August 2025





# Pepper Spray Times

00000

It's euphuistic.. it's free... if you can find it

"...a moral medicine to a mortifying mischief...\*

Vol. XXV No. 8

## Transcript of Trump/Putin Phone Call Revealed

Experts Now Studying Novel Approach to Diplomacy

By Tad Bittmoore

The transcript of one of President Trump's phone calls with Russian President Vladimir Putin was accidentally sent to the Berkeley High offices of The Berkeley High Jacket newspaper, where its reporters waded through layers of security to get assurances from the Trump administration that the conversation was "beautiful" and "very powerful" and that not only was Trump not in the least ashamed of it but wished that the transcript had been released immediately after the call. Here is the unredacted transcript published with full permisson and even thanks from all parties except President Putin, who didn't respond to requests for comment.



PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP REMEMBERS the phone call as "beautiful", "very powerful", and "perfect".

*Here is a transcript of the call:* 

Trump: "Hey, Putin, howya doing?"

Putin: "I am okay."

Trump: "Wanna end the war in Ukraine?"

Putin: "Of course. Tell them to surrender"

Trump: "Sounds good! I will."



PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN doesn't remember the phone call.

Putin: "Or perhaps a ceasefire where we don't give up any territory."
Trump: "Sure! Sounds good."

Putin: "And a bag of fresh doughnuts delivered every morning. To my desk."

Trump: "Okay! I can arrange that!"

Putin: "And a blow job from Melania."

Trump: "Uh, I'll talk to her! I'll give it a shot!"

Putin: "And make sure Ukraine never gets into NATO."

Trump: "Consider it done!"

Putin: "And destroy NATO."

Trump: "Got it, no problem."

Putin: "Okay. Keep in touch."

Trump: "Sure! Thanks! Good talk! Stay in (click) ...touch..."

### "Deportability" Factor Cited in Border Stops

Canadian Folksingers Under Scrutiny

By Apollo G. Zardooya

Federal authorities detained an Indian citizen teaching on a student visa at the border recently, joining the Ohio Guernsey County Sheriff's Office's detention of a couple of Canadian folksingers in what authorities



call a dramatic show of allegiance to security, safety, and headlines under the new Trump administration.

"We think we're at war with Canada," stated one of the Ohio officers pointing to the

guitars and fiddles stacked in a corner. "We need to be on the safe side."

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) acknowledged an increase in the detention of anyone with an accent.

"It's one of the 'deportability' profile elements," stated Armand Trouble whose desk is stacked with cases of shocked tourists wearing "I HEART NY" sweatshirts and hats under detention. "The 'deportability' profile is amplified by the boredom of border and highway patrol officers who thought state or federal service would be more like a video game."

Trump administration officials acknowledged that a foriegn accent increases the "deportability" of subjects under scrutiny, noting that Canadians in particular were difficult to distinguish.

"We have some questioning techniques which assist us in determining which detainees are Canadian," stated Officer Aldo Morreason, opening a small handbook on arrest techniques. "Anyone who passes a test on the more esoteric rules in hockey or knows the current state of the playoffs is under immediate suspicion."



## **ASK THE EXPERTS**



LENA DEETER knows the answers to everything forwards and backwards.

Dear Lena, do we still have a democracy? Everybody thinks they voted for something and everybody can tell we got something else nobody voted for.

Dear reader, a fair assessment. And we finally all have something in common.

Dear Lena, so Trump puts tariffs on Canadian goods and then Canada puts tariffs on our stuff and it just escalates. How does this stop?

Dear reader, experts suggest that the only hope is golf. The president enjoys the sport and for the brief duration of a golf game he stops assigning new tariffs. Also signing executive orders, which his staff produces for his signature at a mighty clip. Also Fox News interviews, which, if the news team can endure it, would probably never end.

Dear Lena, Berkeley police are paid more than the state average and have a lower rate of resolving crimes according to a recent study. Why are they less effective?

Dear reader, the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice's study noted that this is part of a state trend; law enforcement agencies statewide are spending more and more, while solving fewer and fewer crimes. So Berkeley police, it can be argued, are just going with the flow.

## Dear Lena, what's the increased spending being spent on?

Dear reader, according to the Berkeley Police Department the spending is not broken out by categories such as salary and benefit increases, police equipment or some combination. But annoyed taxpayers should try to keep in mind that pepper spray doesn't just buy itself.

#### Dear Lena, that kind of sucks.

Dear reader, oh, and they're saving money by putting a pause on police reforms.

Ask Lena about pausing pesky police reforms at cdenney@igc.org.



CHATTING ABOUT AN IMMINENT MILITARY STRIKE ON AN UNSECURE communications platform with a reporter along for the ride was apparently not a bridge too far for the Trump crew trained to never look back and never apologize. It sure makes for some great tv.

## Clown Car From "Signal" Chat Scandal Hits the Road with Show

"Signal Me, Baby!" Dancing Road Show Rocks the Nation



THE SIZZLING SENSATION "SIGNAL ME, BABY!" ROAD SHOW hit seven states to delighted audiences everywhere and is being made into a full-length musical.

#### By Ted Batteries

The recent "Signalgate" group chat scandal which rocked the nation back in March when a military strike was announced over a group chat app to a puzzled reporter is now the funniest comedy on the boards as some of the original cast and a dazzling crew of old hands join to showcase the most



DEMOCRATIC SENATORS FAILED TO GRASP that giving our opponents a heads-up on military strike details is just the kind of mistake anybody can make when they're distracted by worries about gays in the military.

outrageous political farce in recent history in a play called "Signal Me, Baby!" Director of National Intelligence Tulsi

Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard smolders in a role played by Cher where the repetitious deadpan cliches she favored in congressional hearings over her role in the scandal leave hall after hall helpless with laughter.

Both out-of-work actors and celebrities are really enjoying their comedic roles.

"I'm playing the overzealous boy scout guy, Pete Hegseth," smiled Tom Cruise adjusting his star-studded Boy Scout uniform. "I rarely do live theater, but you have to admit that there really is no more macho comic role than this one."

The play is headed for Broadway and the cast is hoping to play the now Trump-run Kennedy Center.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

JV Excellent 2:01PM Today

John Ratcliffe
JR A good start 2:36PM Today

Michael Waltz

M 4 58PM TO

Michael Waltz

The team in MAL did a great job as well.

M SM Great work all. Powerful start. 5:18PM TO

A screenshot free the Signal group shows reactions to the strikes.

A screenshot from the Signal group shows reactions to the strikes

### D VancePete Hegseth if you think we should do it let's go.

I just hate bailing Europe out again.

Let's just make sure our messaging is tight here. And if there are things we can do upfront to minimize risk to Saudi oil facilities we should do it.

VP: I fully share your loathing of

#### Pete Hegseth

VP: I fully share your loathing of European free-loading. It's PATHETIC.

But Mike is correct, we are the only ones on the planet (on our side of the ledger) who can do this. Nobody else even close. Question is timing. I feel like now is as good a time as any, given POTUS

## **Trump White House Plans to Really Collect on Christmas This Year**

Joy to the World - And the Wallet!

By Juan Horzopensleigh

The Trump White House's monetization



SLOT MACHINES can be tailored to fit in with holiday decor and even have payoff bells ring with Christmas themes.

of its Easter event was such a financial success this year that the Trump monetization committee plans to approach the Christmas holidays with the same festive promotional portunities for big corporate sponsors looking to tastefully put their logos on reindeer collars,

coasters, snowman hats, and ornaments on Christmas trees of a taseful variety of sizes for a price.

"As with Easter, they can choose from three options; the \$75,000 option clear up to the \$200,000 option," announced White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt reading from a nine-page brochure outlining options for potential corporate COLORFUL HOLI-sponsors. "The bot- DAY LIGHTS might tom \$75,000 tier are not be enough to stave called supporters', the mid-dle \$150,000 group bonfire but the White will have name tags saying 'Angels,' House promises to have some festive sunfire ready for a saying Angels, gunfire ready for any and the top tier will vandals who try. have little wings on their name tags call-



'corporate off having your Tesla House promises to

ing them 'archangels' who will drop their

We Can't Draw Comics

names in a bowl for a chance to have Mela-

nia sit on their laps dressed in her holiday elf costume.'

The Trump

administration plans to turn the White House lawn into a mini car racing event for Teslas with their vehicles



and a HAS ALWAYS had its finan-"Decorate cial side, but previous White Your Holiday House administrations have Tesla" contest traditionally leaned toward to allow Tesla more dignified holiday customs without showing appropriate concern for the deficit.

considering that Teslas have become favorite targets for vandals.

"Putting antlers on your Tesla might help defray the extraordinary animosity caused by massive community job losses and the elimination of Medicare and veterans' benefits, but it's difficult to assess how protective the holiday spirit will be,"

mused political observer and reporter Don deChimney of the Modesto Mutterer. "I can only imagine that whether a Tesla Cybertruck is wrapped up in holiday lights or set ablaze the exercise will at PUTTING least be somewhat bipartisan; somebody's spirits will end up bright either way."



**ANTLERS** on your Tesla won't fool anybody in

### **National Deregulation** Race is On

By Juana Cookie

Senator Chris Rose of West Virginia demon-

strated the way to sound perfectly reasonable at the House of Delegates while dismantling environmental and public health protections in one elegent legislative motion.

"This bill will do nothing to harm our fresh water sources, but what it will do is help our industry have some regulatory burden took (sic) off of them be-cause they have enough to WV SENATOR deal with from the federal CHRIS ROSE government already," said bravely speaks up Rose, chair of the Senate against clean water Energy Committee.

LET THE

PEOPLE

SPEAK!

in West Virginia.

The onerous burden of public health and environmental regulations is new language to states like California, but the

time is ripe for fresh ideas, new semantic takes, and capitulation to a Trump administration eager to remake the world for corporate comfort.

In West Virginia in 2023, for instance, one in four public water systems had health-based violations according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which the Department of Governmental Efficiency is hoping soon to have completely dismantled



because its pesky reports are so annoying.

"We're trying to change any rivers and streams currently categorized as drinking water to be re-classified allowing laxer pollution discharge limits so companies won't be so terribly burdened as well as change the required inspections from once a year to every three years," stated Senator Rose. "It's pretty efficient unless you get thirsty

near Charleston." San Francisco.







## **UC Faculty Prepares for Tariffs** on Really Big Words

By Cameron Everyblock

"The President doesn't like them," called out faculty member and Chair of Gender and Women's Studies Leslie Salzinger while handing out sheets of substitute phrases for the more sophisticated and conceivably offensive verbiage more commonly used by University of California students. "Try using really short words at least until you secure your degree."

Approximately 300 students and faculty gathered on Sproul Plaza for the "Rally to Defend Our University" protesting ongoing threats from the Trump administration to gather up and arrest, defund, or defame anybody who doesn't express absolute admiration for the President's golf skills.

"Or maybe that was last week," whispered a faculty member holding a sign supporting generic free speech who admitted that she was ready to quickly flip it over so that it stated, "Just Tell Me What to Say and I'll Say It" on the other side. "The guidelines keep changing from week to week."



TEACHING BERKELEY STUDENTS to use really small words is hard but they have to start somewhere if they ever want to get a job in MAGA America.

"And they're different, of course, for students here on visas," added associate professor of English and co-director of the Program in Critical Theory Poulomi Saha. "We're still trying to find out what happened to some of our students who were suddenly whisked off to Louisiana. It's possible that they made the mistake of writing an opinion piece."



LOCALS BLEW OFF meeting JD Vance in favor of anything else.

#### J.D. Vance Finds **Nobody Home in** Greenland

By Bernadette Housedown

JD Vance's visit to Greenland ended in diplomatic disaster as locals refused to

meet with him, world leaders denounced him, and the Vances had to wander the tundra alone trying to find a dogsled race.

"This guy has a talent for turning peo-ple off," noted one reporter. "It's like the doughnut shop visit on steriods."

Danish Foreign Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen agreed the debacle's positive aspect was that the Vances had canceled efforts to

meet Greenlanders profoundly offended at the idea that their island was for sale.

"We're not for sale," stated local IT'S HARD TO BE politic to visitors trying to Qooqu Berthelsen. The to visitors and take over your country. "And we could have

by Juan Nathan Undergod



THAT'S IT!

THAT,

told him that over the phone."

Next Issue: searching for more batteries with celebrities!

I KNOW! MOVE FAST

AND UNPLUG THINGS!

AND BLOW

#### I Want My Present Now

## MOVING FAST WHAT IS ELON MUSK AND BREAKING THINGS, I GUESS. ABOUT'

Pepper Spray Times 1970 San Pablo Ave. #4 Berkeley, CA 94702

cdenney@igc.org www.caroldenney.com

# NO THAT'S MARK ZUCKERBURG'S THING. OH, THAT'S RIGHT

Pepper Spray Times is made possible by the natural comedy inherent in the local political landscape and all its inhabitants, best exemplified by (see below)...Want to help distribute? Contact us



### Pepper Spray Times Staff

EditorGrace Underpressure
Art DirectorEgon Schiele
ComicsDon D. Ferrera
DistributionRhoda Boat
StaffTad Bittmore, Apollo G. Zardooya,
Lena Deeter, Ted Batteries, Juan Horzo-
pensleigh, Juana Cookie, Franz Toast, Cam-
eron Everyblock, Bernadette Housedown,
Juan Nathan Undergod



Hardly available anywhere; mailed or emailed to your door for a modest bribe of \$12 - \$20/yr. Plagiarize wildly; donations gladly accepted. \* Much Ado About Nothing