around is visual. A picture is worth a 1,000 words. Well, a good cartoon is worth at least 1,000 chuckles. But cartoon humor can be slanted toward political ends and I am very careful to try to keep an even keel on what I pass along to all of you. But, I am not perfect and sometimes I lean toward the conservative side of life. Oh well, according to most of you out there I am not perfect. ;^)

Brandy is off on a business trip to Chicago for TVA and the rest of the family is living the good life. I finally found the perfect gift for SHE WHO MUST BE OBEYED for her birthday. We bought a new Dyson vacuum cleaner for the house because she loves the Dyson I bought her a few years ago. Now there is one upstairs and one downstairs. Doesn't sound like too romantic of a gift, but it what she wanted. And what SWMBO wants, SWBMO normally gets.

Right now I am busy working on the setup document for LibertyCon 30. That is the information we give to the hotel on what the room layouts will look like and what we will need to rent from them or bring in from an outside source. Trust me that it is a very detailed document and reminds me of the old days before I retired when I would have to do similar work plans for jobs we had going on at TVA plants. I was pretty lucking in that I would do that first draft and then turn it over to the planners for the final documents. But I always had to review their work and make corrections and/or changes to improve the flow of the work. That is what is going on now with the LibertyCon 30 Setup Document. The board members and important members of the staff are going over it and making corrections. I hope to be finished with it within the next week or two.

So on that "hopeful 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>

LIBERTYCON 30 Shooting trip information

From: "James Cochrane" [james@xring.com](mailto:james@xring.com)

Once again, I'm running a shooting trip for LibertyCon attendees on Friday, June 30th, from 0830 - 1300 CENTRAL TIME (so 0930-1400 Eastern) at the Elk River Training Center in Pelham, Tennessee. (Located about 1 hour north of Chattanooga off of Interstate 24 past Monteagle.) All convention attendees and guests are welcome to attend, although I ask that guests who wish to attend please coordinate with Rich (Groller) to make sure of timing for early Friday panels. [Programming for LibertyCon 30 starts at 1:00 pm on Friday, June 30th.]

As I've done for the past several years, the intent is to have a mandatory safety briefing from 0830 to 0845, at which point experienced shooters can go to the range, then a one

hour firearms safety and familiarization class for new or inexperienced shooters before taking them over to the range. Anybody who misses the 0830 safety class will need to wait until the end of the new shooter class for a second iteration. More information can be found at <http://www.xring.com/libertycon-shooting-trip/> or they can email me at [james@xring.com](mailto:james@xring.com), with the subject of "LibertyCon 2017 Shooting Trip", they can also use this email to RSVP.

The cost will be \$30 to cover range fees and insurance, a lot of improvements have been made since last year, with more planned before we arrive (including overhead cover at the rifle range).

<L>~<I>~<B>~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

Re: Hollywood actors who served in the Armed Forces during World War II

From: "Arlan Andrews" [arlan@thingsto.com](mailto:arlan@thingsto.com)

You should've listing these in FaceBook, for all the world to see.

The list of Hollywood war heroes IS damned impressive. Today's "Stars" make me sick.

ARLAN, I CAN'T DISAGREE WITH A WORD YOU SAY. THE MORE I HEAR ABOUT THE CELEBRITIES OF HOLLYWOOD, THE MORE MOVIES I DON'T GO AND SEE. TIM

<L>~<I>~<B>~<E>~<R>~<T>~<Y>~<C>~<O>~<N>

From: "Chris Cowan" [cowanc1028@earthlink.net](mailto:cowanc1028@earthlink.net)

CC: Interesting article from "Atlas Obscura." While I share their viewpoint with regard to some of Disney (The Jungle Book is a travesty in both formats, animated and live/animated mix) I wonder how much of this is also Brits viewing Yanks? Tolkien was spot-on about how fairy tales have been infantilized - but blame the Victorians for that, not just Disney.

THE MOVIE DATE THAT SOLIDIFIED J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S DISLIKE OF WALT DISNEY

He went to see "Snow White" with C.S. Lewis.

BY ERIC GRUNDHAUSER, APRIL 25, 2017

J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis weren't fans of Disney' dwarfs.  
DISNEY/4EVERTHEDISNEYSONGS/YOUTUBE/FAIR USE

It's no secret that J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis were legendary frenemies. But while they may have sparred over fantasy and religion, they shared one little-known viewpoint: a disdain for the works of Walt Disney.



Literary friendships are often thought of in the driest abstract, with learned people of letters sitting in stuffy rooms debating only the most important intellectual issues. But like anyone, sometimes a couple of authors just go to the movies. And on at least one occasion, the architect of Middle-earth and the father of Narnia went and saw Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs together.

According to an account in the J.R.R. Tolkien Companion and Guide, Tolkien didn't go see Snow White until some time after its 1938 U.K. release, when he attended the animated film with Lewis. Lewis had previously seen the film with his brother, and definitely had some opinions. In a 1939 letter to his friend A.K. Hamilton, Lewis wrote of Snow White (and Disney himself):

Dwarfs ought to be ugly of course, but not in that way. And the dwarfs' jazz party was pretty bad. I suppose it never occurred to the poor boob that you could give them any other kind of music. But all the terrifying bits were good, and the animals really most moving: and the use of shadows (of dwarfs and vultures) was real genius. What might not have come of it if this man had been educated—or even brought up in a decent society?

In another instance, Lewis called the evil queen's design unoriginal, and described the dwarves as having, "bloated, drunken, low comedy faces."



A bust of Tolkien at Oxford. JULIAN NITZSCHE/CC BY-SA 3.0

Tolkien didn't like the goofball dwarfs either. The Tolkien Companion notes that he found Snow White lovely, but otherwise wasn't pleased with the dwarves. To both Tolkien and Lewis, it seemed, Disney's dwarves were a gross simplification of a concept they held as precious. "I think it grated on them that he was commercializing something that they considered almost sacrosanct," says Trish Lambert, a Tolkien scholar and author of the essay, Snow White and Bilbo Baggins: Divergences and Convergences Between Disney

and Tolkien. "Here you have a brash, American entrepreneur who had the audacity to go in and make money off of fairy tales."

Consider the context here: Tolkien's book *The Hobbit* was first released in the U.K. in September of 1937, just a couple of months before *Snow White* hit theaters in the U.S. Both works highlighted a gaggle of dwarves as major supporting characters, but they could hardly have been more different. Disney's dwarfs were jolly, goofy miners (hey, Dopey), rooted in the stories of the Brothers Grimm; Tolkien's dwarves were a grim, mythical race

(although not wholly without whimsy), born from Nordic myth. “Isn’t it interesting that Tolkien and Disney, almost concurrently, came up with dwarves that are not evil?” notes Lambert. “I researched, is there any possibility that there was a connection? And there’s not.”

Across the ocean and seemingly independent of one another, two of the greatest storytellers of the 20th century had a case of parallel invention, although this is not to say that Tolkien and Disney were unaware of one another. There are unflattering references to Disney’s early cartoons in Tolkien’s letters, and according to Lambert, Tolkien would most certainly have been aware of Snow White before its release. “I don’t have any way of proving this, other than the things he’s written on Disney in the general sense, but I suspect [Snow White] irritated the heck out of Tolkien,” she says.



A statue of Lewis in Belfast’s C.S. Lewis Square. TONY BOWDEN/CC BY-SA 2.0

Tolkien’s opinion of Disney didn’t get any better over the years. In a number of letters dated after his Snow White date with Lewis, Tolkien refers to Disney’s works as “vulgar.” Tolkien also believed that fairy tales had become hopelessly infantilized, noting in his 1947 essay *On Fairy-Stories* that “the association of children and fairy-stories is an accident of our domestic history.”



SCREEN CAPTURE OF A VIDEO AT THE WEBSITE

Years later, in a 1964 letter to a Miss J.L. Curry at Stanford University, likely spurred on by the controversy surrounding Disney’s treatment of

Mary Poppins, Tolkien further laid bare his true feelings on Disney’s work. He described

Disney's talent as "hopelessly corrupted," writing, "Though in most of the 'pictures' proceeding from his studios there are admirable or charming passages, the effect of all of them is to me disgusting. Some have given me nausea..." He goes on to call Disney a "cheat," noting that while he too had a profit motive behind his work, he wouldn't stoop to working with Disney.

Just two years later, Joy Hill, a representative of Allan & Unwin, Tolkien's publisher, would approach Disney Studios about turning the Lord of the Rings trilogy into an animated film. Disney Studios declined, thinking that it would be far too expensive to produce. The Tolkien Companion assumes that this conversation occurred without Tolkien's permission.

The relationship between Tolkien and Lewis is often viewed in light of their religious differences, or contrasted by nerdy arguments about Narnia vs. Middle-earth. But in the eminently relatable experience of going to see a Disney movie that they both disliked, their relationship seems less fantastical, and all the more human.

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

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

**SERVICE!!!!!!**

I became confused when I heard the word 'service' used with these agencies:

Banking 'Service'

Postal 'Service'

Telephone 'Service'

Pay TV 'Service'

State & Public 'Service'

Customer 'Service'

Government 'Service'

Bureaucratic 'Service'

This is not what I thought 'Service' meant.

Then I visited my uncle, he's a farmer, and he hired a bull to 'Service' his cows.

Suddenly WOW!!!

It all came clear.

Now I understand what all those agencies are doing to us!

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

#### **FROM ALABAMA?**

Bubba and Billy Joe were on vacation, walking downtown, window shopping, and they see a sign on a store which reads, "Suits \$5.99 each, shirts \$1.99 each, trousers \$2.49 each.

Bubba says to his pal, "Billy Joe, Look here! We could buy a whole gob of these, take 'em back to Alabama, sell 'em and make a fortune. Just let me do the talkin', 'cause if they hear your accent, they might think we're ignorant, and not wanna sell that stuff to us". Now, I'll talk in a slow Texas drawl so's they don't know we is from Alabama."

They go in and Bubba says with his best fake Texas drawl, "I'll take 50 of them suits at \$5.99, 100 of them there shirts at \$1.99, 50 pairs of them there trousers at \$2.39. I'll back up my pickup and....."

"The owner of the shop interrupts, "Ya'll from Alabama, ain't ya?"

"Well...yeah," says a surprised Bubba. "How come ya'll knowed that?"

"Because this is a Dry-Cleaners."

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

#### **RETIREE MENTAL FITNESS EVALUATION**

This test is to ascertain your mental state now. If you get one right you are doing ok, if you get none right you better go for counseling. (I'll meet you there.)

There are 4 test questions. Don't miss one.

##### **Giraffe Test**

1. How do you put a giraffe into a refrigerator? Stop and think about it and decide on your answer before you scroll down.

The correct answer: Open the refrigerator, put in the giraffe, and close the door. This question tests whether you tend to do simple things in an overly complicated way.

##### **Elephant Test**

2. How do you put an elephant into a refrigerator?

Did you say, open the refrigerator, put in the elephant, and close the refrigerator? Wrong Answer.

Correct Answer: Open the refrigerator, take out the giraffe, put in the elephant and close the door. This tests your ability to think through the repercussions of your previous actions.

##### **Lion King Test**

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3. The Lion King is hosting an Animal Conference. All the animals attend ... except one. Which animal does not attend?

Correct Answer: The Elephant. The elephant is in the refrigerator. You just put him in there. This tests your memory.

Okay, even if you did not answer the first three questions correctly, you still have one more chance to show your true abilities.

**Crocodile Test**

4. There is a river you must cross but it is used by crocodiles, and you do not have a boat. How do you manage it?

Correct Answer: You jump into the river and swim across. Haven't you been lis-ten-ing? All the crocodiles are attending the Animal Conference. This tests whether you learn quickly from your mistakes.

According to Anderson Consulting Worldwide, around 90% of the Retirees they tested got all questions wrong, but many preschoolers got several correct answers. Anderson Consulting says this conclusively proves the theory that most Retirees do not have the brains of a four-year-old.

Send this out to frustrate all of your smart friends..

PS: Just the fact that I sent it to you should make you feel good

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

From: "Bob Bolgeo" [bbolgeo@aol.com](mailto:bbolgeo@aol.com)

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage, and family values..

Bill said, 'I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?'

Larry replied, 'I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?'

---

A little boy went up to his father and asked: 'Dad, where did my intelligence come from?'

The father replied. 'Well, son, you must have got it from your mother, cause I still have mine.'

---

'Mr. Clark, I have reviewed this case very carefully,' the divorce Court Judge said, 'And I've decided to give your wife \$775 a week,'

'That's very fair, your honor,' the husband said. 'And every now and then I'll try to send her a few bucks myself.'

---

A doctor examining a woman who had been rushed to the Emergency Room, took the husband aside, and said, 'I don't like the looks of your wife at all.'

'Me neither doc,' said the husband. 'But she's a great cook and really good with the kids.'

---

An old woman goes to the Wizard to ask him if he can remove a curse she has been living with for the last 40 years.

The Wizard says, 'Maybe, but you will have to tell me the exact words that were used to put the curse on you.'

The old woman says without hesitation, 'I now pronounce you man and wife.'

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Two Reasons Why It's So Hard To Solve A Redneck Murder:

1. The DNA all matches.
  2. There are no dental records.
- 

A blonde calls Delta Airlines and asks, 'Can you tell me how long it'll take to fly from San Francisco to New York City ?'

The agent replies, 'Just a minute.'

'Thank you,' the blonde says, and hangs up.

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Two Mexican detectives were investigating the murder of Juan Gonzalez. 'How was he killed?' asked one detective..

'With a golf gun,' the other detective replied.

'A golf gun! What is a golf gun?'

'I don't know. But it sure made a hole in Juan.'

---

Moe: 'My wife got me to believe in religion.'

Joe: 'Really?'

Moe: 'Yeah, until I married her I didn't believe in Hell.'

---

A man is recovering from surgery when the Surgical Nurse appears and asks him how he is feeling.

'I'm O. K. But I didn't like the four letter-words the doctor used in surgery,' he answered.



'What did he say,' asked the nurse.

'Oops!'

---

While shopping for vacation clothes, my husband and I passed a display of bathing suits. It had been at least ten years and twenty pounds since I had even considered buying a bathing suit, so I sought my husband's advice.

'What do you think?' I asked. 'Should I get a bikini or an all-in-one?'

'Better get a bikini,' he replied. 'You'd never get it all in one.'

He's still in intensive care.

---

The graveside service just barely finished, when there was massive clap of thunder, followed by a tremendous bolt of lightning, accompanied by even more thunder rumbling in the distance...

The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, 'Well, she's there'

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

**IRONY & DIFFERENT WAYS OF LOOKING AT THINGS...**



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

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@epbf.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbf.com)

YALE COLLEGE REPUBLICANS HOLD BARBECUE NEXT TO UNION HUNGER STRIKE

by BEN KEW29 Apr 2017 2,253

<http://www.breitbart.com/tech/2017/04/29/yale-college-republicans-hold-barbecue-next-to-union-hunger-strike/>



Yale College Republicans barbecuing by union fast site, 4:20 PM - 28 Apr 2017, Twitter/@gabrielwinant

Members of the Yale College Republicans held a barbecue on Friday next to eight graduate student teachers on a hunger strike over the Yale University's refusal to negotiate with its newly formed union.

While the eight protesters sat in a tent next to University President Peter Salovey's home, having not eaten in three days, the college Republican group cooked up a meal of beef, baked beans, and corn on the cob for the local community.

The hunger strike concerned Yale's unwillingness to negotiate a contract with its graduate teachers, who voted to unionize in February. The union, known as Local 33, is a subgroup of the international labor union UNITE HERE.

The university's refusal is currently being appealed to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), with the university reportedly hoping to hold out until Donald Trump appoints a new batch of anti-union members to the NLRB.

Asked about his reaction to the barbecue, Local 33 Chairman Aaron Greenberg told The New Haven Register, "I'm not really focused on that. I'm focused on making sure we have lots of water, make sure I'm healthy. We have a check in with our nurse this afternoon. We are focused on that."

In fliers distributed before the strike, the organizers asked others to participate with them in solidarity, urging people to "sit with us and lift our spirits," and "[join in] when one of us cannot continue."

Greenberg also attacked the university for "siding with Donald Trump over members of their own community" by taking an anti-union stance.

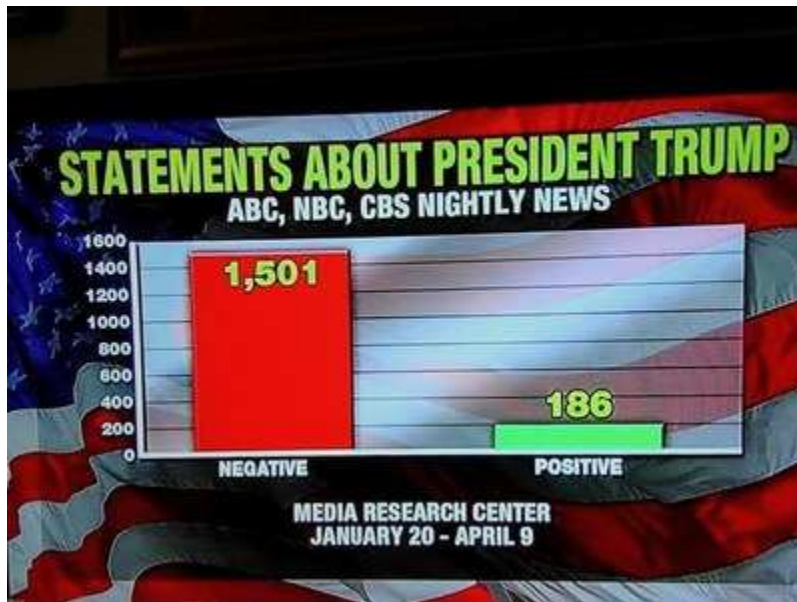
"I think that is unacceptable. I think that is despicable. They say we have to wait, so we are waiting without eating," he said.

You can follow Ben Kew on Facebook, on Twitter at @ben\_kew, or email him at bkew@breitbart.com

<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)



I SAW THIS IN PASSING ON THE NEWS THE OTHER NIGHT AND HAD TROUBLE BELIEVING IT. BUT, APPARENTLY IT IS TRUE. UT

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

**TED CRUZ CALLS FOR \$14 BILLION SEIZED FROM 'EL CHAPO' TO FUND BORDER WALL**

by BOB PRICE, 25 Apr 2017

<http://www.breitbart.com/texas/2017/04/25/ted-cruz-calls-14-billion-seized-el-chapo-fund-border-wall/>

#### AP File Photos

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) introduced a bill calling for the use of \$14 billion seized from cartel drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman to be used to pay for the President's border wall between the U.S. and Mexico.

"Fourteen billion dollars will go a long way toward building a wall that will keep Americans safe and hinder the illegal flow of drugs, weapons, and individuals across our southern border," Senator Cruz stated, according to a statement obtained by Breitbart Texas from the senator's office. "Ensuring the safety and security of Texans is one of my top priorities."



The Texas senator said that leveraging criminally forfeited assets from El Chapo and other Mexican cartel members and drug dealers can "offset the wall's cost and make meaningful progress toward achieving President Trump's stated border security objectives."

Senator Cruz introduced the Ensuring Lawful Collection of Hidden Assets to Provide Order (EL CHAPO) Act on Tuesday. "The U.S. Government is currently seeking the criminal forfeiture of more than \$14 billion in drug proceeds and illicit profits from El Chapo, the former leader of the Sinaloa drug cartel who was recently extradited to the U.S. to face criminal prosecution for numerous alleged drug-related crimes, including conspiracy to commit murder and money laundering," Cruz stated.

The Mexican government extradited the former Mexican drug kingpin in January, Breitbart Texas' Ildefonso Ortiz reported. The move to an American prison cell followed months of court battles in Mexico and multiple escapes from prison by Guzman. As part of the agreement with Mexico, Guzman will not face the death penalty in the U.S. for his crimes. Prosecutors filed murder charges against the former drug lord in relation to the killings of a U.S. citizen and two relatives.

Bob Price serves as associate editor and senior political news contributor for Breitbart Texas. He is a founding member of the Breitbart Texas team. Follow him on Twitter @BobPriceBBTX and Facebook.

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## TRUMP TO PULL FEDS OUT OF K-12 EDUCATION

Trump orders rollback of 'federal power grab' in education

By S.A. Miller, The Washington Times, Reuters, Wednesday, April 26, 2017

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/apr/26/donald-trump-pull-feds-out-k-12-education/>

President Trump signed an executive order Wednesday to start pulling the federal government out of K-12 education, following through on a campaign promise to return school control to state and local officials.

The order, dubbed the "Education Federalism Executive Order," will launch a 300-day review of Obama-era regulations and guidance for school districts and directs Education Secretary Betsy DeVos to modify or repeal measures she deems an overreach by the federal government.

"For too long the government has imposed its will on state and local governments. The result has been education that spends more and achieves far, far, far less," Mr. Trump said. "My administration has been working to reverse this federal power grab and give power back to families, cities [and] states — give power back to localities."

He said that previous administrations had increasingly forced schools to comply with "whims and dictates" from Washington, but his administration would break the trend.

"We know local communities know it best and do it best," said Mr. Trump, who was joined by several Republican governors for the signing. "The time has come to empower teachers and parents to make the decisions that help their students achieve success."

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

## CANADA MAN ORDERED TO SURRENDER 'OFFENSIVE' STAR TREK LICENSE PLATE

By Ian Miles Cheong|10:13 am, April 29, 2017

<https://heatst.com/culture-wars/canada-man-ordered-to-surrender-offensive-star-trek-license-plate/>

A Canadian man's Star Trek-inspired license plate has been revoked after his public insurance company received complaints that it was offensive to indigenous people. The two-year-old plate, which reads "ASIMIL8," is a sly reference to the Borg, evil aliens in Star Trek who "assimilate" their prey and go by the motto "Resistance is Futile."

Manitoba local Nick Troller was informed by an agent from Manitoba Public Insurance on Wednesday that they had received complaints from two people about the word "assimilate," which they claimed is offensive to minorities. He was then served a letter

informing him that “it has been brought to the attention of this office that the personalized plate ASIMIL8 is considered offensive,” and was ordered to surrender it immediately.



MPI has given Troller the option to replace the personalized plate with a new one free of charge or refund the \$100 he paid for it.

Troller disagrees with the contention that the plate is offensive. “But that’s not the

point,” he said. “We’ve become way too sensitive. You can’t say anything anymore to anybody.”

He told CTV News that prior to being notified of the complaints, he was only ever complimented for the interesting license plate by people who took photos of it.



The Borg “assimilating” a victim

The term “assimilate” can refer to the process in which members of a group are absorbed into the culture of another population. In the Star Trek franchise, the malevolent Borg forcibly assimilate sentient lifeforms into their machine “hivemind”.

Speaking to CTV News, a spokesperson for the National Center for Truth and Reconciliation, Ry Moran, said that the word "assimilate" is indeed too offensive to be displayed on the plate, regardless of intent.

"Words like that, meant or not, have an actual impact on many people," said Moran—as if one man's Star Trek reference was capable of oppressing millions of Canadians.

In Manitoba, license plates are the property of the government and there is no appeal process for rejected or revoked slogans. MPI policy states that plates are prohibited from containing slogans that could be considered offensive. The Manitoba licensing bureau is treating complaints over the ASIMIL8 plate "very seriously" and will investigate why the plate was ever approved in the first place.

Ian Miles Cheong is a journalist and outspoken media critic. You can reach him through social media at @stillgray on Twitter and on Facebook.

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

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Jim Hollis" [jhollis@northsidesales.com](mailto:jhollis@northsidesales.com)

The Best of Stefan Pabst's 3D Drawings

WOW! This is awesome to watch (not the snake--- gives me the creeps)

This is fascinating. You'd swear the things he draws are real.

<https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/TE8Z4Mu9DgY?rel=0&showinfo=0>

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

YOU JUST CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP!

From: "Stephanie Osborn"

THE 14 FAKE OLIVE OIL COMPANIES ARE REVEALED NOW – AVOID THESE BRANDS

<http://www.organichealthcorner.com/14-fake-olive-oil-companies-revealed-now-avoid-brands/>

Supposedly, even 70% of olive oil in the USA markets is fake, cut with cheap bad oils like sunflower and canola. This item is supposed to be healthy, but this is now corrupted. It was found that even 7 of the biggest olive oil makers in USA, mix their items with cheap oils to get more profits.

This is like the 2008 practice in Italy when 400 police officers were involved in the breakdown known as operation Golden Oil. This meant seizure for 85 oil farms that mixed some percentage chlorophyll with sunflower and canola to the olive oil. The oil was mixed, colored, perfumed and flavored too, and these things made the Australian government investigate their own oils. The results were awful.



After that, not one brand named extra virgin olive oil got the 2012 certificate of approval.



This scam made the California University study 124 imported oils and found that over 70% of samples failed the tests.

**THESE FAILED:**

**Mezzetta  
Carapelli  
Pompeian  
Primadonna  
Mazola  
Sasso  
Colavita  
Star  
Antica Badia  
Whole Foods  
Safeway  
Felippo Berio  
Coricelli  
Bertolli**

**THESE BRANDS PASSED:**

Corto olive  
Lucero  
McEvoy Ranch Organic  
Omaggio  
California Olive Branch  
Bariani Olive oil  
Lucini  
Ottavio  
Olea Estates  
Cobram Estate  
Kirkland Organic

Also, test the olive oil yourself at home. Put the bottle out when cold, or in the fridge for 30 min. if it gets solid, it is pure and has monounsaturated fats. But if it stays liquid is fake and just in case, see the label approvals like Australian Extra Virgin Certified or the other one, California Olive Oil Council Certified Extra Virgin.

We think it is time to be healthy and stand against the fake makers of oil that add GMO and additives. Health is more worthy than money! Let us support the real health item producers and give THEM our money.

Article and image source: [www.healthyfoodhouse.com](http://www.healthyfoodhouse.com)

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From: "Tim Bolgeo" [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

**AN ARTIFICIAL WOMB SUCCESSFULLY GREW BABY SHEEP — AND HUMANS COULD BE NEXT**

The lambs spent four weeks in the external wombs and seemed to develop normally

by Rachel Becker Apr 25, 2017, 5:09pm EDT

<http://www.theverge.com/2017/4/25/15421734/artificial-womb-fetus-biobag-uterus-lamb-sheep-birth-premie-preterm-infant>



THIS IS A SCREEN CAPTURE OF THE 1ST FRAME OF THE VIDEO AT THE WEBSITE.

Inside what look like oversized ziplock bags strewn with tubes of blood and fluid, eight fetal lambs continued to develop — much like they would have inside their mothers. Over four weeks, their lungs and brains grew, they sprouted

wool, opened their eyes, wriggled around, and learned to swallow, according to a new study that takes the first step toward an artificial womb. One day, this device could help to bring premature human babies to term outside the uterus — but right now, it has only been tested on sheep.

It's appealing to imagine a world where artificial wombs grow babies, eliminating the health risk of pregnancy. But it's important not to get ahead of the data, says Alan Flake, fetal surgeon at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and lead author of today's study. "It's complete science fiction to think that you can take an embryo and get it through the early developmental process and put it on our machine without the mother being the critical element there," he says.

Instead, the point of developing an external womb — which his team calls the Biobag — is to give infants born months too early a more natural, uterus-like environment to continue developing in, Flake says.

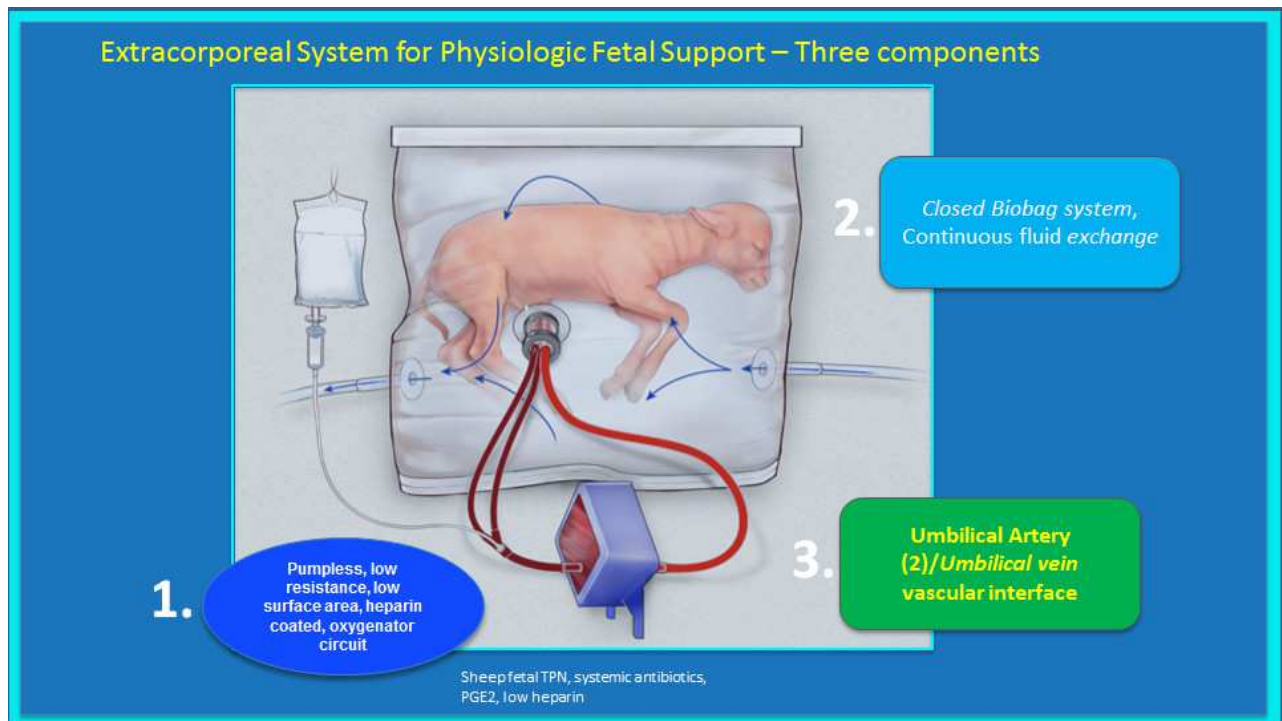


Image: The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

The Biobag may not look much like a womb, but it contains the same key parts: a clear plastic bag that encloses the fetal lamb and protects it from the outside world, like the uterus would; an electrolyte solution that bathes the lamb similarly to the amniotic fluid in the uterus; and a way for the fetus to circulate its blood and exchange carbon dioxide for oxygen. Flake and his colleagues published their results today in the journal *Nature Communications*.

Flake hopes the Biobag will improve the care options for extremely premature infants, who have "well documented, dismal outcomes," he says. Prematurity is the leading cause of death for newborns. In the US, about 10 percent of babies are born prematurely — which means they were born before they reach 37 weeks of pregnancy. About 6 percent, or 30,000

of those births, are considered extremely premature, which means that they were born at or before the 28th week of pregnancy.

These infants require intensive support as they continue to develop outside their mothers' bodies. The babies who survive delivery require mechanical ventilation, medications, and IVs that provide nutrition and fluids. If they make it out of the intensive care unit, many of these infants (between 20 to 50 percent of them) still suffer from a host of health conditions that arise from the stunted development of their organ systems.

## **IT'S "COMPLETE SCIENCE FICTION" TO THINK YOU COULD DO THIS WITHOUT THE MOTHER**

"So parents have to make critical decisions about whether to use aggressive measures to keep these babies alive, or whether to allow for less painful, comfort care," says neonatologist Elizabeth Rogers, co-director for the Intensive Care Nursery Follow-Up Program of UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, who was not involved in the study. "One of the unspoken things in extreme preterm birth is that there are families who say, 'If I had known the outcome for my baby could be this bad, I wouldn't have chosen to put her through everything.'"

That's why for decades scientists have been trying to develop an artificial womb that would re-create a more natural environment for a premature baby to continue to develop in. One of the main challenges was re-creating the intricate circulatory system that connects mom to fetus: the mom's blood flows to the baby and back, exchanging oxygen for carbon dioxide. The blood needs to flow with just enough pressure, but an external pump can damage the baby's heart.

To solve this problem, Flake and his colleagues created a pumpless circulatory system. They connected the fetus's umbilical blood vessels to a new kind of oxygenator, and the blood moved smoothly through the system. Smoothly enough, in fact, that the baby's heartbeat was sufficient to power blood flow without another pump.

## **FOR DECADES, SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO DEVELOP AN ARTIFICIAL WOMB**

The next problem to solve was the risk for infections, which premature infants in open incubators face in the neonatal intensive care unit, or NICU. That's where the bag and the artificial amniotic fluid comes in. The fluid flows in and out of the bag just like it would in a uterus, removing waste, shielding the infant from infectious germs in the hospital, and keeping the fetus's developing lungs filled with fluid.

Flake and his colleagues tested the setup for up to four weeks on eight fetal lambs that were 105 to 120 days into pregnancy — about equivalent to human infants at 22 to 24 weeks of gestation. After the four weeks were up, they were switched onto a regular ventilator like a premature baby in a NICU.

The lambs' health on the ventilator appeared nearly as good as a lamb the same age that had just been delivered by cesarean section. Then, the lambs were removed from the ventilator and all but one, which was developed enough to breathe on its own, were euthanized so the researchers could examine their organs. Their lungs and brains — the organ systems that are most vulnerable to damage in premature infants — looked uninjured and as developed as they should be in a lamb that grew in a mother.

## **OF COURSE, LAMBS AREN'T HUMANS**

Of course, lambs aren't humans — and their brains develop at a somewhat different pace. The authors acknowledge that it's going to take more research into the science and safety of this device before it can be used on human babies. They've already started testing it on human-sized lambs that were put in the Biobags earlier in pregnancy. And they are monitoring the few lambs that survived after being taken off the ventilator to look for long-term problems. So far, the lambs seem pretty healthy. "I think it's realistic to think about three years for first-in-human trials," Flake says.

"It's so interesting, and it's really innovative," Rogers says. "To be able to continue to develop in an artificial environment can reduce the many problems caused by simply being born too early." Rogers adds that not every facility has the resources or expertise to offer cutting-edge care to expecting mothers — a problem that the Biobag won't be able to solve. "We know there are already disparities after preterm birth. If you have access to high-level regionalized care your outcomes are often better than if you don't," she says.

**"I'M STILL BLOWN AWAY, WHENEVER I'M DOWN LOOKING AT OUR LAMBS."**

And Rogers worries about how hype surrounding the Biobag could impact parents coping with preterm infants. "I think many people have been affected by preterm birth and they think this is going to be some magic bullet. And I think that prematurity is just really complicated." Preventing it in the first place should be a top priority, she says, but the Biobag could help drive that research forward.

For Flake, the research continues. "I'm still blown away, whenever I'm down looking at our lambs," he says. "I think it's just an amazing thing to sit there and watch the fetus on this support acting like it normally acts in the womb... It's a really awe-inspiring endeavor to be able to continue normal gestation outside of the mom."

This post has been updated with video.

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## **WE JUST BREACHED THE 410 PPM THRESHOLD FOR CO2**

**Carbon dioxide has not reached this height in millions of years**

**By Brian Kahn, Climate Central on April 21, 2017**

**[https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/we-just-breached-the-410-ppm-threshold-for-co2/?WT.mc\\_id=SA\\_ENGYSUS\\_20170427](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/we-just-breached-the-410-ppm-threshold-for-co2/?WT.mc_id=SA_ENGYSUS_20170427)**

The world just passed another round-numbered climate milestone. Scientists predicted it would happen this year and lo and behold, it has.

On Tuesday, the Mauna Loa Observatory recorded its first-ever carbon dioxide reading in excess of 410 parts per million (it was 410.28 ppm in case you want the full deal). Carbon dioxide hasn't reached that height in millions of years. It's a new atmosphere that humanity will have to contend with, one that's trapping more heat and causing the climate to change at a quickening rate.



The Mauna Loa Observatory in Hawaii recorded its first-ever carbon dioxide reading in excess of 410 parts per million. Credit: Sharloch Flickr (CC BY-SA 2.0)

In what's become a spring tradition like Passover and Easter, carbon dioxide has set a record high each year since measurements began. It stood at 280 ppm when record keeping began at Mauna Loa in 1958. In 2013, it passed 400 ppm. Just four years later, the 400 ppm mark is no longer a novelty. It's the norm.

"Its pretty depressing that it's only a couple of years since the 400 ppm milestone was toppled," Gavin Foster, a paleoclimate researcher at the University of Southampton told Climate Central last month. "These milestones are just numbers, but they give us an opportunity to pause and take stock and act as useful yard sticks for comparisons to the geological record."

Earlier this year, U.K. Met Office scientists issued their first-ever carbon dioxide forecast. They projected carbon dioxide could reach 410 ppm in March and almost certainly would by April. Their forecast has been borne out with Tuesday's daily record. They project that the monthly average will peak near 407 ppm in May, setting a monthly record.

Carbon dioxide concentrations have skyrocketed over the past two years due to in part to natural factors like El Niño causing more of it to end up in the atmosphere. But it's mostly driven by the record amounts of carbon dioxide humans are creating by burning fossil fuels.

“The rate of increase will go down when emissions decrease,” Pieter Tans, an atmospheric scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, said. “But carbon dioxide will still be going up, albeit more slowly. Only when emissions are cut in half will atmospheric carbon dioxide level off initially.”

Even when concentrations of carbon dioxide level off, the impacts of climate change will extend centuries into the future. The planet has already warmed 1.8°F (1°C), including a run of 627 months in a row of above-normal heat. Sea levels have risen about a foot and oceans have acidified. Extreme heat has become more common.

All of these impacts will last longer and intensify into the future even if we cut carbon emissions. But we face a choice of just how intense they become based on when we stop polluting the atmosphere.

Right now we’re on track to create a climate unseen in 50 million years by mid-century.

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## AN OLD ROCK COULD LEAD TO NEXT-GENERATION SOLAR CELLS

Perovskite technology could disrupt the world's solar market, currently dominated by China

By John Fialka, E&E News on April 24, 2017

[https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/an-old-rock-could-lead-to-next-generation-solar-cells/?WT.mc\\_id=SA\\_ENGYSUS\\_20170427](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/an-old-rock-could-lead-to-next-generation-solar-cells/?WT.mc_id=SA_ENGYSUS_20170427)



The Eastman Kodak factory and main office in Rochester, N.Y., circa 1910. Some of Kodak's old building space is being used by Energy Materials Corp. to develop perovskite technology. Credit: Library of Congress

After a 170-year delay, the discovery of a strange, metallic-looking rock found in the Ural Mountains in Russia in 1839 has ignited a

global technology race for a cheaper, more efficient solar cell. It could seriously disrupt the world's solar market, currently dominated by China.

The features of the rock led to the understanding that there was not a particular mineral involved, but a class of minerals that share a common crystalline structure of cubes and diamondlike shapes. The structure was named for Lev Perovski, a Russian mineral expert who first studied it. He died in 1856. Later, researchers found that mineral deposits containing perovskite structures were cheap and abundant throughout the world.

But scientists weren't sure what to do with them until 2009, when a Japanese researcher found that perovskite could absorb sunlight and turn it into electricity. It was remarkably similar to prepared silicon cells. Only perovskite cells selected stronger photons of sunlight and promised to be much cheaper to prepare than silicon cells, which require 14 steps to manufacture, including preparations requiring the use of high heat, expensive automation and clean rooms.

The potentially cheaper cost of materials and manufacturing has led to a first wave of commercial perovskite ventures, including at least two that are forming in the United States. They are aiming for products that could challenge China's dominance of the global solar market and help spread manufacturing around the world.

"It's amazing how fast this has come along," said Matthew Beard, a chemist and senior scientist at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Boulder, Colo., one of at least 20 research centers and universities around the world that are working with perovskite.

He said that while experimenters are still wrestling with a stability problem in perovskite solar cells that, so far, has given them a shorter life span than silicon-based solar cells, there are ways to overcome that. Beard and other NREL researchers think the new crystalline materials could be the basis for a more competitive U.S. industry and the jobs that come with it.

Currently, the solar industry in the U.S. — which invented solar-powered photovoltaic (PV) electricity — generates 73,000 American jobs, according to NREL, and its hiring rate is growing 17 times faster than the U.S. economy.

But China, after a six-year financial sprint to provide lavish government subsidies to its solar market and its industries, remains way out in front. Its silicon-based solar products have become cheap and reliable enough to control 70 percent of the world's trade in solar modules. Meanwhile, the United States produces about 1 percent, according to a new study by Stanford University (Climatewire, March 22).

The study also noted that the perovskite solar cell "has captured enormous interest among solar researchers over the past four years," and that its efficiency in making electricity from the energy in sunlight — based on laboratory experiments — had soared from 15 percent to over 22 percent in just three years, reaching a level that is competitive with modules made by China.

## **KODAK REPURPOSED**

In an interview with E&E News, NREL's Beard said one "critical factor" in this looming market shake-up "is the potential to be cheaper than silicon." Another, he noted, was that



chemists, like himself, see many potential ways to tune perovskite cells to higher levels of efficiency.

A third emerging factor, being developed by researchers from Stanford University and elsewhere, is the use of perovskite cells to work in “tandem” with commercial silicon cells, mating them together to quickly raise their efficiency.

Perhaps the most ambitious U.S. commercial perovskite venture is growing out of machinery originally developed by Eastman Kodak — to coat photographic film with thin coatings that spun out miles of celluloid film that were sensitive to light. The high speed “roll-to-roll” printing technology that Kodak pioneered to dominate the world’s photographic film market is being used by a company to coat plastic films with a thin layer of perovskite-based materials.

Once his company determined in a garagelike laboratory that perovskite-based cells would work, Stephan DeLuca, the president and CEO of Energy Materials Corp., located it in Rochester, N.Y., at Eastman Business Park, formerly Kodak Park, where startup companies are using former Kodak production facilities and buildings to develop new products.

Kodak once employed 15,000 people there. DeLuca's company has access to its machines to develop a manufacturing process to make the most common solar product, which is the square solar modules that are installed on rooftops of homes, stores and industrial rooftops.

As DeLuca explained it, the machinery will speed up the process of making the basic perovskite material for turning sunlight into electricity. It would then be given a protective covering of glass and encapsulated to protect against water and other substances.

“What I would say is that if you make them correctly, they are stable,” he said, noting that silicon-based solar modules also have to be carefully made and protected. “You have to be concerned about interactions with other materials.”

DeLuca said that as far as he knows, no companies have begun the commercial process of using perovskite to make modules in large quantities. “We’re not there yet, but we’re in the process of scaling up.”

But he is hopeful because “the equipment that you need is much cheaper than what you need for silicon. That will make the cost per watt much lower.”

DeLuca's company has developed the process with Jinsong Huang, an associate professor of mechanical and materials handling at the University of Nebraska. Huang leads a team of researchers who are developing the low-cost fabrication techniques for perovskite modules.

Huang, who has received grants from the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation, explained that his ultimate goal is not to compete with silicon modules, but to make a product that is cheap enough to compete with fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas.

“Silicon is too expensive to compete with fossil fuels and coal,” he recently told Nebraska Today, which is published by the University of Nebraska. “Before solar cells can be broadly

adopted, we need to drive the cost down by half to be competitive with other sources of energy.”

Huang, who is moving his research effort to the University of North Carolina, estimated that continued development could raise the efficiency level of perovskite-coated films to 25 percent “within three to five years.”

#### **ADDING PEROVSKITE TO SILICON**

A second U.S. commercial venture was spun out of Stanford University's laboratories last summer. It is called Iris PV, and its managing director, Colin Bailie, thinks his company can get to higher solar efficiency more quickly by mating perovskite solar cells with standard silicon cells. Working in tandem, the two devices can extract more power from sunlight. An Australian laboratory recently announced that such an array reached 26.4 percent efficiency.

Jumping from below 10 percent to that level of efficiency in seven years, he explains, has made perovskite the fastest-improving photovoltaic technology in history. “It's certainly up there pretty close to what the best silicon can possibly do,” said Bailie, who is developing a business model aimed at using tandem modules as a road to cheaper solar energy.

By making perovskite cells in his laboratory, he hopes to produce a line of smaller, niche products, such as tandem solar cells to power satellites and to respond to the U.S. military need for smaller, lighter power generating systems in the field.

If that venture works, Iris PV aims to reshape the solar module industry by buying cheap commercial silicon solar cells made for modules that are currently being installed on rooftops. The company would complete the modules by inserting a second layer of perovskite material, a thin coating printed on a glass panel that would serve as the outside capsule for a tandem solar cell. The two layers, working together, Bailie believes, will compete with the most efficient silicon cells on the commercial market for a small fraction of their cost.

The finished product, packaged together at a small, relatively simple module factory located near where the modules would be installed, would be a “win-win” proposition. As Bailie explained, they would help solar module manufacturers compete with fossil fuels, give panel installers cheaper products to sell, and help spread the growing solar industry in the U.S. and around the world.

“That's our long-term vision,” Bailie said.

There are other players who share similar perovskite-powered visions of a global solar electricity businesses. One of them is Oxford Photovoltaics Ltd., a company spun off from the University of Oxford in England that has recently made an agreement with a solar panel manufacturer to open a commercial facility for making perovskite-powered solar panels in Germany.

The venture has attracted financial backing from Statoil Energy Ventures, a subsidiary of Norway's Statoil ASA, which is one of the largest oil and gas producers in the world.

Gareth Burns, managing director of the subsidiary, said the company wants to supplement its oil and gas portfolio with “profitable renewable energy.” In a press statement, he

described the venture as “a great opportunity to be part of a technology development that has the potential to impact the next generation of solar cells.”

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## MARS ASTRONAUTS MAY BE WHIPPING UP BATCHES OF NO-BAKE BRICKS

Ben Coxworth April 27, 2017

<http://newatlas.com/no-bake-martian-bricks/49253/>



One of the simulated Martian bricks, looking a little worse for wear after being stress-tested (Credit: UCSD)

Should we ever get human settlers on Mars, they'll likely have to construct their buildings at least partially out of Martian soil. That said, it would be nice if they didn't have to bring along a bunch of kilns, in order to fire that soil into bricks. Well, according to a NASA-funded study conducted at the University of California San Diego, Martian bricks can actually be made without any heat whatsoever.

Led by Prof. Yu Qiao, the UCSD team was initially trying to make bricks by mixing simulated Martian soil with binding polymers. What the scientists discovered, however, was that the polymers weren't even necessary if the simulant was subjected to a high enough pressure.

In order to make that happen, the material was first placed in a flexible rubber tube. That tube was then compacted at a pressure equivalent to "someone dropping a 10-lb [4.5-kg]

hammer from a height of one meter [3.3 ft]." This resulted in round soil pallets, which were subsequently cut into bricks.

When tested, those bricks were found to be stronger than steel-reinforced concrete.



It is believed that the secret to the bricks' success lies in the tiny iron oxide particles which coat the larger basalt particles that make up the simulant. When pressed together, the clean, flat facets of the iron particles bind to one another, thus also binding the basalt particles together.

Of course, it's entirely possible that the Martian settlers won't be laying down bricks, but will instead be 3D-printing their structures using the Red Planet's soil. The UCSD technique may still be applicable, however, as the astronauts could deposit a layer of soil with their 3D printer, compress it to a brick-like consistency, then deposit another layer on top of that one and compress it, and so on.

A paper on the research was recently published in the journal *Scientific Reports*.

Source: UCSD

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## MOON 'LOGICAL NEXT STEP' FOR TRUMP MILESTONE IN SPACE, BIGELOW SAYS

By Irene Klotz, Space.com Contributor | April 28, 2017 07:00am ET

<http://www.space.com/36643-moon-station-next-space-step-for-trump-bigelow.html>



A privately built space station could be orbiting the moon by 2020, serving as a refueling depot for other spacecraft, as depicted in this artist's illustration from space-habitat manufacturer Bigelow Aerospace. Credit: Bigelow Aerospace

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — If President Donald Trump is serious about making an imprint on U.S. human space exploration during his first, or possible second, term in office, space habitat developer Robert Bigelow has a suggestion: Partner with commercial companies to gain a toehold on the moon.

The billionaire founder of Las Vegas-based Bigelow Aerospace pitched the idea of a public-private lunar depot to members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, which held a webcast hearing Wednesday (April 26) about how to bolster U.S. space business.

"If [the project is] initiated soon, I believe that Bigelow Aerospace and [other] companies could provide a lunar depot ... that would enable NASA and commercial entities access to the moon and cislunar space in a four-year program," Bigelow said, emphasizing the time frame. ("Cislunar" refers to the region between Earth and the moon.)

The Trump administration has made no secret about wanting to put its mark on NASA's human space-exploration program. That program is currently focused on maintaining and commercializing the International Space Station and developing technologies to travel and live beyond Earth's orbit.

The administration in February asked NASA to consider putting a crew on the first test flight of the agency's heavy-lift Space Launch System rocket and Orion deep-space capsule. That mission, known as Exploration Mission-1, or EM-1, is currently targeted for late 2018, though experts say it's likely to be delayed.

The results of the NASA study have not yet been announced.

**VIDEO OF "OUT OF THIS WORLD" USES FOR EXPANDABLE HABITATS EXPLAINED BY ROBERT BIGELOW IS AVAILABLE AT THE WEBSITE.**

Trump himself pressed the issue of a human space milestone during a congratulatory call on Monday (April 24) to space station commander Peggy Whitson, who broke the record for the most time spent in space by a U.S. astronaut.

Trump asked Whitson when she thought NASA would be ready to fly a crew to Mars, and when she told him the 2030s, the president quipped, "Well, we want to try and do it during my first term, or at worst during my second term, so we'll have to speed that up a little bit, OK?"

A stepping-stone on the moon is "far and away the logical first choice," Bigelow said in a telephone interview with Space.com.

"I think Mars is premature, but the moon is a perfect testing ground for experiencing all kinds of things," Bigelow said. "This could be done by the end of [Trump's] first term. I feel more comfortable saying it could be done within four years from the time execution begins. It all depends on the politics and how long it takes for the government to get the machinery rolling."

With or without government support, Bigelow Aerospace intends to have two of its B330 expandable space habitats ready for launch by the end of 2020. A single 11,650-cubic-foot (330 cubic meters) B330 module has about as much pressurized volume as one-third of the space station.

The company already has built and flown three prototype habitats, including a module currently attached to the space station.

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**NASA STRUGGLING TO MEET SPACESUIT NEEDS**

Apr 27, 2017\_Mark Carreau | Aerospace Daily & Defense Report

[http://aviationweek.com/space/nasa-struggling-meet-spacesuit-needs?NL=AW-05&Issue=AW-05 20170501 AW-05 972&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article 4&utm\\_rid=CPEN1000003019593&utm\\_campaign=9787&utm\\_medium=email&elq2=104afe9fb6894acca2f3e82f71184b53](http://aviationweek.com/space/nasa-struggling-meet-spacesuit-needs?NL=AW-05&Issue=AW-05 20170501 AW-05 972&sfvc4enews=42&cl=article 4&utm_rid=CPEN1000003019593&utm_campaign=9787&utm_medium=email&elq2=104afe9fb6894acca2f3e82f71184b53)

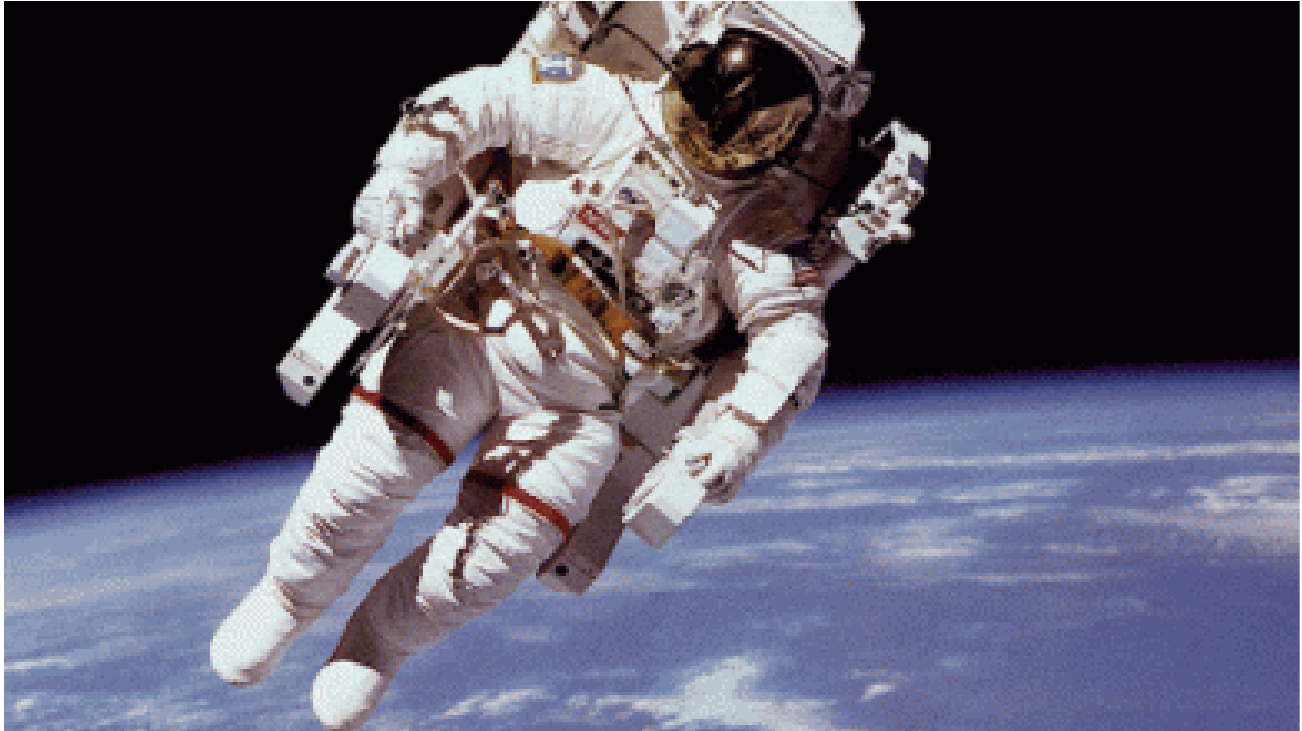


Photo: NASA

**HOUSTON—NASA’s Inspector General (IG) has found the agency lagging in efforts to develop a new spacesuit for future human deep-space missions—and time could be running out to test new suits aboard the International Space Station (ISS) before it ceases operations.**

**The precise destinations and timing of the missions remain uncertain despite NASA’s announced ambitions of reaching the Martian realm in the 2030s.**

**NASA’s current suit, the Extravehicular Mobility Unit (EMU), was developed more than 40 years ago for shuttle-based Extra Vehicular Activity, or spacewalks, and adapted for use outside the ISS. So far, the EMU has logged nearly 1,244 hr. of use over 199 spacewalks devoted to the assembly and maintenance of the ISS**

**In use far beyond its 15-year design life, however, the EMU lacks the hip joint mechanism to support the mobility needed for frequent spacewalks on planetary surfaces like Mars or the Moon. A weakness in the design of the EMU’s internal cooling system allowed water coolant to enter the air circulation system of a suit worn during a July 2013 spacewalk outside the ISS. One to two liters of water flowed into the EMU helmet of European Space Agency astronaut Luca Parmitano, who struggled to make his way back to the safety of the station’s airlock. The near-drowning was one of 27 “significant incidents” experienced during the EMU era. New safeguards implemented in response to the incident could restrict**

the availability of the EMU before ISS operations come to their currently scheduled close in 2024, according to the IG.

Just 11 of the 18 EMUs produced remain in service. Only four of the suits are currently aboard the ISS and ready for an astronaut to don for planned external upgrades, troubleshooting or emergency maintenance. Seven EMUs are on the ground, for maintenance or refurbishment, another design shortcoming that won't suffice for deep-space missions that could last months or years.

Currently scheduled use of the EMU counts 17 ISS spacewalks through 2020, among them the much-anticipated installation of an International Docking Adapter to complete a second docking port for Boeing CST-100 Starliner and SpaceX Dragon capsules in development under NASA's Commercial Crew Program.

In the meantime, NASA has spent nearly \$200 million over the past eight years attempting to develop three possible successors to the intricate shuttle-era garment, which is designed to function for 6 to 10 hr. at a time in the weightlessness of orbital space rather than the partial gravity of the Moon or the Red Planet.

“The lives of NASA's astronauts depend on spacesuits that enable them to operate safely in extreme environments. As the EMU ages, NASA must deal with a dwindling number of flight-ready spacesuits and with mitigating risks related to their design and maintenance,” NASA IG Paul K. Martin concludes in NASA's 52-page audit released April 26. “Moreover, NASA is developing a new spacesuit for future exploration missions, and project officials say testing the new design on the ISS is critical. However, a flight-ready spacesuit will not be available for testing for several years, leaving little margin for delays in the production schedule if NASA retires the ISS in 2024 as currently planned.”

The audit urges the agency to focus and accelerate replacement efforts by:

- Establishing a formal design, production and testing strategy around the next deep-space destination—potentially a lunar orbiting habitat that NASA refers to as a Deep Space Gateway or the Martian terrain—at a pace that permits testing aboard the ISS.
- Conducting a cost trade study comparing modifications to the EMU against a new suit.
- Applying lessons learned from operations of pressurized launch and entry as well as EMU garments to a new concept.

Bill Gerstenmaier, NASA's associate administrator for human exploration and operations, pledged to satisfy the three recommendations by Sept. 30, 2017.

The IG was especially perplexed by the agency's costly and so far unsuccessful suit transition approach.

In response to former President George W. Bush's Constellation lunar return initiative, NASA contracted with Oceaneering International, Inc. of Houston in 2009 to develop a Moon suit. Though Constellation was canceled by Bush's successor, former President Barack Obama, a year later, Oceaneering's suit development activities continued through January 2016, producing a candidate pressure garment and other elements at a cost of \$135.6 million.



In 2007, NASA began working in-house on an advanced spacesuit concept that could be adapted to an orbiting lunar habitat, surface activities on a Martian moon or the Red Planet itself, a \$51.6 million investment. Also working in-house, NASA pursued the Orion Crew Survival System, a derivative of the shuttle program's familiar orange Advanced Crew Escape System (ACES) garment that could meet the requirements for Exploration Mission-2, the first crewed test flight of the Space Launch System and Orion. EM-2 is planned to launch between late 2021 and early 2023 and loop around the Moon, though the IG cautioned recently that schedule delays are likely. ACES development since 2012 has cost \$12 million.

In an effort to focus and hasten the still-evolving transition efforts, NASA has consolidated work on what it terms the Advanced Space Suit Project under the Extravehicular Activities office at NASA's Johnson Space Center, though funding beyond 2018 remains uncertain.

The project focus is on three advanced suit versions: xEMU Lite for use on the ISS, xEMU for cislunar activities, and mEMU for Mars.

The goals include a 100-EVA spacesuit lifetime; a flexible fit and operations that accommodate astronauts of different physical builds; a sharp reduction in the 5-6 hr. EMU preparation time; capabilities to conduct multiple short-duration spacewalks in a single day; micrometeorite and radiation shielding; communications and sensor systems and displays that support operations by tracking suit and astronaut physical performance independent of the NASA Mission Control oversight afforded current EMU activities.

Training and physical conditioning of the astronauts will be crucial as well when they strike out across alien terrain in rovers and on foot with gravity levels less than Earth's but more than the weightlessness they experienced for months at a time while in transit.

"When we talk about EVAs on planetary surfaces, we are a long way from having a lot of experience doing that," Jason Norcross, of KBRwyle, NASA's Human Research Program lead EVA discipline scientist, explained in an April 26 virtual Future In-Space Operations presentation hosted by the University of Texas.

Six Apollo Moon landings between 1969 and 1972 permitted a dozen astronauts to carry out 14 EVAs.

"I like to say that EVAs now are created kind of like a Super Bowl. It's kind of a pinnacle critical event, and you are going to do whatever you can to be ready for that," Norcross said.

As an example, Norcross referred to videos of the Apollo astronauts on the Moon, which show them hopping at times to cross the lunar terrain. Rather than recreation or play, the leaping was an effort by the Moon walkers to overcome an uncooperative hip joint in the Apollo suits, while knowing their time on the Moon's surface was limited.

"We want to move toward it [EVAs] being more of a 'regular season' strategy," where this is not the one and only time," said Norcross, sticking with his football analogy. "We have to have good decision points, where we can say 'not today' or 'we need to move it to later,' or 'chop it up.' We want to have that information—how fatigue is affected by the duration of the work load."

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### ELON MUSK SHARES AN AWE-INSPIRING VIEW OF THE LATEST SPACEX LANDING

It's kind of amazing that SpaceX's rocket landings — a huge, huge deal last year — are now pretty much normal. But Elon Musk and co. are still finding ways to keep us interested, and this view of the latest landing is pretty awesome.

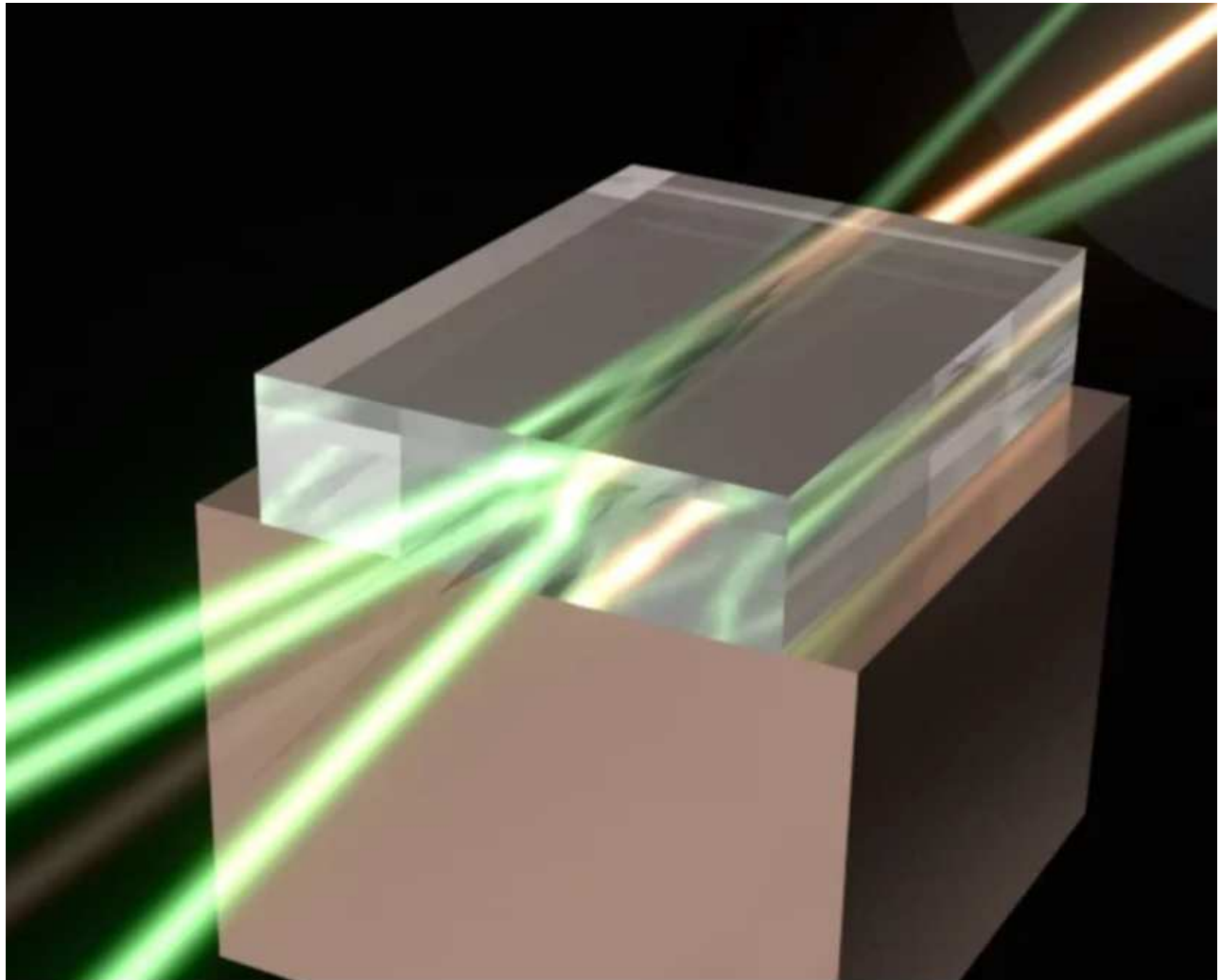
<http://digg.com/2017/spacex-landing-clear-video>

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### STRAIGHT OUT OF 'STAR WARS': THIS 'DEATH STAR' LASER ACTUALLY WORKS

By Kacey Deamer, Live Science Staff Writer | April 28, 2017 05:27pm ET

<http://www.space.com/36659-amplified-death-star-laser-superweapon.html>



The "super" laser brings together the power of multiple laser beams directed into a single intense output using an ultra-pure diamond crystal at the point of convergence. Credit: Macquarie University

Though it's not big enough or strong enough to destroy a planet, scientists have developed an amplified laser reminiscent of the Death Star from "Star Wars," according to a new study.

The futuristic superweapon combines multiple laser beams into one destructive blast, the researchers said. The [idea of merging laser beams is not new](#), nor has it been limited to science fiction before now. A decades-old Russian missile defense project looked to use liquid as a beam combiner, but that project was abandoned after it was deemed not practical. A similar project in the U.S. investigated laser fusion, but using different materials. Now, a team of Australian scientists has combined the principles of these two research projects and applied them to a new material: diamond.

An ultrapure diamond crystal is the key to [a new proof-of-concept amplified laser](#). By placing a diamond at the point of convergence of the different laser beams, the power of each individual beam is transferred into one potent laser beam, the researchers said. This power transfer occurs due to Raman scattering — when particles are dispersed and excited to higher energy levels — which is especially strong in diamond, according to the scientists.

Diamonds also have high thermal properties that allow them to harness the [laser beams' energies](#) without overheating — a concern with other materials that could be used to combine the laser beams.

"The fundamental problem is that the laser materials struggle to dissipate the very large waste heat load," study co-author Rich Mildren, an associate professor of physics at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, told Live Science. "There are technologies on the verge of having enough power, but heat build-up causes the beam to flare and power to drop leading to a lack of power on target."

Researching amplified-laser concepts has become increasingly important as new security threats have arisen, Mildren said. From low-cost drones to [missile technology](#), militaries around the world are looking to high-power lasers as a possible defense solution.

Initial tests of the diamond laser have shown success in short bursts, and the researchers said they are continuing to test the laser for longer periods and at higher powers. When fully operational, the amplified laser could [disable drones](#), missiles and other small objects, according to Mildren.

"Such high-power lasers are also potentially useful in management of space junk, propulsion of small space vehicles and beaming power to remote locations," Mildren said.

The proof-of-concept laser was described in a study published online March 30 in the [journal Laser and Photonics Reviews](#).

Original article on [Live Science](#).

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

THE PENTAGON'S SEEK-AND-DESTROY MISSION FOR COUNTERFEIT ELECTRONICS

DARPA is developing microscopic chips to help crack down on knockoff parts destined for weapons and satellite systems

By Larry Greenemeier on April 28, 2017

[https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-pentagon-rsquo-s-look-for-and-destroy-mission-for-counterfeit-electronics/?WT.mc\\_id=SA\\_BS\\_20170428](https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-pentagon-rsquo-s-look-for-and-destroy-mission-for-counterfeit-electronics/?WT.mc_id=SA_BS_20170428)



DARPA's anti-counterfeiting microchips will be about 10 microns thick and no larger than 100 microns per side—roughly the size of Abraham Lincoln's head on the back of a penny. Credit: Filo Getty Images

The Pentagon has known for years that a significant number of the replacement parts it buys for its missile guidance and satellite systems contain substandard counterfeit microchips. But finding these fakes—as they make their way through a complex global supply chain of fabrication facilities, assembly plants and parts distributors—can be like searching for a needle in a haystack (made entirely of other needles). The military estimates that up to 15 percent of all spare and replacement parts for its weapons, vehicles and other equipment are counterfeit, making them vulnerable to dangerous malfunctions.

Counterfeit microchips—integrated circuits in particular—have turned up in replacement parts for U.S. Missile Defense Agency mission computers (pdf), ship-based aviation antenna equipment and in helicopter night-vision systems. Between November 2007 and May 2010 alone, U.S. Customs officials seized 5.6 million counterfeit microchips destined for military contractors and the commercial aviation industry, and the problem has only grown since then.

Given that integrated circuits serve as the brains for so much of the military's technology—and the failure of even a single one can cause serious problems—the U.S. Department of Defense's research arm has launched a counterattack against counterfeiters. Its Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is now leading an effort to create microscopic identification tags called "dielets" that legitimate chipmakers can implant in their circuits as they are assembled. The dielets—which DARPA also calls "chiplets"—will

enable the companies that install those microchips in circuit boards and other components to check whether the integrated circuits have been altered or substituted with fakes.

Reports of catastrophic failures caused by such parts are hard to come by, but officials are obviously concerned. In December 2015 federal agents arrested three Chinese nationals for, among other things, selling 45 counterfeit Intel microchips to an undercover agent with the understanding the chips would be headed to the U.S. Navy for a project involving submarines. One of the men arrested—Jiang Guanghou Yan—had also asked the undercover agent to get him 22 military-grade Xilinx Corp. microchips—worth \$37,000 apiece—for illegal export to China. “Military grade” means the electrical components are designed specifically to withstand prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures and radiation. When the agent advised Yan they would have to be stolen from a U.S. Navy base, Yan offered to cover up the crime by providing fakes to replace the stolen chips.

“If [those counterfeit chips had been] installed in a missile’s guidance system, such missile would either not function at all or would likely not proceed to its intended target, and would likely strike a completely unintended destination,” Keith Avery, a senior engineer at the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory, testified in an affidavit used to determine the sentences of the convicted counterfeiters in June 2016.

The dielets that DARPA is developing as part of its Supply Chain Hardware for Electronics Defense (SHIELD) program are essentially microscopic tags embedded in each integrated circuit. An integrated circuit is made up of large numbers of transistors and other tiny electrical components arranged to perform a specific task—signal switching or amplification, for example—and packaged together into a chip that plugs into a larger circuit board used to control a particular electronic device. Under DARPA’s plan the integrated circuit’s manufacturer would affix a dielet inside the case that encloses the integrated circuit. Each chiplet will itself have up to 100,000 transistors and include a two-way radio, data encryption engine and way to detect tampering—all while consuming under 50 microwatts (50 millionths of a watt) and costing less than one penny each.

Identifying information on each dielet would be read using a penlike probe plugged into a smartphone. Rather than containing its own power source a dielet would be inductively powered by the probe, which would communicate via radio frequency signals when placed within a half millimeter of the chiplet. The probe would relay encrypted information to an app on the smartphone, which would then connect via the internet with a database to confirm the dielet’s serial number. It would also read the dielet’s GPS location to make sure the chip is where it is supposed to be as well as check other unique characteristics. If the probe gets no response or if there are inconsistencies between the chip’s data and that stored in the integrated circuit inventory database—along with any device in which it might be installed—the circuit would be put aside for further inspection.

To prevent counterfeiters from easily discovering these implants, they will be about 10 microns thick and no larger than 100 microns per side—roughly the size of the head on the statue inside the Lincoln Memorial depicted on the “tails” side of a penny, according to DARPA. The dielets’ tiny size helps them meet several DARPA requirements—for example, they should be too fragile to remove from their integrated circuits (to be reverse-engineered and themselves counterfeited) without being damaged.

Integrated circuits are especially difficult to protect from counterfeiting because they might come from an overseas manufacturer and be resold by several subcontractors before a

large military supplier like Lockheed Martin or Boeing embeds them in technology that it sells to the U.S. government. The global growth of the supply chain that lets electronics manufacturers tap less-expensive suppliers in China, Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan has proved very difficult to police. Electronic waste from the U.S. is another key contributor to counterfeit integrated circuits, as trashed circuit boards from computers discarded in some countries are often taken apart, refurbished, relabeled, repackaged and resold as new to electronics manufacturers.

“The net of the thing is that we don’t have as much control over the authenticity and integrity of the systems we use,” says Kerry Bernstein, program manager of DARPA’s Microsystems Technology Office and head of the four-year, \$50-million SHIELD program overseeing dielet development. “The counterfeit problem appears at first glance to be intractable.”

Former Pres. Barack Obama stepped up efforts to crack down on counterfeiting in late 2011 when he signed the National Defense Authorization Act, which required the secretary of defense to come up with a plan to cut down on the military’s use of counterfeit parts. The Defense Department has since been testing and using special inks laden with plant DNA to uniquely mark and later identify electronic components in its supply chain.

DARPA launched SHIELD as a more sophisticated approach that could provide immediate identification of knockoff electrical components. The agency is managing the development effort but much of the work is being done by Northrop Grumman Mission Systems, SRI International and a number of subcontractors. The dielets’ microscopic size keeps their cost down, as millions of them can be made from a single silicon wafer. Northrop and SRI have already demonstrated prototype dielets to DARPA that meet most SHIELD criteria, Bernstein says. The Pentagon plans to test the mettle of these chiplet ID tags by inserting them into a test supply chain by 2019—the next salvo in the military’s battle against counterfeiters and knockoffs that potentially place their personnel and the public in harm’s way.

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

From: “Tim Bolgeo” [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

**TRUMP ANNOUNCES HIS NEXT CHOICE FOR THE SUPREME COURT**

by: Kevin Daley, Daily Caller, 05/01/2017

<http://trumptrainnews.com/articles/trump-announces-his-next-choice-for-the-supreme-court>

President Donald Trump will select his next Supreme Court nominee from the same list of 21 candidates his campaign produced during the 2016 general election, should another vacancy arise on the high court.

The president told The Washington Times that the list of prospective nominees has been integral to his political success, and vowed to name his next nominee from the same roster.

“Yes,” Trump said when asked if he would stick to the list for future Supreme Court nominations. “That list was a big thing.”

He also raised the prospect of Justice Anthony Kennedy’s imminent retirement. Though Kennedy — who will turn 81 in July — has not suggested he is mulling retirement in public remarks, rumors have circulated among court-watchers for nearly a year that he will soon leave the bench.

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

From: “Tim Bolgeo” [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com)

DEMOCRATS REEL FROM DNC CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PARTY WILL EXCLUDE PRO-LIFE CANDIDATES

by DR. SUSAN BERRY29 Apr 20177,663

<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2017/04/29/democrats-reel-dnc-chairs-announcement-party-will-exclude-pro-life-candidates/>



REUTERS/Chris Berry

Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chairman Tom Perez’s announcement that pro-lifers are not welcome in his party has planted the seeds of rebellion among some Democrats and sharpened the view that the party is now primarily defined by its embrace of abortion on demand.

“Every Democrat, like every American, should support a woman’s right to make her own choices about her body and her health,” Perez

said, as the HuffPost reported. “That is not negotiable and should not change city by city or state by state.”

Perez’s comments came after the DNC decided to support Heath Mello in the Omaha, Nebraska, mayoral race. Mello, it was discovered, had previously voted in the state legislature consistent with his personal pro-life views:

View image on Twitter

## *The May 3rd, 2017 Edition of THE REVENGE HUMPH DAY!*

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In response, NARAL Pro-Choice President Ilyse Hogue released the following statement:

"The actions today by the DNC to embrace and support a candidate for office who will strip women - one of the most critical constituencies for the party - of our basic rights and freedom is not only disappointing, it is politically stupid. Today's action make this so-called 'fight back tour' look more like a throw back tour for women and our rights.

"If Democrats think the path forward following the 2016 election is to support candidates who substitute their own judgement and ideology for that of their female constituents, they have learned all the wrong lessons and are bound to lose. It's not possible to have an authentic conversation about economic security for women that does not include our ability to decide when and how we have children.

"The Democratic Party, and its leaders, would be ill-advised to ignore data that blocking access to legal abortion does not win you a single vote, and robs women of dignity and autonomy. Abortion access is not a 'single issue' or a 'social issue.' It is a proxy for women to have control over our lives, our family's lives, our economic well-being, our dignity, and human rights.

"If we have learned anything from the first 100 days of the Trump Administration it is that women are leading the resistance. Engaging and turning out women voters will be key in 2018. Look no further than the special election in Georgia this week. Democrats erased a 20 plus point Republican advantage in a deep red state with a reproductive freedom candidate [who said](#) his campaign was fueled by women. This makes the DNC's actions even more puzzling and troubling.

"The path the DNC 'fight back tour' takes the party down will not help the party or our country if it turns its back on reproductive freedom. It will only set back women's fundamental rights and freedoms."

**Abortion lobbying group NARAL Pro-Choice America immediately slammed the DNC for its embrace of Mello.**

**"The actions today by the DNC to embrace and support a candidate for office who will strip women — one of the most critical constituencies for the party — of our basic rights and freedom is not only disappointing, it is politically stupid," fumed NARAL's president, Ilyse Hogue.**

**Perez responded to the scathing bashing with the compliant statement that he "fundamentally disagree[s] with Heath Mello's personal beliefs about women's reproductive health," adding that "every candidate who runs as a Democrat should do the same."**

**Democrats' decision to dig their hole even deeper regarding commitment to abortion on demand has many wondering how the party will survive since suffering significant unexpected losses in the 2016 elections.**

**According to the Atlantic, Democrats are now "newly divided ... as they attempt to decide who they will welcome, and who they will exclude, amid soul searching over how the party should rebuild after its 2016 loss."**

**The party has attempted to portray itself as built upon morally upright virtues – such as diversity and inclusiveness – yet Perez's statement clearly demands the opposite.**

**"Diversity is what makes our party great," Texas Democrat Rep. Henry Cuellar told CNSNews.com, in response to Perez's statement that support of abortion is "not negotiable."**

**"I am proud to be in the Democratic party," Cuellar added. "We are a big tent, united by many of my core values, like quality public education and affordable health care for all. Sometimes, we can have different ideas about how best to reflect those values in the law, so litmus tests on any one issue just won't work."**



High-level Democrats attempted to soften Perez's exclusionary message.

"I couldn't disagree more with what Tom Perez said, I think it's not correct that our party should have litmus tests about who wants to join our party," pro-abortion rights Sen. Claire McCaskill (MO) said in response to the DNC chair's announcement, as reported by the Atlantic. "We may disagree on various issues, and I just don't think we should say ever anyone is not welcome in our party based on one of those issues."

"What Mr. Perez said makes no sense to me," objected Sen. Joe Donnelly (IN), who identifies personally as pro-life. "This is a deeply personal issue, and we should be about respecting one another."

"I don't know why we would want to start walking away from folks, like myself, who have a personal conviction on the pro-life issue," Donnelly added. "We ought to be able to include everyone, as opposed to saying 'no, we don't want these folks, even though they fight with us on jobs, even though they fight with us for economic rights, even though they fight with us on healthcare.' It just seems to me to be very, very short-sighted."

"Pro-life Democrats need to be welcomed into our party," said Nebraska Democratic Party Chair Jane Kleeb, a Bernie Sanders supporter. "Tom Perez put every Democrat who is leading our party at the nationwide and statewide level in a very difficult position."

Writing at the left-leaning Jesuit magazine America, Robert David Sullivan observed, "Abortion is proving that the Democratic Party can outdo Republicans in self-destruction."

The author continued:

Abortion is now the single issue defining the Democrats, and Ilyse Hogue, the president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, is the de facto head of the party. This gives the Republicans a major advantage in holding off electoral losses if the Trump administration continues to founder.

The decision by Democrats to make abortion on demand its highest level priority, however, is at odds with recent data.

A Marist/Knights of Columbus poll released in January finds that 83 percent of Americans oppose the use of tax dollars to support abortion in other countries, with 61 percent also opposed to funding abortions in the United States with taxpayer dollars. These results include 87 percent of Donald Trump supporters and 39 percent of Hillary Clinton supporters.

Additionally, the poll showed 55 percent of Clinton supporters and 91 percent of Trump supporters approved limiting abortion to – at most – the first trimester or pregnancy.

"There is a consensus in America in favor of significant abortion restrictions, and this common ground exists across party lines, and even among significant numbers of those who are pro-choice," said Knights of Columbus leader Carl Anderson. "This poll shows that large percentages of Americans, on both sides of the aisle, are united in their opposition to the status quo as it relates to abortion on demand. This is heartening and can help start a new national conversation on abortion."

“The majority of Americans in favor of abortion restrictions has been consistently around 8 in 10 for the better part of a decade.” Barbara Carvalho, director of the Marist Poll, also observed, “Though self-identification as pro-life or pro-choice can vary substantially from year to year, the support for restrictions is quite stable.”

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, who heads the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCB) pro-life committee, said Perez’s declaration of support only for pro-abortion candidates is “very disturbing.”

“The Democratic Party platform already endorses abortion throughout the nine months of pregnancy, even forcing taxpayers to fund it, and now the DNC says that to be a Democrat—indeed to be an American—requires supporting that extreme agenda,” Dolan continued, adding:

True solidarity with pregnant women and their children transcends all party lines. Abortion doesn’t empower women. Indeed, women deserve better than abortion.

In the name of diversity and inclusion, pro-life and pro-“choice” Democrats, alike, should challenge their leadership to recant this intolerant position.

However, with the now deeply entrenched co-dependent political relationship between the Democrat Party and the abortion industry, there may be little chance for the party to open its tent to include more pro-life candidates in the near future.

“The Democratic Party has to look in the mirror and say, where did we go wrong? What do we need to do to start winning again?” said Kristen Day, executive director of Democrats for Life of America. “This is one of those issues where the party could expand its coalition. I do have some optimism. The fact that we’re having this discussion at all is important, and potentially an opportunity to create space for pro-life Democrats within the party, but so far it doesn’t seem like that’s the direction the party will take.”

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If you would like to unsubscribe From: THE REVENGE OF HUMP DAY, please send an email message to Tim Bolgeo [tbolgeo@epbfi.com](mailto:tbolgeo@epbfi.com) and say, "QUIT SENDING ME THIS STUPID RAG!"

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