REQUEST TO COMMENT
This form will be included with the record of the meeting as a public document.

Date: 2014-05-03

Name to be called: Clive Richardson

Request to Speak: Yes

If you do not wish to speak, you may write any comments below:

Go here anyone?

SANDAG

Please Submit to the Clerk

REQUEST TO COMMENT
This form will be included with the record of the meeting as a public document.

Date: 5/5/19

Name to be called: Dan Summers

Request to Speak: Yes

If you do not wish to speak, you may write any comments below:
REQUEST TO COMMENT
This form will be included with the record of the meeting as a public document.

Date: 4-19-19

Agenda Item #: [2] □ In Favor □ Opposed

Name to be called: John G. Watson

Representing: 

Address (optional): 720 N. Sixth Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Phone (optional): 619-469-7690

Email (optional): john.watson@san.org

Request to Speak: [X] Yes □ No

If you do not wish to speak, you may write any comments below:

[1.0 Roads, rail, high-speed rail] [5.0 Transportation/Environmental issues]

[2.0 Parks and recreation issues] [6.0 Transportation/Environmental issues]

[3.0 Water issues] [7.0 Airport and transit issues]

[4.0 Planning and land use issues] [8.0 Business and economic issues]

SANDAG

Please Submit to the Clerk
5-3-19 Transportation Committee Meeting

1.0 Roads, Rail, High-Speed Rail, Bridges, Busses, Bicycle, and Ride-share Issues

1.1 Roads
   1.1.1 Road Construction Materials
   1.1.2 Interstate
      1.1.2.1 Truck Issues
   1.1.3 State, County, and City
      Winter build-up of ice that protected the Yupik Eskimo Village-Kotik from wind’s driven tides from the vicious winter Bearing Sea storms. In February 2019 southwestern winds brought warm air and turned the sea ice into "snow cone ice" that blew off and winds pounded Norton Sound on February 12 and surged up the Yukon River and into Kotik, flooding homes with knee-deep water.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-14-19 pp. A18
   1.1.3.1 Car Pool Lanes
   1.1.3.2 Sidewalks
   1.1.4 Parking
      1.1.4.1 Parkettes
   1.1.5 Streetlights
   1.1.6 Fatalities
   1.1.7 EV Charging Stations
      1.1.7.1 U.S.
      1.1.7.2 International

1.2 Rail
   1.2.1 Interstate Freight Systems
      1.2.1.1 Locomotives
      1.2.1.2 Positive Train Control—PTC—
   1.2.2 Construction Materials
   1.2.3 Car Types
      1.2.3.1 Oil and Gas Tank Cars
      1.2.3.2 Intermodal
      1.2.3.3 Box Cars
   1.2.4 Urban Light Rail Systems
      MTS said it will roll out 9-new trolley cars on 4-20-19, with another 36-coming with the completion of the Mid-Coast Trolley extension in 2021. The 5700 light-rail vehicles will be the 5th-generation of trolley cars since 2081, when the trolley system opened. They will be used on the UC San Diego Blue, Sycuan Green, and Orange Lines. They were built by Siemens in Sacramento, the largest supplier of light-rail vehicles in North America. New features are: overhauled middle section with wider walkway and repositioned chairs, seats covered with vinyl, and have improved lines of sight for security officers patrolling the cars. The new cars were paid for with a grant from the State’s cap-and-trade program as part of building the new Courthouse Trolley Station on C Street between State and Union Streets. MTS will phase out its oldest model cars—the SD100s after the $2.0E9 Mid-Coast extension opens. MTS operates 100-trolley cars at any one time on more than 50-miles of double-tracked railway.

Trolley ridership has increased where bus ridership dropped slightly.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. B1
1.2.4.1 Street Cars
1.2.4.2 Autonomous [driverless]

Update on telecommunication giant Huawei and its 5-G-technology in Dongguan, China with revenues of some $105E9/year. 45% of the company is in R&D.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-14-19 pp. C1 & C3-C4

1.2.5 Amtrak

A woman was hit and killed by an Amtrak train in Oceanside that was going 70-mph.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. B2

1.2.6 International Freight Systems
1.2.6.1 China’s Belt and Road Initiative
   1.2.6.1.1 North Korea
   1.2.6.1.2 Vietnam
   1.2 6.1.3 China
1.2.6.2 Eurasia Routes: China-Europe-and India Routes -Russia trade corridor......
   1.2.6.2.1 China’s Belt and Road Initiative TRACECA...... and Europe-Caucasus ..... 

Russia hopes to become a major transit hub for ASIA-Pacific container cargo destined for Southern and Central Europe. The Asia-E.U. volume via Russia totaled 420E3-TEU in 2017, up 60% year over year and is up 28% year over year from January to July 2018. Russia plans to increase its cargo to compete with the European Unions Transport Corridor Europe Caucasus Asia—TRACECA—international rail program using the Port of Novorossiysk as a transshipment point. The goal is to increase the China-E.U. cargo through Russia to 1.0E6-TEU by 2020 and more than double the current rate. Historically, most Asian cargo through Russia is transported to Northern Europe countries. Volume to South and Central European countries was insignificant because of economic problems leading to a decline in imports following the 2008 financial crisis. Russia wants to attract a portion of Asian cargo for Southern European states including cargo from China’s underperforming New Silk Road route. China-EU volume is some 15 to 17E6ETEU/yr with 70% going to developed countries of: the U.K., France, Germany, and Nordic states. Asian shipper used Russian transport cargo to Germany, Poland, and Bulgaria in the past because of proximity issues. Central/Southern volume was 20 to 25% but is expected to grow. 90% of China-Eu cargo is transported via the sea with 7% delivered to the E.U. by air and overland. China wants to boost land cargo for western provinces: Xinjiang-Uygur Autonomous Region, Tibet Autonomous Region, and Qinghai and northeastern provinces: Inner Mongolia, Heilongjiang to major export markets in Central and Southern Europe. TRACECA was considered the sole land transport option but Russia’s route may be more beneficial for shippers. The Russian route involves cargo received from Western China via Kazakhstan and its Aktau seaport on the Caspian Sea, which is than transported from the Russian Caspian seaport of Makhachkala and transported via vehicle to Novorossiysk. Feeder ships take the cargo to Southern and Central Europe. The trip is 20 to 25-days, much shorter than the 40 to 45-days for the traditional sea transport route. The TRACECA involves travel through China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, then across the Caspian Sea, through the South Caucasus and Turkey. TRACECA contains 6 to 8 customs crossings—dependent on the branch of the route, compared to one to two on the Russian route: Russia/Kazakhstan—over membership in the Eurasian Union. It would attract some 200E3-TEUs from China in 2018, tripling or quadrupling by 2020 with tariff of up to $5,000/TEU. China is also considering use of the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway lines 826-km route that by passes Russia and is operated by China, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkey with no need for Black Sea transport. Russia would also increase
cargo volume on the Trans-Siberian Railway. In 2019 China will be able to transport cargo through Russia in 6 to 7-days instead of the current 10 to 11-days because of speed increases in the Trans-Siberian Railways’ average speed, allowing more trains on the system. Russian Railway RZD, Trans-Siberian Railway tariffs have remained at $6,000 to $7,000/TEU that is affordable for shippers and transport companies of high-priced cargo in containers. The sea route tariff is $1,200 to $2,000/TEU depending on the season. Cargo transport from Shanghai to St. Petersburg is about $1,500/TEU—via Vladivostok, it’s $3,800 to $4,000/TEU. The Trans-Siberian’s advantages include limited customs delays and a more-direct route. It’s biggest disadvantage, is that it has a volume ceiling of 250E3 to 300E3-TEU/yr, until track upgrades are completed, enabling faster speeds occurs. Russia wants to increase the current 90 to 100-km/hr [55 to 62-mph] trains to 160 to 180-mph and upgrade the railway’s rolling stock fleet.

Ref: The Journal of Commerce, October 1, 2018 pp. 40 & 42
1.7 Ride-share, Delivery and Transportation-networks

1.7.1 Uber

1.7.2 Lyft

Riding Lyft at the San Diego airport is becoming easier and is expected in mid-May 2019. When the service is ordered, the customer is issued a 4-digit code that enters the line, and the next Lyft driver punches in the code.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-18 pp. C1

• Lyft Bike who owns Citi Bike, pulled 3,000 electric bikes off the streets of New York, San Francisco, and Washington D.C. over issues of braking too hard.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. C3

1.7.3 Harley-Davidson

1.7.4 Electric Scooters

Electric scooters have overtaken station-based bicycles as most used shared transportation outside transit and cars in the U.S. The National Association of City Transportation Officials says riders took 38.5E6 trips on shared electric scooters in 2018 over 36.5E6 on shared docked bicycles. Riders used 3.0E6 dock-less pedal bikes and 6.5E6 dock-less electric bikes in 2018. Riders took 84E6-trips on micro mobility services in 2018—up 100% from 2017. There are 85E3-electric scooters on streets in the U.S. with 57E3station based bikes. Bird—Santa Monica-based scooter company launched in 2017, raised $418E6, and reported 10.0E6 riders in its 1st-year. Lime with bikes and scooters had 12E6-rides and $467E6 in investments in its 1st-15-months.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. C3

1.7.5 Skyway System

1.7.6 Segway Tours

1.7.7 Self-driving Air Taxi

1.7.8 Wheels

2.0 Port and Military Issues

2.1 Ports

San Diego is cracking down on boats abandoned in one of the region’s last free places to moor or anchor vessels—in the Zuniga shoal off Naval Base Coronado. More than 100-boats left by drug smugglers, have been abandoned in recent years.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. B1 & B4

2.1.1 Container Ships

2.1.1.1 Regulation

2.1.1.2 CNG, LNG, LPG, and Articulated Tug and Barge—ATBs—vessels

2.1.1.3 Crude Oil

2.1.1.3.1 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit—MODU—

2.1.1.4 Reefers

2.1.2 Cruise Ships

2.1.3 LNG and CNG Terminals

Sempra Energy’s $10.0 LNG facility on the Gulf Coast of Louisiana has taken another step toward completion. The initial phase has begun pipeline feed gas flow to its 1st-processing unit [train]. They will start producing LNG in the 2nd-Q-2019. In early March 2019 FERC OK’ed the gas feed at Hackberry. In phase 1, 3-trains and 3-exesting storage tanks are projected to export 12E6-tons/yr around the world. In
phase 2, Sempra, and Japan and France plan to add 2-more trains and 2 more storage tanks. The projects will generate $400 to $4506/yr in full run-rate earning from the 1st-3-trains. Popular markets are China, Japan, and South Korea. Sempra also has LNG export facilities in Port Arthur, TX and Baja California.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. C3

2.1.4 U.S.

2.1.4.1 Inland Waterways

The U.S. DOT’s Maritime Administration—MARAD—is awarding $6,790,00 in grants to 3-Marine Highway projects—for enhancing existing services in Louisiana and VA, as well as supporting development of a new project in New York.

Ref: Marine Daily 4-24-19

2.1.4.2 Drayage Truck Issues

2.1.5 International

2.1.5.1 China’s 21-Century Maritime Silk Route Economic Belt—Belt and Road Initiative—B&RI—

2.1.5.2 Mexico’s Rail line between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans

2.1.6 Maintenance Operations

2.1.6.1 Ice-breakers

2.1.7 Logistics

2.1.7.1 E.U.-China Logistics and Supply

2.1.8 Hybrid and Electric Fleets

2.1.9 Autonomous Navigation Systems

2.1.10 Offshore Wind Operations Support Ships

E.ON opened its largest offshore wind farm in the Baltic Sea. The Arkona Offshore Wind Farm of E.ON and Equinor went into operation at a festive event in the Port of Sassnitz-Mukran on the Island of Rügen. It has 60-turbines and produces 385-MW.

Ref: Renewable Energy World 4-23-19, YouTube.com: Ankona offshore transformer station, video and YouTube.com: at the arkona wind park site

2.2 Military

2.2.1 Ships and Planes

The USS Fitzgerald DDG 62 achieved a milestone in its complex repair and restoration, as it was launched and moored pier-side at Hunting Ingalls Industries—Ingalls ship-building shipyard in Pascagoula, MS April 16, 2019. It is an Arleigh Burke—class destroyer.

Ref: Marine Daily, 4-18-19

- VT Halter Marine Inc., Pascagoula, MS was awarded a $745,940,860.00 contract for detail design and construction of the U.S. Coast Guard Polar Security Cutter formally the Heavy Polar Ice Breaker.

Ref: Marine Daily, 4-24-19

2.2.2 International Issues

Sudanese military rejected calls to had over ousted President Omar al-Bahir to the International Criminal Court to face genocide charges in Western Darfur.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-13-19 pp. A3

- Sudan’s new ruling party announced it will name a new civilian Prime Minister and cabinet but not president to govern the country after removing Omar al-Bashir.
• Secretary of State Pompeo exposed influxes of China and Russia in Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua, and the U.S.’s ability to keep peace in South America.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-13-19 pp. A4

• Secretary of State Pompeo called Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro a tyrant with a Socialist agenda, while a truce in the Paraguayan Capital of Asuncion with President Abdo Benitez talks about the crisis in Venezuela. As a member of the Lima Group, Paraguay stands as a defender of democracy. Socialist Maduro has caused hyperinflation, shortages in food and medicine, and displacement of more than 3.0E6-Venezuelans—10% of the population. On 4-12-19 Pompeo met with Chilean President Sebastian Pinera in Santiago and criticized China’s financing of the Venezuelan government. He will make a final stop in the Columbia border town of Cucuta to meet with Venezuelan refugees. Pompeo is also against criminal organizations active in the tri-borders of Brazil. President Trump has tried programs of: “Remain in Mexico”, the wall, zero tolerances, family separation, detention, DACA “Dreamers”, sanctuary cities, and travel bans that have limited success.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-14-19 pp. A14

• North Korea’s Kim Jong Un said he’s open to a 3rd-summit with President Trump and set the end of the year 2019 to offer mutually acceptable agreements on nuclear diplomacy. Kim made comments at the North Korean Parliament on 4-12-19, hours after President Trump and South Korea’s President Moon met in Washington. The U.S. said the break down in Vietnam was over the North’s excessive demands for sanction’s relief in return for limited disarmament measures. Kim also asked South Korea to show more support for the North’s views.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-13-19 pp. A9

• South Korea President Moon Jae-in said he want’s to meet North Korea Kim Jong Un after Chairman Kim dismissed Moon’s Mediating efforts between North Korea and the U.S. as “officious”. Moon want’s an inter-Korean Summit. Moon met with Kim 3-times on 2018 to pave the way for Kim’s 1st and 2nd Summits.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. A3

• 120-people were killed since the Libyan military commander launched an assault on the capital igniting clashes with rival militia’s, the UN says. The WHO said 121-people were killed, 581-wounded, 13,500-displaced, and many civilians were stuck in areas where fighting escalated.
• President Trump approved a move to further choke-off foreign investments in Cuba by lifting long-standing limits on U.S. citizens seeking to sue over property confiscated by the Havana government 60 years ago by Fidel Castro’s revolution.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. A3

• Alan Garcia—a 2nd-time president of Peru died on 4-17-19 after shooting himself. He was deposed over bribes from Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. A3

• Iran lawmakers approved a Bill, labeling U.S. forces in the Middle East as terrorists.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. A3

2.2.3 Army Corps of Engineers—ACE—

2.3 Shipping Canals
  2.3.1 Panama Canal
  2.3.2 Suez Canal
  2.3.3 Nicaragua Canal—Nicaraguan canal and Development Project
  2.3.4 Artic Route

3.0 Water Issues

3.1 Regulation
  3.1.1 Water Rights
  3.1.2 Conservation Mandates
  3.1.3 Funding

3.2 Rivers and Lakes
  3.2.1 Dams

3.3 Reservoirs and Aqueducts

3.4 Ground Water

3.5 Recycled Water
  3.5.1 Municipal Waste
  3.5.2 Desalination
  3.5.3 Storm Drain

3.6 Municipal Water System Contamination

4.0 Pipelines and Tunnel Issues

4.1 Pipelines
  4.1.1 Water
  4.1.2 Sewer Lines
  4.1.3 Storm Lines
  4.1.4 Gray Water
  4.1.5 Oil and Gas
    4.1.5.1 U.S.
      4.1.5.1.1 Natural Gas Grid Energy Storage
    4.1.5.2 International
    4.1.5.3 Natural Gas Leaks
    4.1.5.4 Oil Spills

4.2 Tunnels
4.2.1 Transportation
4.2.2 Water
4.2.3 Tunnel Boring Machines—TBMs—

5.0 Transportation Environmental Issues
5.1 Maritime Transportation Emissions
  5.1.1 Ship Engines
5.2 CO₂ Emissions
5.3 NOₓ Emissions
5.4 SO₂ Emissions
5.5 PM Emissions
  5.5.1 PM₁₀⁻μm
  5.5.2 PM₂.₅⁻μm
  5.5.3 PM₀.₁⁻μm
5.6 Ozone-Ο₃ Emissions
5.7 Industrial and Commercial Emissions
5.8 Surface Transportation Emissions
  5.8.1 Rail
  5.8.2 Automobile
  5.8.3 Truck
5.9 Air Transportation
5.10 International
  5.1.1 China

6.0 Transportation Financial Issues
6.1 Ports
  6.1.1 Inland Waterways
6.2 Container Ships
6.3 Federal Highway Trust Fund
  6.3.1 Gasoline Tax
  6.3.2 Millage-based Driving
  6.3.3 Diesel Tax
6.4 State, County, and City
  Update on congestion pricing. Regulators say the only way to cut congestion is to charge people for use of roads in highly congested urban areas. That approach has been politically untenable in the U.S until recently. From New York to Los Angeles and San Diego, officials are seriously talking about taxing drivers to use heavily trafficked roads, to limit congestion.

6.4.1 Parking
6.4.2 Gasoline Prices
  The average price for regular gasoline moved past $4.00/gal to $4.04 says AAA of Southern CA, up 70¢/gal in the past month. In Orange County it was $4.04 and in Los Angeles it was $4.07.
  Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. C1 &C4

6.4.3 Diesel Prices
6.5 Rail, HSR, and Light Rail
6.6 Airport
7.0 Airport and Global Space Issues
7.1 Airport
7.1.1 Planes
Northrop Grumman showed off a new pilot-optional aircraft that was designed in San Diego. The Firebird aircraft can operate with a pilot inside or autonomously and be used for reconnaissance and civilian and military missions in Rancho Bernardo's Autonomous Design Center of Excellence.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. C1

7.1.2 Regulation
Update on Boeing's 737 Max issues. Boeing has annual sales of $101E9, is the largest exporter in the U.S., and is in the Dow Jones Industrial Average Market.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-14-19 pp. A20

7.1.3 Infrastructure
7.1.4 Air Freight
7.1.5 Safety
7.1.6 U.S.
7.1.7 International
Jet Airways—India's once largest airline will suspend operations after failing to raise enough money to run its services.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. C4

7.2 Global and Space
7.2.1 NASA
7.2.2 U.S.
A 6-engine aircraft by Stratolaunch Systems Corp. flew a test flight over the Mojave Air and Space Port on 4-13 and flew 2.5-hr with Max speed of 189-mph at 17E3-ft. Test pilot Evan Thomas says the airplane will carry as many as 3 satellite-laden rockets under the center of its enormous wing that spans 388-ft. At 35E3-ft the rockets would be released, ignite their engine, and sour into space. It will launch Northrop Grumman's proven Pegasus XL.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-14-19 pp. A12

7.2.3 Moon
7.2.4 Planets
7.2.4.1 Mars
7.2.4.2 Saturn
7.2.4.3 Pluto
7.2.4.4 Jupiter
7.2.4.5 Neptune
7.2.5 Comets and Asteroids
7.2.6 Deep Space
Update on the black-hole image in the Messier 87 galaxy 53E6-light years away [311.587E18-miles].
• Scientist Jerry Orosz and Bill Welsh replied on 4-15-19 in Astronomical Journal they found a 3rd-planet circulating a pair of stars in a region of constellation Cygnus, roughly 3,400-light-years away. The 3rd-planet
is some 7-times larger than the Earth and is located in an area of the Milky Way so distant it would take a conventional spacecraft tens of millions of years to fly there.

7.2.7 International

7.2.7.1 International Space Station—ISS—

8.0 Border and Culture Issues

8.1 Border

8.1.1 Import-Export

Canada imposed more sanctions on the government of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland announced sanctions against 43-high ranking Venezuelan officials and include asset freezes and ban Canadians from any financial dealings with the individuals.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp.

- The Trump Adm. on 4-17-19 imposed sanctions on Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela, who John Bolton dubbed the “three stooges of socialism.” Cuba is in severe economic weakness and is short of cash and aid from Venezuela.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. A3

- Qualcomm’s share price—in freeze for the last 2-years over a legal war with Apple over patent fees, moved up after 4-16-19’s settlement agreement between the 2-tech firms. Qualcomm’s stock moved up 35% as litigation issues were settled and a new license deal and chip supply agreements for 5-G iPhone was signed.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-18-19 pp. C1 & C4

8.1.2 Ports of Entry

With a new U.S. Department of Homeland Security staff President Trump want’s to get tough on immigration.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-1-19 pp. A1 & A17

- The latest project of an overhaul of the San Ysidro land border crossing with Mexico, is a new plaza and walkway—the Green Pedestrian Walkway—part of the busiest land border crossing in the Western Hemisphere’s $741E6 modernization and expansion.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. A1 & A8

8.1.3 Rail

8.1.4 Colorado River Water

8.1.5 Roads

8.2 Culture

The Trump Adm. moved to restart “Remain in Mexico” policy after a federal appeals court in CA lifted an injunction on Friday that blocked the policy. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials told staff at the main office in Arlington, VA to prepare for asylum seekers to be sent back across the border.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-16-19 pp. A8

- In addition to ending “catch and release” at the border, Attorney General William Barr’s ordered immigration judges to no longer allow migrants to post bail.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. A1 & A7 and A9
• Gov. Newsom will: continue to stop a border wall, visited El Salvador, stopped the death penalty, will issue a new plan for the Bullet Train project, and address affordability and poverty.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. A4

• Municipal authorities in the Southern Mexican state of Chiapas are trying to block a 2,000-Central American migrant caravan from entering Huixla. The caravan pushed past police and headed for the town center. In Yuma, AZ the mayor signed a proclamation of emergency to cope with unprecedented number of migrant families released by border patrol.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. A9

• Homeless car owners will be able to park in the stadium lot from 6:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. on Friars Road and Mission Village Drive and will have social services for help.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-17-19 pp. B1 & B4

John G Wotzka 720 4th Ave San Diego, CA 92101, Ph: 619-446-7690, johnwotzka@gmail.com
4-19-19 Transportation Committee Meeting

1.0 Roads, Rail, High-Speed Rail, Bridges, Busses, Bicycle, and Ride-share Issues

The City of San Diego is soliciting locals for help solving urban problems that will be hosted by Ignite Scale San Diego, that want’s a “Smart City”. Innovations to solve 3-challenges of: Smart traffic lights that adapt to real-time needs, access to fresh fruits and vegetables, and modeling future traffic congestion caused by real estate or commercial developments. The consortium includes the city, local business accelerator Scale San Diego, and U.S. Ignite—a Washington, D.C. nonprofit. Cox Communication funded the group. It will be open to the public April 12-to 14

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. C1 & C4

1.1 Roads

Update on real estate consultant Jones Lang LaSalle’s 1-year contract for $195E3. The city of San Diego and San Diego State University are contractually bound to work together in private on the sale of 132-acres of taxpayer-owned real estate in Mission Valley, are in a MOU phase as of March 21,2019 and are mandated by Measure G or SDSU West—that authorized the city to negotiate with the University for purchase and sale of a portion of a Mission Valley site that includes SDCCU Stadium.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. A11

• Sen Amy Klobucher of MN unveiled a $1.0E12 plan in federal funds to upgrade the country’s infrastructure in her bid for her nomination for President.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29 19 pp. A4

1.1.1 Road Construction Materials

1.1.2 Interstate

1.1.2.1 Truck Issues

1.1.3 State, County, and City

Civic San Diego will be stripped of most of its powers and have no authority over city projects. The city is making payments to gain control of the bayfront site for the convention center expansion center.


• New York City will enact a toll for drivers entering Manhattan in 2021 and single use plastic bags will be banned in less than a year in the states $175.5E9 state budget agreement by Gov. Cuomo.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-1-19 pp. A2

1.1.3.1 Car Pool Lanes

1.1.3.2 Sidewalks

1.1.4 Parking

1.1.4.1 Parkettes

1.1.5 Streetlights

1.1.6 Fatalities

A man walked on to the tracks of a train going 46-mph near West Washington and Hancock Street in the Midway District on 3-21-19.


1.1.7 EV Charging Stations

1
1.1.7.1 U.S.
1.1.7.2 International

1.2 Rail
  1.2.1 Interstate Freight Systems
    1.2.1.1 Locomotives
    1.2.1.2 Positive Train Control—PTC—
  1.2.2 Construction Materials
  1.2.3 Car Types
    1.2.3.1 Oil and Gas Tank Cars
    1.2.3.2 Intermodal
    1.2.3.3 Box Cars
  1.2.4 Urban Light Rail Systems
    1.2.4.1 Street Cars
    1.2.4.2 Autonomous [driverless]
  1.2.5 Amtrak
  1.2.6 International Freight Systems
    1.2.6.1 China’s Belt and Road Initiative
      1.2.6.1.1 North Korea
      1.2.6.1.2 Vietnam
      1.2.6.1.3 China
    1.2.6.2 Eurasia Routes: China-Europe-and India Routes - Russia trade corridor ....
      1.2.6.2.1 China’s Belt and Road Initiative TRACECA ....
      Europe-Caucasus ....
      1.2.6.2.2 INSTC
      Western China-Western Europe Corridor ....
      1.2.6.2.3 Trans-Siberian Railway International North-South Transport Corridor ....
      1.2.6.2.4 Turkmenbash海 Seaport
      1.2.6.2.5 Western China-Western Europe Corridor China-Europe Rail Shipments on
      Russia’s Trans-Siberian Railway
      1.2.6.2.6 Port of Batumi and Poti
  1.3 High-Speed Rail—HSR—
    1.3.1 Highspeed
      1.3.1.1 U.S. System-in North America—125 to 150-mph
      1.3.1.2 International
    1.3.2 Higher-Speed—HSR—
      1.3.2.1 U.S. Systems in North America—151-230-mph
      1.3.2.2 International
    1.3.3 Hyper-loop Transport System
  1.4 Bridges
    1.4.1 Bridge Construction Materials
    1.4.2 Interstate
    1.4.3 State, County, and City
      Sea-level rise and potential for coastal flooding have been factored into the tentative designs for
      a new bridge on Camino Del Mar, also known as Highway 101 across the San Dieguito River at Dog Beach
in Del Mar. The road surface will be 2 to 3-ft higher than on the existing 1932 bridge that is badly
detreated, not earthquake safe, and years past its expected life-span.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. B1

1.4.4 International
1.4.5 Railroad

1.5 Buses
1.5.1 Bus Rapid Transit
1.5.2 San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
1.5.3 Shuttle System
1.5.4 Fueling Terminal

1.6 Bicycle
1.6.1 Accidents
A man who became paralyzed in 2017 after riding his bicycle into an open construction trench on Sorrento Valley Road, will get a $20E6 settlement—$1.5E6 from the city and $18.5E6 from 2-construction firms.

1.6.2 Bike Share Program
San Diego officials are preparing to defend the city against 4-electric scooter injury law suits over regulation that could have prevented the collisions with pedestrians.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. B1 & B3

1.6.3 Bike Trails

1.7 Ride-share, Delivery and Transportation-networks
Deco Bike was evicted by the city of San Diego on 4-6-19 for breach of contract and the company strongly contests the move. The original contract runs through 2023.

1.7.1 Uber
Uber will launch a voucher program to allow retailers to dole out free or discounted rides to customers to counter foot traffic by customers, to encourage declining foot traffic by the growth of online shopping.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. C2

1.7.2 Lyft
1.7.3 Harley-Davidson
1.7.4 Electric Scooters
Update on issues of faulty scooters in San Diego.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A1 & A7

• Scooter company’s Bird and Lime are suing 2-San Diego businessmen for impounding thousands of their electric bikes and scooters and holding them until a “ransom” was paid.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-1-19 pp. C1 & C4

1.7.5 Skyway System
1.7.6 Segway Tours
1.7.7 Self-driving Air Taxi
1.7.8 Wheels

2.0 Port and Military Issues

2.1 Ports

Equasis released its data on the World's merchant ship fleet that includes: 90,715-ships, with 17,822 ships of 25E3-gross tons and above. Classed as large and very large, less than 120%. 31.1% of the World's fleet is 25+ years old, and most small and medium tonnage. Only 6% of the large and very large fleet is 25+ years old. Crude oil is at about $47/bbl in January 2019. There are 22-offshore rigs operating in the U.S. GOM in 2019 up from 17 in 2018. The 90,715 world's fleet is 34.3% bulk carriers, 25.7% oil/chemical tankers, 17.9% container ships, and 22.1% others.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 4


Ref: Marine Log, January 2019 pp. 22-24

2.1.1 Container Ships

Fincantieri Bay Shipbuilding will construct the 1st-U.S. flagged Great Lakes bulk carrier to be built in 35-years. The new 28E3-dwt River-Class self-unloading bulk carrier will measure 639-ft-long by 78-ft-beam. Delivery is expected for mid-2022.

Ref: Marine Daily, 4-9-19

- The Sea\LNG coalition leased a study indicating a strong investment case for LNG as a marine fuel for container ships, from analysis of use in a newbuild 14E3-TEU container vessel operating on an Asia-U.S. West Coast liner routing and compares 6-fuel pricing scenarios. The study was from simulation and analytics expert Opsiana to analyze shipowners and operators investment opportunities. The study was a route with very little voyage time [8%] in emission control areas. SEA\LNG will do more studies for different vessel types and routes.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 14

2.1.1.1 Regulation

The GPS satellites will rest and send out precise geographic coordinates and vital time signals to billions of computer users will reset there onboard week counters to zero, leaving some old receivers unprepared and could lose time from the decoded signals accuracy to within 100E9's of a second. It tracks the number of seconds elapsed since the satellite began on 1-6-1980. It uses a 10-bit system and needs to go to zero every 1024-weeks or 19-years.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. C1 & C4

2.1.1.2 CNG, LNG, LPG, and Articulated Tug and Barge—ATBs—vessels

Fincantieri Bay Shipping WI delivered the newly-converted barge Commander to the Port City Marine Services—PCMS—of Muskegon, MI. The Commander is a 495-ft-length by 72-ft-beam freight barge that was converted with new cargo holds, trunk-deck and bow, and a new cargo unloading system. Combined with its tug it operates as an Articulated Tug Barge —ATB—unit. The ship is in the expanding Jones Act-compliant dry bulk capacity with our customer said the president of Sand Products Corp. the owner of Port City Marine Services.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 10
• Overseas Shipping Group—OSG—Inc. exercised an option to construct a 2nd-204E3-bbl oil and chemical ATB barge at Guderson Marine, OR facility. It’s set for delivery in the 2nd-half of 2020 and be built to be pared with 1-of OSG’s existing modern tugs, replacing a rebuilt barge unit that will be phased out prior to delivery of the new barge. Each will be of identical design, meeting all the latest safety and environmental requirements.
Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 14

• A small-scale LNG feeder/bunker vessel design based on an offshore OSV, has received approval in principle from Classification Society DNV GL. Developed by Stavanger, Norway, based-Shiplnox AS, the 92m vessel features a prismatic tank LNG containment system with cargo carrying capacity of 6,000-m³. By 2050 20% of shipping energy will be from LNG.
Ref: Marine Daily, 4-2-19

• Sweden’s Furetank Rederi AB is selling its 17,999-dust dual product tanker Fure Vinga delivered a year ago to Canada’s Groupe Desgagnés Inc. Furetank ordered an identical replacement from Chin’s Avic Dingheng Shipbuilding and option for a 2nd-vessel.
Ref: Marine Log, Marine Daily 4-3-19

• Sempra sees the 1st-phase of Cameron LNG on the Gulf Coast to generate $400 to $450E6/yr from early estimates, from improved finance costs at lower interest rates, and maintaining a tighter handle on construction costs. Operations will start in June 2019. Trains 2 & 3 will be on line by the 4th-Q-2019 and the 1stQ-2020 respectively. LNG demand is expected to grow by 75% by 2035.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. C1 & C4

2.1.1.3 Crude Oil

Migrants not wanting to go back to Libya commandeered an oil tanker that rescued them at sea. The action of a few may discourage other ships from rescuing migrants. Both Italy and Malta refused entry of the Palau-flagged El Hiblu 1, but Maltese armed forces intercepted it overnight after confirming with the captain he was being forced to go to Europe against his will.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. A3

2.1.1.3.1 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit—MODU—

2.1.1.4 Reefers

2.1.2 Cruise Ships

Glosten & Bieker Boats in Seattle joined to bring modern composite hydrofoil technology to the passenger vessel market, with a design using ultra-efficient hydrofoils, light-weight carbon fiber hull construction, and modern geared propulsion equipment that required less than half the installed power of a typical passenger catamaran, delivering 3-times the passenger miles/gal, of the latest foil assisted low-wake small passenger vessels. The hull is constructed using room temperature cured resin, infused with carbon fiber, with foam cores above the waterline.
Ref: Marine Log February 2019 pp. 10

• Australian mining billionaire Clive Palmer had a dream since April 2012 of building a 21st-Century version of the RMS Titanic. Originally, he hoped it would be launched from Chinese shipbuilder CSSC Jinling in 2016 but the project was discontinued. Turku, Finland, headquartered designer Deltamarin has now been contracted by Palmer’s Blue Star Line to continue with the design of the Titanic II and management services and consultancy. It will be designed with the latest rules and regulations, including the SOLAS
2020 requirements and the Energy Efficiency Design Index—EEDI—. Deltamarin will develop the design together with the selected yard and Blue Star Line, and management the consultations with potential shipyards.
Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 13

- A ferry overloaded with people celebrating the Kurdish new year-Mother’s Day capsized in the Tigris River near the Iraqi city of Mosul, killing 100-people on 3-21-19
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-22-19 pp. A3

- The Viking Sky reached the Port of Moide under its own power on 3-24-19 after 890-people and crew were left on the 47,800-ton ship when it docked in Molde in West Norway. Some passengers that were battered by falling objects and shattered glass as waves rocked the ship. The ship had multiple engine failures as it was going to Tilbury Port on the River Thames in Southeast England between the ports of Tromso and Stavang had problems near Hustadvika.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-25-19 pp. A3

2.1.3 LNG and CNG Terminals
Sempra Energy will build an LNG export facility to ship LNG to fast growing Asian markets. The U.S. DOE granted authorizations to Sempra subsidiary Energía Costa Azul—ECA—ear Ensenada to export natural gas produced in the U.S. into Mexico—than re-export the LNG to countries that do not have free trade agreements with the U.S.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-2-19 pp. C1

2.1.4 U.S.
The Port of Beaumont’s Beaumont’s—Port Arthur MSA was hardest hit by Hurricane Harvey. The port employees 12,608-jobs and $1.8E9 in economic annual output. 5th-largest in the U.S. in tonnage, the port is the fastest growing, says Forbes, and is the largest strategic Military port in the nation with the 842nd-Transportation Battalion moving more than 55E3-pieces of military cargo. The port received $10.0E6 from the U.S. EDA to upgrade Port Arthur and Port Beaumont with 250-mi of devastation said Sen. Ted Cruz. For Cruise ships Port Canaveral will build a $78.98E6 port’s Cruise Terminal 3 and a $29.53E6 for a parking garage for 1,800-vehicles. Port Canaveral’s 180E3-ft2 Terminal, Port Cruise Terminal 3, will be homeport for Canaveral Cruise Lines largest ship, the Mardi Gras that is being delivered in the Spring of 2020, and be in service in the fall—the 1st-LNG-powered cruise ship based in North America with a capacity of 6,500-passengers and 2,000-crew members. The Port of Everett, WA received designation as a Federal Maritime Administration Marine Highway Project for Puget Sound Container on Barge Service under the American Marine Highway Program. They are now the 1st-port on the West Coast eligible for future grant funding from Marine Highway Grant Program. They will relieve congestion on local roads and rail networks and add more resiliency—vital to the nation’s transportation system says MARAD. The nation’s vast network of inland waterways and coastal routes has substantial excess capacity to absorb growth. Port Everett offers container on barge service from Everett to Mount Baker Terminal but is limited to the aerospace industry. The new designation enables the port to ship non-aerospace containerized cargo via the marine highway from Everett to the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma removing 300-containers/month from the I-5 Corridor—one of the most traffic congested in the country. The U.S.-China Trade disputes had stock exchange issues, but the Port of Oakland had it’s busiest year to date with a strong dollar that made U.S. exports more expensive overseas, a build up of empty containers that had to be shipped to Asia for the import surge. Imports were up 5% and exports declined 3.5% and volume of
empty containers returned to the original destination for imports that increased 19.7%. The Port of Los Angeles had more than 800E3-TEUs for the 5th-consecutive month in November 2018—the 6th-busiest in the ports history. The Ports Green initiatives reduced emissions with a voluntary vessel speed reduction that rewards shipping lines for reducing emissions by slowing down to 12-knots near the Port of Los Angeles.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 29-30

2.1.4.1 Inland Waterways
2.1.4.2 Drayage Truck Issues
2.1.5 International
Labor-intensive ship repair goes where labor is cheap. Chinese repair yards have been vying for top position in the global table, but Chinese labor costs are climbing and foreign workers from Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, and Malaysia are helping the heavy hitting Mid-East yards compete with Singapore yards drawing on similar sources. Over the last few decades European yards have struggled to compete on the international stage, with those located in high-cost Scandinavian countries. 3-developments: 1-LNG carrier repairs-LNG tankers. European imports of U.S. LNG are doubling each year to pay for high-tech facilities. 2-cruise ship repairs-The cruise ship repair sector is also a premier sector that uses European yards—although Singapore remains a prime choice, and LNG conversions will be done in European yards. 3-LNG and hybrid conversions have generated a 3rd-revenue source for European yards. Shipyards are using drones to get connectivity across the marine space with real-time links between ship and shore for a new approach to ship maintenance management.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 18-19, pp. 20-21 and 20-21

• President Putin spoke in St. Petersburg with Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden saying he would have 13-heavy ice-breakers and 9-nuclear submarines in the area by 2035. Cargo projections on the shipping lane will increase from 20E6mt to 80E6mt by 2035. Russia, U.S., and Canada, Denmark and Norway have been trying to asset jurisdiction in the area.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. A3

2.1.5.1 China’s 21-Century Maritime Silk Route Economic Belt—Belt and Road Initiative—B&RI—China will extend its Belt and Road Initiative to build ports and trade related facilities stirring alarm in Washington over Beijing’s ambitions in a region that American leaders since the 19th-Century have seen as off-limits to other powers. China is focusing on Panama with a 4.0E3 population, where the Panama Canal links the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. A Chinese Ambassador—a Spanish-speaking Latin American veteran, has been pushing the benefits of the Belt and Road on TV ads and Twitter. President Xi Jinping is building rail, ports, and power plants in cities and around the globe, but the U.S., Japan, and India fear Beijing is gaining economic and strategic influences at their expense.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. A7

2.1.5.2 Mexico’s Rail line between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans
2.1.6 Maintenance Operations
2.1.6.1 Ice-breakers
2.1.7 Logistics
Verizon turned on its 5G wireless network in Chicago and Minneapolis, that is 100-times faster than 4G wireless.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. C2
2.1.7.1 E.U.-China Logistics and Supply

2.1.8 Hybrid and Electric Fleets

Shore side power is an important element of plans by Norwegian energy major Equinor to cut CO₂ emissions from its Norwegian Continental Shelf logistics operations. In December 2018 supply base operator NorSea opened a shore-to-ship power station at the Dusavik supply base near Stavanger, making it the latest in a row of supply bases where vessels on Equinor contract can use shore power while at berth and charging of their onboard batteries. 13-ships with Equinor have installed shore power systems, and another 5-will be added in 2019. Norway’s NO₃ fund is a central financial contributor for ship owners to adapt their vessels to hybrid battery operation and shore power supply.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 12

- Article on all electric plug-in towboats. Regulatory changes and changing economics are persuading conservative inland waterway operators to explore diesel-electric and hybrid solutions to cut emissions. To drive down emissions, regulatory bodies are imposing measures such as EPA’s Tier 4 standards, prices are coming down for diesel-electric technology—now in its 5th-generation across the broader marine market. The 2-trends are propelling hybrid and diesel electric conversions, ahead, says Tim Toggart, VP Marine and propulsion at Twin Disc now working on it’s 1st-inland tow hybrid project. Diesel-mechanical engines are fuel efficient when operating at a constant RPM but become less efficient when RPM varies—when starting and disengaging from a tow. The better option would be to use an electric motor for such maneuvers. Towboat owners agree to more advanced systems to meet regulatory mandates. Fuel logs can offer much insight into operating profiles and if diesel-electric systems are beneficial to an owner. Diesel-electric motors can generate full torque at zero speed-making power available immediately, to improve operational safety. Projects are being developed working with full diesel-electric, with or without batteries, as well as hybrid combinations of diesel-mechanical with integrated electric motors. Eastern Shipbuilding is marketing its diesel-electric-propulsion inland towboat designs, and are offered with Caterpillar or Cummins generator solutions, using AAAV-Pod propulsion units, steering and controls, and propulsion drives, as well as AAA Propulsion and VACON’s variable frequency drives. Beier Integrated Systems machinery alarm and power management systems and South Coast Electronics switchboard and distribution panel round out the design. ABB offers a complete electrical propulsion package, integrating generators, switchboards, drives, thruster motors, and automation and control. Twin Disc is taking its entry into the marine hybrid market very seriously and shipped its MGX-5321 marine transmission with its brand new MC75 master clutch system for a Great Lakes hybrid tug, designed by Damen, being built by Great Lakes Shipyard and operated by Great Lakes Towing. BAE Systems has a compact Hybri-Gen Zero genset that provides 200-kW of electric power on demand, providing power for all hotel loads while the engine is running. Efficiency is realized by taking minimal power off the main engine when the engine is running at its most efficient point.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 27-28 and 32

2.1.9 Autonomous Navigation Systems

2.2 Military

An analysis of the backlog of work that piled up from the government shutdown. For the Coast Guard, work to making back-payments to active duty personal and civilian staff who were furloughed. The Coast Guard’s National Maritime Center that deals with mariner credentialing to issue an update on efforts to address levels of application inventory, issues relating to vessel construction, sales, repairs, and financing were hit, affecting people seeking to purchase and document commercial vessels. Also hit was the
National Pollution Fund Center with the Coast Guards role at IMO. At MARAD over 50% of total staff were furloughed. The Congressional Budget office estimates the shutdown delayed $18E9 in federal spending and lowered the projected level of the real GDP in the 1st.Q2019 by $8E9.
Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 16

- The Marines Camp Lejeune is still dealing with damages and contaminated water from Hurricane Florence’ winds. Trump’s wall requirements could cut into the previous infrastructure funding of $12.9E9.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-26-19 pp. A4

- Rear Admiral Bette Bolivar is the new “Navy Mayor” at Naval Air Station North Island. Bolivar replaces Rear Adm. Yancy Lindsey who will be transferred to Naples, Italy to lead the Navy Region, Europe, Africa, and Southwest Asia Command.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-23-19 pp. B3

- Navy Adm. Bill Moran was nominated for the 32nd-Chief of Naval operations from Adm. John Richardson who is retiring.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A2

- Amazon and Microsoft were the final candidates for a $10.0E9 contract to bring modern cloud computing to the Defense Department. IBM and Oracle where considered but did not meet minimum requirements for the joint enterprise defense infrastructure—JEDI—.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. C4

2.2.1 Ships and Planes
USA directs 6-patrol vessels worth $12E6 to Vietnam’s Coast Guard amid deepening ties, reports Vietnam’s capital Hanoi. They will be used for Maritime law enforcement, maritime search and rescue, and maritime humanitarian assistance in Vietnam’s territorial waters and exclusive economic zone. The Metal Shark “45 Defiant” patrol boat is manufactured in the U.S by Gravois Aluminum Boats LLC.
Ref: Google Alert, Da Nang, Vietnam 4-1-19

- Update on the replacement for the SR 71 spy plane that flies at 2,200 mph, the SR 72 will be an American hypersonic UAV concept intended for intelligence being developed at Lockheed’s Skunk Works and fly at 4,500-mph.

Ref: Google.com: Lockheed’s SR 72

- Two marine pilots were killed in a helicopter while training in southwest AZ in an AH-1Z Viper. There have been several fatal crashes of USMC aircraft near Yuma over the years—in 1996-4, 2007-3, and 2012-7.
• Silver ship’s Mobil, AL was awarded a $11,000,149.00 firm-fixed price GSA delivery order, for up to 160-high-speed maneuvering surface targets, accessories, and deployment spare parts.  
Ref: Marine Log 4-16-19 and Google.com: what the navy shoots at for target practice.

2.2.2 International Issues

Ref: Google Alert-Danang, Vietnam

• The U.S. is currently involved in talks with Vietnam to organize regular aircraft carrier visits to the Southeast Asian nation Reuters reported April 3, 2019.  
Ref: Google Alerts, Danang, Vietnam 4-4-19

• U.S. backed Syrian fighters are searching tunnels for the last of ISIS militants in Baghouz, Syria.  
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-21-19 pp. A3

• The 4-yr military operation to flush the Islamic State from Iraq and Syria ended on 3-23-19 as the last village—Baghouz, Syria was taken.  
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-24-19 pp. A4

• A humanitarian crisis is erupting in Northeastern Syria, as people fleeing fighting last month are flooding into an over crowded tent camp, atop a rocky hill, with more than 73E3-people—mostly women and children.  
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. A3

• President Trump declared on 3-21-19 Israel’s authority over the long-disputed Golan Heights [goes back to King Og], a war that has been going on since the U.N. rejected Israel’s occupation of the Golan Heights in 1967, when they seized the 400-mi² area of rocky highlands from Syria, during the Arab-Israeli War. It could also undermine Trump’s peace proposal for Israel and the Palestinians. Arab leaders also face the prospect of acquiescing the loss of land they had long claimed as Arab.—Israeli forces continue to strike targets across the Gaza strip on 3-26-19, including the offices of Hamas’ Supreme leader. The Israeli Army said 30-rockets were fired into Israel with all intercepted or that fell in open areas.  

• Venezuela’s intelligence police on 3-21-19 detained the chief of staff of the opposition leader, Juan Guaidó. The U.S. a fierce ally of Guaidó condemned the arrest and vowed a forceful response.  
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-22-19 pp. A3

• Venezuelans are experiencing more blackouts as President Maduro says the U.S. backed opposition is at fault with corruption and incompetence. The Capital, Caracas is reduced to a backcountry existence without electricity.  

• Russia has scoffed at the U.S. demand to withdraw its military personal from Venezuela, saying their presence in the country is fully legitimate. Russian Foreign Ministry Maria Zakharova said the presence of their military in Venezuela is “in strict accordance” with the Venezuelan constitution and a bilateral agreement on military cooperation and approval of the opposition—controlled National assembly is not
needed. 2-Russian planed delivered 100-servicemen and 35-tons of cargo to Venezuela over the weekend. Russia says the U.S. should also leave Syria. Zakharova liked the U.S. to an elephant in a china shop and should behave delicately and reasonably. Russia and China invested heavily in Venezuelan oil industries have backed Maduro. Russian Konstantin Kosachev of the Upper House of the Russian Parliament defended Moscow’s military cooperation with Venezuela. He invited the U.S. to “set a good example” by cutting its own global presence as a “global cop”.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 28-19 pp. A3

- A base dubbed Severny Klever [northern clover] for its trefoil shape is painted in the white, blue, and red colors of the Russian flag where temperatures reach -58°F in the winter and often freezing at night, in the summer. It’s located on the Kotelný Island between the Laptev Sea and East Siberian Sea, on the Artic Shipping Route, and houses 250-personal to maintain air and coastal defenses like anti-ship missiles. The base can be fully autonomous for more than a year. It was also the site of an October 30, 1961 hydrogen bomb dentation dubbed the RDS-220 hydrogen bomb-Tsar Bomba—50-mega tons of TNT that was 50% of the designed prototype of 100-mega-tons.

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY


- The Venezuelan government barred opposition leader Juan Guaido from holding office for 15-years over his actions and he made 90-intenational trips costing $94E3 in expenses.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. A3

- President Maduro loyalists stripped Venezuela’s Juan Guaidó of immunity on 4-2-19 paving the way to prosecution and potential arrest for violating the constitution when he declared himself interim president.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. A10

- Italian tanker operator PB Tankers was put on a U.S. Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control—OFAC—order as subject to being put on a sanction’s order, over transporting Venezuelan crude oil to Cuba.

Ref: Marine Daily 4-16-19

- President Trump ordered on 3-30-19 to cut direct aid to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras over illegal immigration issues. Congress will investigate, severed 2017 and 2018 payments.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-31-19 pp. A8
• U.S. backed forces pushed the Islamic State out of its final territorial Caliphate foothold in Syria was eliminated.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-23-19 pp. A3

• 2-U.S. troops were killed in Afghanistan on 3-22-19 adding up to 4-American deaths in 2019 in the U.S. led NATO coalition.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-23-19 pp. A3

• A large attack by the Taliban in Western Afghanistan on 4-4-19 killed at least 30-soldures and police officers, despite U.S. efforts to reach a peace deal-in the center of the Bola Murghab District in Badghits Province.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-5-19 pp. 43

• 3-American service members and a U.S. contractor were killed when their convoy hit a roadside bomb on 4-8-19 near the main U.S. base in Afghanistan. The Taliban claimed responsibility. —The U.S. and NATO Resolute Support Mission reported only 3-service members were killed on 4-9-19, not the contractor, from the Taliban attack.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. A3

• The Trump Adm. hit Iran with new sanctions on Iranian scientists working on Iran’s Organization for Defense Innovation and Research, the head of their Nuclear Weapons Program. 2-Trump overhauls sanctions on North Korea’s shipping relations with Chinese shipping companies.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-23-19 pp. A13

• Secretary of State Pompeo says entering a conflict with Iran without Congressional approval over issues of al-Qaeda is open.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-11-19 pp. A13

• U.S. backed Syrian fighters cleared explosives in the last area retaken from the Islamic State arresting several militants hiding in tunnels, a day after declaring a military victory and end of the self-styled caliphate.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-25-19 pp. A3

• On October 12, 2000 an attack by al-Qaeda suicide bombers killed 17-American sailors and wounded 42-others that resulted in suits being filed against Sudan under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, alleging Sudan had supplied material support to al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden. On 3-26-19 the Supreme Court setback the lawsuit over the seemingly innocuous question of whether they misaddressed notice of their lawsuit for $315E6, from the government of Sudan. The 2010 suit was sent to Sudan’s Minister in Washington, but federal law says it needs to be sent to the foreign minister at the foreign state says Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-27-19 pp. A2

• Sudanese security forces and protesters in an anti-government sit-in in Khartoum killed 11-people including 6-security force members since 4-6-19. 22 have been killed including 5-soldiers.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-11-19 pp. A3

• Sudan’s military ousted and arrested President Omar al-Bashir on 4-11-19 as his presidency and the Parliament were dissolved. A military council will oversee a 2-year transition period while suspending the Constitution.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A3
• Prime Minister Modi of India announced on 3-27-19 that India had test fired a rocket that shot down its own satellites joining China and Pakistan with the capability’s. The U.S. Russia, and China also proved their abilities. The satellite India hit was moving around the Earth at 17E3-mph. In Washington D.C. Air Force Lt. General David Thompson, told the Senate the test was done, and India announced it to the Pentagon.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. A3

• The U.S. stopped delivery of F-35 fighter jets to Turkey in retaliation for Ankara’s decision to move ahead with Russian surface-to-air missile system, said the Pentagon.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-2-19 pp. A11

• NATO marked its 70th-anniversary in Washington on April 4th, but the summit was downgraded over President Trump’s issues of costs of military support in the NATO nations and his impatience of the countries not being able to get along.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. B5

• The House on 4-4-19 voted to give final passage to a bipartisan resolution forcing an end to U.S. military involvement in Saudi Arabia’s war in Yemen. The vote invoked the rarely used War Powers Act to curb the president’s executive order to wage war without Congressional approval. The vote could set up a 2nd-veto by the Trump Adm.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-5-19 pp. A3

• A large explosion in Yemen’s capital killed 13-people. The Iranian-aligned Houthi rebels who seized the capital in 2014, said the Saudi-led coalition had targeted the warehouse but it was denied.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A3

• House speaker Pelosi urged President Trump to sign a law ending American involvement in the Yemen war.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. A6

• President Trump said he was designating a powerful arm of the Iranian military as a foreign terrorist organization for the 1st-time the U.S. has done so, of another’s threats. The move imposes economic and travel sanctions on the Islamic Revolution Guard’s Corps. and their ties to it. They train Arab Shite militias and oversee business in Iran.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. A4

• The Trump Adm. could designate Iran’s Revolutionary Guard a “foreign terrorist organization.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A9

• U.S. airstrikes killed 2-civilian Simoleans in April 2019, near El Buur.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-6-19 pp. A3

• The U.S. military evacuated its small contingent of troops from the Libyan capital on 4-7-19 a rival-militias raced to stop the forces of an aspiring General Khalifa from taking over the city of Tripoli for control, after the ouster of Moammar Gadhafi during the Arab Spring revolts. Tripoli is northern African Country’s financial hub that receives income from Libyan oil, housing the central bank and paying soldiers and public employees across the country.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A3
• Libyan National Army by Hifter said they hit the airport and clashed with rival militias which support the U.N.-backed government that controls Tripoli and Western City — as the death toll rises to 51.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. A3

President Trump will visit Normandy, France in June to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A3

• Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau defended legislation barring asylum shopping in Canada, in another safe-country such as the U.S.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A3

• President Trump on 4-11-19 said he would be open to a 3rd-summit meeting with Kim Jong Un, suggesting he is keen to revive a high-stakes engagement that was suspended 6-weeks ago, after failing over a nuclear disarmament deal in Vietnam, while meeting with South Korean President Moon. President Moon has made rapprochement with North Korea the center piece of his Adm. and want’s Kim and Trump at the table. Kim wants to become more self- reliant, to withstand economic pressures of sanctions.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A3

2.2.3 Army Corps of Engineers—ACE—
2.3 Shipping Canals
  2.3.1 Panama Canal
  2.3.2 Suez Canal
  2.3.3 Nicaragua Canal—Nicaraguan canal and Development Project
  2.3.4 Artic Route

3.0 Water Issues
3.1 Regulation
  3.1.1 Water Rights
  3.1.2 Conservation Mandates
  3.1.3 Funding
3.2 Rivers and Lakes
  The federal government sued CA over a water policy that violates the states environmental protection law. The suit would block a contentious plan, approved to increase river flows in the San Joaquin River, and 3-tributaries which will help revive dwindling salmon populations.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. A7

3.2.1 Dams
  The flood control spillway at the Oroville Dam will be deployed for the 1st-time after it crumbled in 2017 and was rebuilt with $1.1E9 in repairs. Some 20E3-ft3/sec will be released on Tuesday 4-2-19 and triple that will be released later in the week as more water flows into Lake Oroville. The reservoir is now 50-ft from the top and was releasing 50E3-ft3 in February 2017 when a giant crater erupted in the main spillway.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-1-19 pp. A2

• CA regulators voted to strengthen state safeguards for thousands of wetlands and streams that are about to lose federal protection in a Trump Administration rollback of the Clean Water Act. Nearly 90% of CA’s historic wetlands have been filled in or plowed under and the state want’s to save what they can.
The states rules will insulate CA from Washington’s efforts to drop regulations that prevent destruction of isolated wetlands and seasonal streams. The process is over a decade old.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. A5

3.3 Reservoirs and Aqueducts

3.4 Ground Water

Borrego Springs has been living on borrowed time drawing more water from the ground than rains replace. In March 2019 a draft report outlined how the community must and will reduce its water use by 74.6% between 2019-2040. There is no economical feasible way to bring water via aqueduct or pipes to the remote area in the center of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The 3,000-residents draw 21,963-af of water/yr — about [70.852638000E9-gal/yr. A state study says it needs to be reduced to 5,700-af/yr — about 3.636600000E9-gal/yr.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. A1 & A9

3.5 Recycled Water

3.5.1 Municipal Waste

3.5.2 Desalination

3.5.3 Storm Drain

3.6 Municipal Water System Contamination

More than 1.0E6 private wells that supply drinking water in mostly rural parts of the Midwest could face the risk of contamination from flood-water — posing a health concern that will linger long after the flood subsides, from the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers and small waterways has inundated states in the middle of America from the Canadian border south to Kentucky. Snow melting is starting, and it could get worst. Contaminated water can carry bacteria such as E. Coli. The National Ground Water Association including wells said there are 1.1E6-private wells in 300-flooded counties in 10-states: IA, NE, MO, KA, IL, MN, SD, and KY.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-27-19 pp. A8

4.0 Pipelines and Tunnel Issues

4.1 Pipelines

4.1.1 Water

4.1.2 Sewer Lines

4.1.3 Storm Lines

4.1.4 Gray Water

4.1.5 Oil and Gas

Good picture of 1975 construction of the 800-mi long Trans-Alaska pipeline in Fairbanks, AK.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-27-19 pp. B3

• A gas line exploded in a Durham, NC shopping district, killing 1 and injuring more than a dozen.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-11-19 pp. A1

• President Trump, in TX signed 2-executive orders to speed up oil and gas pipeline projects that have been targeted by environmental activists.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-11-19 pp. A4

4.1.5.1 U.S.

4.1.5 1.1 Natural Gas Grid Energy Storage
4.1.5.2 International
4.1.5.3 Natural Gas Leaks
4.1.5.4 Oil Spills

4.2 Tunnels
4.2.1 Transportation
4.2.2 Water
4.2.3 Tunnel Boring Machines—TBMs—

5.0 Transportation Environmental Issues
5.1 Maritime Transportation Emissions
5.1.1 Ship Engines

The Port of Fujairah, United Arab Emirates in January 2019 joined localities placing restrictions on use of open loop exhaust gas cleaning systems or scrubbers. Other ports that are putting restrictions on shippers are: HI, CA, CT, Norway, Ireland, Belgium, Latvia, Lithuania, Abu Dhabi-UAE, India, China, and Singapore. None of this is music to the ears of the Clean Shipping Alliance 2020 which represents shipowners who made hefty investment to install scrubbers in their ships. Ports have the right to regulate their waters, but CSA says studies are needed and verifications of impacts of the scrubbers by the shipping industry need to be documented.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 14

5.2 CO₂ Emissions
5.3 NOₓ Emissions
5.4 SO₂ Emissions
5.5 PM Emissions
5.5.1 PM₁₀-mm
5.5.2 PM₂.₅-μm
5.5.3 PM₀.₁-μm

5.6 Ozone-Ο₃ Emissions
5.7 Industrial and Commercial Emissions
5.8 Surface Transportation Emissions
5.8.1 Rail
5.8.2 Automobile
5.8.3 Truck

5.9 Air Transportation
5.10 International
5.1.1 China

6.0 Transportation Financial Issues
6.1 Ports

Update on infrastructure in the U.S. The World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report 2013-2014 assessed 148-nations and their economics, ranking the U.S. 15th-in infrastructure and technologies readiness. On average Europe spends 5% of its GDP on building and maintaining infrastructure, while the U.S. spent 2.4%—roughly the same for the last 30-years. Estimates are $15069/yr, is required between 2017-2030 to stay on top of U.S. needs, with transportation the largest chunk of the funding needs. Inland waterways were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s under the New Deal Program. In a January 2019 speech, President Trump pushed inland waterways that carry more than
60% of the nation’s agricultural products. Current diesel fuel tax on inland waterways went up 45% from $0.20/gal to $0.29/gal, that goes into the IWTF to pay half the cost of lock construction and rehabilitation, that is matched by federal funds. Funding is being pushed by the Waterways Council Inc.—WCI—that is opposed to additional taxation, tolls, lockage fees, or adverse charges in cost-sharing for the inland waterways transportation system. They urge the Energy and Water Appropriations for each FY are of the full amount, supported by the diesel fuel tax going into the IWTF but want the cost-sharing for IWTF to be 25% from IWTF and 75% from general revenues of the 50%-50% formula, and O&M remains a fully federal responsibility—as has been since founding of the nation.

Ref: Marine Log, February 2019 pp. 8

6.1.1 Inland Waterways
6.2 Container Ships
6.3 Federal Highway Trust Fund
   6.3.1 Gasoline Tax
       Washington may raise gasoline and diesel federal taxes to support infrastructure funding.
       Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. 47

6.3.2 Millage-based Driving
6.3.3 Diesel Tax
6.4 State, County, and City
   London did it, Singapore and Stockholm, now NYC is considering congestion pricing. The new plan would charge drivers $11.52 to drive south of 61st-Street in Manhattan. Speaker Heastle and Gov. Cuomo said they must get it done. The tolls would be counted by electronic devices and fund the cash starved MTA to 21st-Century standards, by raising $40E9 over 10-years.
   Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. A9

6.4.1 Parking
6.4.2 Gasoline Prices
   With oil prices up gasoline’s price is moving up in CA. A recent fire in a LA refinery will raise the price more—about 10¢/gal after Phillips 66 shut down a crude unit at the refinery after the fire on 3-15-19. The fire was not as bad as the one in Torrance in 2015, or Richmond in 2012.
   Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-21-19 pp. C1 & C4

• Gasoline is expected to rise above $4.00/gal in San Diego, that hasn’t happened since the summer of 2015.

6.4.3 Diesel Prices
6.5 Rail, HSR, and Light Rail
6.6 Airport
7.0 Airport and Global Space Issues
7.1 Airport
   7.1.1 Planes
       Southwest lost $150E6 over grounding of its 34-Boeing 737 Max 8’s jets.
   Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. C3 & C4
• Boeing’s software update for the Max 737 8 jets has been delayed after further work was needed, before submittal to the FFA. Changes to the software will improve the anti-stall system, Maneuvering Characteristics Angulation System—MCAS—.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-2-19 pp. A5

• Pilots of the Boeing 737 Max 8 of the Ethiopian airlines plane that crashed initially followed Boeing’s emergency steps by disconnecting a system that can force the nose down but could not regain control. They broke from Boeing recommendations and by reconnecting the MCAS system. The engines on the plane are larger and sit higher and more forward under the wings than the previous 737s and gives a greater tendency to force the nose upward in some conditions. With MCAS disabled, it cuts the power to parts of the tail—horizontal stabilizer used to point the plane up or down. And requires pilots to manually turn a wheel to operate the stabilizer. The FAA certified the plane.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. A8

7.1.2 Regulation

Congress will join the investigation into Boeing’s and FAA’s efforts to asses safety in plane’s final inspections. The U.S. House plans to hold its own hearings, and the Justice Department is also investigating the Boeing Max 8 issues.—Federal aviation regulators have ordered Boeing to fix a 2nd-problem with the flight-control system of its grounded 737 Max 8 on 4-4-19. The pilots of the 2-planes could not counteract a malfunction of the system using the company’s recommended procedures. Pilots of Ethiopian Airlines flight 302 performed all the procedures recommended by Boeing to pull out of a flight-system-induced dive was concluded. As in the aftermath of a Boeing 737 Max 8 in Indonesia they are zeroing in on the flight-control system known as Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System or MCAS which pushes the nose down to avoid a stall. The additional problem pertains to software affecting flaps and other flight stabilization hardware classified as critical to flight safety. The corrections will be completed over coming weeks. Information says the MCAS sent erroneous angle of attack information and pushed the nose down and the pilot could not get it up. Experts say the manual turn wheel would have been physically impossible to operate because of the plane was traveling too fast and manual trim may not be available due to air load on the stabilizer. Not enough force can be generated manually to move the trim. The full report will be out in 1-year.


• Dallas-based American Airlines is extending by over a month, it’s cancellations of 90-daily flights over issues of the 777 Max 8 plain. American has 24-planes in its fleet.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A7

7.1.3 Infrastructure

The SDIA agreed on 4-4-19 to a Union-friendly construction agreement for the $3.0E9 expansion of Terminal 1.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-5-19 pp. C1 & C4

7.1.4 Air Freight

7.1.5 Safety

Indonesia’s flag carrier is seeking cancelation of 49-737-Max 8 jets citing a loss of confidence after 2-crashes. PT Garuda Indonesia’s order for 50-jets in 2014 with 1-delivered in 2018 sent a letter to Boeing requesting cancelation of the $4.9E9 order.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-23-19 pp. A16
• Boeing said on 3-27-19 it would limit the ability of flight software to take control of its 737Max 8 plane and they will increase training and make standard an alert in the aircraft's flight deck display that was offered as an optional feature.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. C1 & C4

7.1.6 U.S.
Carlsbad is setting up a 20-year plan for expansion of its airport.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. B1 & B4

• Delta Airlines is 1st-in a study that ranks airlines by how often flights arrive on time.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. C3

7.1.7 International
7.2 Global and Space
7.2.1 NASA
NASA nixed the 1st-all-female space walk over a space suit issue.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-27-19 pp. A7

• A woman dropped out of a space-walk over space suit fitting issues.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. C1 & C2

7.2.2 U.S.
7.2.3 Moon
Beresheet, a small Israeli spacecraft has gone into orbit with the Moon by slowing and being captured by the Moons gravity—an achievement only done by 5-nations: the former Soviet Union, China, Japan, India, and the European Space agency. The space craft was built by Space II in Israel. It will make a landing on April 11, 2019.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-5-19 pp. A3

• Opher Doron of Israel AeroSpace Ind. Said their Space craft Beresheet lost control and crashed into the Moon.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A3

7.2.4 Planets
7.2.4.1 Mars
7.2.4.2 Saturn
7.2.4.3 Pluto
7.2.4.4 Jupiter
7.2.4.5 Neptune
7.2.5 Comets and Asteroids
Japan’s space agency said an explosive dropped on 4-5-19 from it’s Hayabusa2 space craft and blasted the surface of an asteroid that formed a creator from which samples were collected for clues to the origin of the solar system. NASA in a 2005 “deep impact” mission to a comet blasted the surface but did not collect samples.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-6-19 pp. A8

7.2.6 Deep Space
7.2.7 International
7.2.7.1 International Space Station—ISS—

8.0 Border and Culture Issues

8.1 Border

In the Otay mountains wilderness there is no wall between the U.S. and Mexico—only barbed wire fence of a pastoral valley with miles of treacherous terrain. Developers want to use an invisible fence of artificial intelligence, radar, drones, sensors, motion-activated cameras, and liken to some technology used in self-driving vehicles. Virtual walls are a cheaper way and more effective way to police the rest of the 2,000-mi southwest border.


8.1.1 Import-Export

1,000-days after Britain voted to leave the E.U. and 9-days before it’s scheduled to walk out the, PM May hit the pause button on 3-20-19 asking the bloc to postpone the U.K.’s departure until June 30, 2019. E.U. leaders will only grant the extension if May can win Parliament’s approval next week for the deal. Without it she will face a chaotic “no-deal” departure or longer delay.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-21-19 pp. A3

- Worn down by 3-years of indecision in London, European Union leaders grudgingly offered the U.K. more time to ease it’s self out of the bloc, delaying by several weeks a chaotic British Brexit.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-22-19 pp. A3

- One of the richest family’s in Germany that controls Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Panera Bread, donated millions to charity after learning their ancestors were supportive of Adolf Hitler’s use of force labor under the Nazis. Albert Reimann Sr. and Jr. used Russian civilians and French POWs as forced labors.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-25-19 pp. A3

- Prime Minister May is scrambling to win over adversaries to her Brexit withdrawal plan as she spent the day at her country residence Chequers with conservatives and Brexit advocates, who don’t want more delays.—Britain’s Parliament grabbed control On Monday of the governments efforts to leave the E.U., challenging the Countries political traditions and inflicting on PM May a rebuke not suffered by any recent predecessor. Parliament passed an amendment giving its self the power to vote on alternatives to the governments Brexit plan.—PM May offered to resign, in exchange for her Brexit deal from the Parliament.—PM May’s deal was beaten down a 3rd-time, by the British Parliament. The E.U. gave Britain until the end of the week to approve the withdrawal. Britain has until April 12, 2019 to propose a new way forward, or crash out of the bloc, without a deal, or beg for a long extension.


- In a 14-year stand-off, the WTO body said Boeing received an illegal U.S. tax break from Washington State that damaged sales by Airbus. Boeing received $5.0E9 in subsidies that were prohibited under International Trade rules.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. C3

- British lawmakers are still not able to move for any of 4-proposed ways forward for Brexit.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-2-19 pp. A3

- Prime Minister May broke from her party, appealing to the opposition to work with her plan in a move to keep Britain closely tied to the E.U. after Britain leaves the country’s bloc. Britain would leave in 2-
parts: a withdrawal agreement and, under the withdrawal would remain in the E.U. customs and trading system until the end of 2020.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. A3

• Britain’s Brexit went into overtime to prevent an abrupt British departure from the E.U. next week. Pro-Brexit ‘s of May’s Conservative Party with outrage, the Prime Minister sought agreement with the left-wing Labor Party after failing 3-times to win Parliament’s backing for he Brexit deal. PM May said she would ask the E.U. for further delay that was postponed once already to avert a chaotic and economic damaging no-deal Brexit on 4-12-19.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. A3

• Britain’s PM May on 4-5-19 sought a delay to Brexit until 6-30-19 to avoid a chaotic withdrawal from the E.U.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-6-19 pp. A3

• Talks to jump start plans for Brexit are expected to resume before the U.K.’s 4-12-19 deadline for leaving the E.U. and the opposition labor Party is hopeful the country’s political impasse can be resolved.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A9

• The E.U. extended the deadline for departure from the U.K. until October 31, 2019.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-11-19 pp. A3

• Fiat Chrysler, Nissan, and Toyota reported deliveries dropped for the month and are down year-to-year date. GM’s sales were also down for it’s 4-brands. The U.S. GDP was 1.5% in the 1st-Q-2019—the lowest in 3-years, says Bloomberg. The Federal Reserve interest rate was on hold as borrowing costs reached a 10-year high. Honda posted gains for the month and the quarter was driven by the CR-V crossover and new Passport Sport Utility vehicle. SUVs and big trucks posted a gain in 2018.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-3-19 pp. C3

• President Trump backed down on 4-4-19 over closing the border — instead, giving Mexico a “one-year warning”. Trump changed his demands to, if Mexico does not stem the flow of drugs and migrants into the U.S. in the next year, he will impose tariffs on cars and then possibly close the border.

• A possible summer summit with China’s President Xi Jinping and President Trump could happen, closer to the end of May 2019, when they attend a global leaders summit in Japan was announced when meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He and his delegate in Beijing last week, with American U.S. Trade Rep. Robert Lighthizer. Issues of tariffs and intellectual property are pending.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. A8

• The G-7 failed to reach consensus on key Middle East issues on 4-6-19 in France with absence of U.S. Secretary of State Pompeo, in Dinard. The agreements were in fighting cybercrime, giving women bigger roles, and engaging with Africa’s Sabel region—the ecoclimatic and biogeographic zone of transition in Africa between the Sahara in the north and Sasanian Savanna to the south, to combat migration.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-7-19 pp. A4

• A trucker that moves manufactured parts back and forth across the U.S.-Mexican border had to wait 5-hrs. on 4-5-19 in painfully slow gridlock.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-8-19 pp. A1 & A6
• Prime Minister May will head to Berlin and Paris today, to win a short delay to Britain's departure from the E.U. In London talks will be face-to-face between government and the Labor Party, that are still arguing.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-9-19 pp. A3

• The number of people caught crossing the Southwest border rose again—higher than seen in a decade. Border patrol apprehended more than 92,600-people in March 2019, the most in a month since April 2007, when 104,465-were caught. When combined with those who present themselves at ports of entry without valid documents to be in the U.S. it is 103,492.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. A1 & A8

8.1.2 Ports of Entry
The Democratic led House was not able to override President Trump’s veto of emergency salvaging his effort to use billions of dollars to erect border barriers in a White House Connotational and political clash raging for months. Law makers voted 248 to 181 and was 38-votes short of the required 2/3'margin needed to override the veto.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-27-19 pp. A4

• The Trump Adm. will add more inspectors on the border to stop illegal crossings. C&BP McAleenan said they would send 750-more inspectors to the border and would cause delays.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-28-19 pp. A12

• President Trump said on 3-9-19, he would close parts of the Mexican border if Mexico does not stop illegal immigration to the U.S. A 5-hr closure in 2018 for 5-hours cost $5.3E6 in lost sales by San Ysidro shop owners.

• The White House doubled down Sunday on President Trump’s threat to close the U.S. border with Mexico, despite warnings the move could inflict immediate economic damage on American consumers and businesses doing little to stop the migrants.

• Travelers are worried about President Trump’s issues of closing the U.S. Mexican border.—Recent threats by President Trump to indefinitely close the U.S. border with Mexico is ramping up fears of major economic disruption in trade and movements of goods between CA & Mexico which in 2018 amounted to $75E9 from automobiles to a lot of agricultural products. Tourism would also be impacted with a border closing.—CA and 19-other states sued President Trump over wall funding.

• Tracking the entry and exit of foreign travelers legally visiting the U.S. seems simple but is showing to be a challenge. The best tracking is at air and sea ports of entry—POEs—, yet that is not comprehensive. POEs on the southern border are focused primarily on screening incoming traffic not checking who is departing, making it impossible to know how many stay in the country. The Department of homeland Security estimated 701,900-visa overstay that incidents in FY-2017 from only air and sea—about 200% of migrants caught crossing illegally during the same period.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-7-19 pp. A1 & A17

• The number of people caught crossing the Southwest border rose again—higher than seen in a decade. Border Patrol apprehended more than 92,600-people from March 2019—the most in a month since April
2007, when 104,465 were caught. When combined with those who present themselves at ports of entry without valid documents to be in the U.S., it is 103,492.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-10-19 pp. A1 & A8

8.1.3 Rail
8.1.4 Colorado River Water
8.1.5 Roads

8.2 Culture
1-CBP have not consistently followed policies intended to protect Central American asylum seekers who could be harmed in Mexico under the “Remain in Mexico” Program. 2-Marine Corps Gen. Robert Neller said the “unplanned/unbudgeted” deployment along the border, that President Trump ordered last fall, shifts funds to support border security and forced him to cancel or reduce military training in some 5-countries and do repairs at bases.

- 3-months into DHS’s new “remain in Mexico” program that requires asylum seeking migrants to wait in Mexico until their U.S. hearings, may encourage illegal border crossings. If they cross the border and CBP takes them into custody they can wait in the U.S. up to 3-4-years, until asylum hearings are scheduled before an American immigration judge.

- President Trump on 3-28-19 accused Mexico and Central America—Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador, of doing nothing to stop unauthorized immigrants from coming to the U.S. Mexico planned to set up a “Containment Belt” of federal forces to stem an increasing flow of Central American migrants. President Trump also threatened to shut down the border.

- The city of San Diego will propose a vehicle habitation law to replace a previous version the city stopped enforcing in August 2018—when a federal judge said it was too vague to pass legal muster, and the City council repealed the old law in February 2019. Mayor Faulconer said the city will double its number of “safe” parking lots, from 2 to 4.
Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-26-19 pp. B1 & B3

- A new migrant caravan of 2,500 made its way through southern Mexico on 2-26-19 headed to the U.S. border. In the city of Huixtla in Chiapas, police lined up to keep them moving along a highway outside of the town, and not let them enter. Mexico offered water and medical help to the caravan of 2,446 people from Nicaragua, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. In the 100°F heat. Mexico is no longer issuing humanitarian visas at the border of Guatemala. Visas give them legal status in Mexico.

- Mexico’s President Obrador in Tijuana on 3-27-19 announced expanding the use of federal military troops to combat the cities escalating violence after a pilot program started in February, showed an increase in arrests. Obrador will create a Guardia Nacional—or National Guard to tackle the city’s high homicide rates.

- A migrant shelter for asylum-seeking families will remain in its new location in a county building through the rest of 2019, says the county’s supervisor Greg Cox and Nathan Fletcher.
- Mexico is bracing for a caravan of 2,000 people but a caravan of 2,500 is coming through Chiapas with Cubans.


- Migrant children who traveled to the border themselves have not been allowed to request asylum, despite assurances from federal immigration officials that prioritize 50-unaccompanied minors.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 3-29-19 pp. 46

- The era of Japan’s next emperor will begin May 1, 2019 and be named “Reiwa”—Pursuit of Harmony, from ancient Japanese poetry instead of Chinese classics, as Prime Minister Shinzo Abe promotes national pride. The current “Heisel” or achieving peace” era will end with emperor Akihito’s abdication on April 30, 2019. His son Naruhito is to ascend the throne on May 1, 2019. Era names are used in government and business documents and or calendars to identify generations and historical periods.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-2-19 pp. A3

- San Diego County sued the Trump Adm. over its ending of the “Safe Release” policy because of overwhelming numbers of migrants in the system.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-4-19 pp. A2

- President Trump says the asylum-seeking system is full and the U. S. will not be able to allow more people into the system.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-6-19 pp. A1 & A10

- More than 14,300-lbs of cocaine was seized from 6-boats in the eastern Pacific over February and March 2019.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-6-19 pp. B1

- A northern CA judge blocked another Trump Adm. immigration policy, to require some asylum seekers to wait in Mexico for immigration court hearings in the U.S.—Migrant Protection Protocols or “Remain in Mexico” policy.


- The Trump administration says family’s of Mexican teenagers who were shot to death by border agents should not be allowed to be sued for damages in U.S. courts. The agents fired across the border after they through rocks at the agents.

Ref: The San Diego U-T 4-12-19 pp. A2

John G Wotzka 720 4th Ave San Diego, CA 92101, Ph: 619-446-7690, johnwotzka@gmail.com
WIKIPEDIA

2019 North Korean parliamentary election

The election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly was held in North Korea on 10 March 2019.[1] According to outside observers, the proceedings are a show election.[2][3] It is also argued that the legislature wields no influence on the state-policies and serves as a rubber-stamp to decisions taken by the party machinery.[4]

Voting is mandatory and choice of candidates is not offered.[4] The voters are given a ballot paper with a single name and they are expected to drop it in the ballot box.[4][5] Although voters are able to signify dissent by crossing the name off, or by not voting at all, analysts argue that such actions would be considered as an act of treason and incur the wrath of the secret police.[4][6][7]

Contents

Preparations
Election day
Results
Elected members

Preparations

On 8 January 2019, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly issued Decision No. 220, which announced the election of deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly. This was followed three days later by the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly issuing Decision No. 221, which organized a central election committee for the election of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly that consists of Yang Hyong-sop as chairman, Kim Phyong-hae as vice chairman, Jong Yong-guk as secretary general, and Choe Pu-il, Kim Yong-dae, Kim Yong-ho, Pak Chol-min, Ju Yong-gil, Kim Chang-yop, Jang Chun-sil, Ri Tu-song, Pak Myong-chol and Ryo Jong-son as members.

The Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on 29 January that the constituencies and sub-constituencies for the election of the 14th Supreme People's Assembly had been organized, and, on 3 February, reported that election committees had been organized in the constituencies and sub-constituencies. On 21 February, the Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House produced posters urging voters to "further glorify socialism of our style on the strength of single-minded unity" and to "cement our revolutionary power as firm as a rock." On 24 February, the KCNA reported that sub-constituency committees have displayed lists of eligible voters for the election. On 25 February, the Rodong Sinmun published an editorial calling for elevated political enthusiasm and participation in the elections. The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland issued a similar appeal and sought for the social and economic prosperity of the nation coupled with peaceful relations (and a reunification) with South Korea. On 2 March, the Korean Central Television broadcast similar slogans.

On 4 March, the Rodong Sinmun published a commentary saying that the North Korean election system is "the most superior in the world." On 7 March, the Central Election Committee reported that the nomination and registration of candidates has been completed. On 8 March, the KCNA reported that profiles of candidates in the election have been displayed at all constituencies, and polling stations have been set up.

Election day

At 11:00, Kim Jong-un went to Sub-constituency No. 40 of Constituency No. 10 Kyogu located at the Kim Chaek University of Technology, and voted for the university's president Hong So-hon as deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly.

At 12:00, the Central Election Committee reported that the voter turnout had reached 56.76 percent, which reached to 92.35% by 15:00.

At 18:00, the Central Election Committee reported that all of the voters except for those overseas or working at sea have participated in the election, and that the election results are being counted.
Results

The Central Election Committee reported on 12 March 2019 that the voter turnout for the election was at 99.99%, and that 100% of the voters cast their ballots in favor of the registered candidates. The report also included the names of the 687 elected deputies to the 14th Supreme People's Assembly.\[21\]

Kim Jong-un was not included in the list of elected deputies, which marks the first time that a North Korean leader did not participate as a candidate in the election of the Supreme People's Assembly.\[22\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alliance</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Seats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Front for the Reunification of Korea</td>
<td>General Association of Korean Residents in Japan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>687</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered voters/turnout</td>
<td></td>
<td>99.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Source:</strong>[23][22]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Elected members

The following were elected as members of parliament:\[24\]

1. Electoral District (Mangyongdae): Han Song-guk
2. Electoral District (Kwangbok): Yun Yong-chol
3. Electoral District (Palgol): Pak Kum-hui
4. Electoral District (Janghun): Kim Yun-sil
5. Electoral District (Killimgil): Kim Yo-jong
6. Electoral District (Chukjon): Kim Song-bong
7. Electoral District (Taepyeong): Kim Yong-bok
8. Electoral District (Wollo): Kim Tong-suk
9. Electoral District (Kyongsang): Ri Song-jun
10. Electoral District (Kyogu): Hong So-hon
11. Electoral District (Ryonhwa): Sim Kyong-ok
12. Electoral District (Sochang): Kil Kum-sun
13. Electoral District (Pyongchon): Kim Myong-hwan
15. Electoral District (Ponghak): Kim Hyon
16. Electoral District (Ryugyong): Ri Yong-hui
17. Electoral District (Saemaul): Jo Kil-nyo
18. Electoral District (Potonggang): Pang Sung-sun
19. Electoral District (Kyongchon): Kim Hye-ryun
20. Electoral District (Pulungori): Ri Mi-ok
21. Electoral District (Kaesong): Choe Hui-tae
22. Electoral District (Pipa): Hwang Sun-hui
23. Electoral District (Jonsung): Choe Ryong-hae
24. Electoral District (Kinmaul): Ri Sung-ho

The Socialist Constitution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is the constitution of North Korea. It states that the country is socialist and lays out the framework of the national government and the functions of the ruling state party, the Workers' Party of Korea in relation to the Cabinet and Supreme People's Assembly (the country's parliament). The constitution is divided into 166 articles, split between three sections.

North Korea is also governed by the Ten Principles for the Establishment of a Monolithic Ideological System, which some claim have come to supersede the constitution and in practice serve as the supreme law of the country.[3][2][3]

## Contents

### Features

- History
  - 1948 People's Constitution
  - 1962 Constitution
  - 1972 Juche Constitution
  - 1992 Constitution
  - 1998 Kim II-sung Constitution
  - 2009 Songun Constitution
  - 2012 Kim II-sung–Kim Jong-il Constitution
  - 2013 Constitution
  - 2016 Constitution

### See also

### References

### Further reading

### External links

### Features

The North Korean constitution is unique in combining strong socialist and nationalist tendencies as well as its reference to the country's Juche ideology.[4]

The constitution designates the country as a socialist and revolutionary state,[4] with the official name Democratic People's Republic of Korea.[5] According to the constitution, the state "shall conduct all activities under the Workers' Party of Korea". While the constitution stipulates citizens' limited right to property — "meeting the simple and individual aims of the citizen" — its provisions of a planned economy state that the means of production are owned by the state and social cooperative organizations.[4]
Article 12 defines the country as a “dictatorship of people's democracy” under the leadership of the WPK. It provides for civil and political rights, such as freedom of expression, the right to elect officials, the right to a fair trial, and freedom of religion. It asserts the right of every citizen to work, education, food, and healthcare. In practice, however, these rights are limited by Article 81, which requires that all citizens “firmly safeguard the political and ideological unity and solidarity of the people,” and Article 82, which requires that citizens observe “the socialist standards of life.”

Article 67 states: “Citizens are guaranteed freedom of speech, of the press, of assembly, demonstration and association. The State shall guarantee conditions for the free activity of democratic political parties and social organizations.”[6]

Although the Supreme People's Assembly (SPA), the parliament of the country, is designated as the “highest organ of State power” by the constitution, the country is de facto a dictatorship under a supreme leader. One of the tasks of the SPA is to elect the Chairman of the State Affairs Commission (SAC; formerly National Defence Commission, NDC). Since the supreme leader is customarily elected to this post, the office can be considered the most senior position of authority.[9]

The constitution can be amended or supplemented by a two-thirds majority in the SPA. In practice, any changes require the consent of the Chairman of the WPK (formerly the General Secretary), an office which the supreme leader holds as a rule.[9] There is no judicial or constitutional review or an ombudsman.[8]

History


1948 People's Constitution

The first North Korean constitution was based on the 1936 Soviet Constitution.[15] This constitution was adopted at the First SPA in September 1948. Joseph Stalin personally edited the constitution alongside Terentii Shtykov, de facto Soviet governor of North Korea, in Moscow. Some articles were later rewritten by Soviet supervisors.[16] Under the 1948 constitution, the SPA was the highest organ in the state, while the Presidium of the SPA was responsible for initiating action and policymaking.[17] Unlike later constitutions, the inaugural constitution does not grant a privileged status to the ruling WPK.[18] The first constitution defined Seoul as the capital of the country, while later constitutions designate Pyongyang.[9] The 1948 constitution became obsolete when it was replaced by a new constitution in 1972.[17]

1962 Constitution

The 1948 constitution was amended at the first session of the Third SPA on October 12, 1962.[10]

1972 Juche Constitution

Proposing a DPRK new constitution had been discussed as early as 1960. However, in the changing international environment meant that North Korea could no longer postpone a constitutional revision.\[20] The WPK appointed a commission to draft a new constitution was established in October 1972.\[21] The need was elaborated by Kim Il-sung in his speech at the first session of the Fifth SPA on December 25, 1972:

"...our realities today urgently demand the establishment of a new socialist constitution legally to consolidate the great achievements of our people in the socialist revolution and building of socialism and lay down principles for the political, economic, and cultural spheres in socialist society"

The 1972 Constitution was adopted on 27 December.\[22] Under the new constitution, Kim Il-sung became the President of North Korea. He became the head of state serving as commander of the armed forces and chairman of the National Defense Committee, he had the power to issue edicts, grant pardons, and conclude or abrogate treaties. Under the old constitution, there was no one designated as the head of state. The chairman of the Presidium of the SPA represented the state which followed the Soviet practice. In contrast to the 1948 Soviet-style constitution, the 1972 Constitution introduced various North Korean concepts of governance.\[4] The constitution makes excessive references to the Juche ideology, leading Christopher Hale to conclude that "it would be accurate to call the constitution a Juche constitution".\[22]

1992 Constitution
Amendments to the 1972 Constitution were made in 1992.\[31]

1998 Kim Il-sung Constitution
The 1998 "Kim Il-sung Constitution" abolished the position of President and appointed Kim Il-sung, who had died in 1994, the country's Eternal President.\[10][23] The 1998 constitution was the first one to include a preamble. The preamble recounts on the history of the country focusing on the person of Kim Il-sung.\[4]

2009 Songun Constitution
The new, amended in 2009 version of DPRK Constitution is called the "Songun Constitution.\[33] It is six articles longer than the previous version adopted in of 1998. Section 2 of Chapter VI "Chairman of the National Defence Commission" is entirely new and the said post was constitutionally declared to be the supreme leader of North Korea. In Articles 29 and 40 (Economy and Culture respectively) the word 공산주의 (communism) was dropped.\[24]

2012 Kim Il-sung–Kim Jong-il Constitution
The Constitution was again amended in 2012 during the 5th Session of the 12th SPA to include changes in the preamble that states the legacy of Kim Jong-il in nation building and North Korea being a "nuclear-armed state".\[25] Accordingly, the Constitution was named the "Kim Il-sung–Kim Jong-il Constitution",\[26] Section 2 of Chapter VI, and several articles and provisions were revised accordingly due to provisions of Articles 91 and 95 that provide for constitutional amendments that are to be done by the SPA in its plenary sessions.

2013 Constitution
The Constitution was amended on April 1, 2013.\[24]

2016 Constitution
The Constitution was amended in June 2016 following the 7th WPK Congress. It replaces the National Defence Commission (NDC) with the State Affairs Commission (SAC) placing Kim Jong-un as head of state.[61] In part, the aim of the reorganization was to clarify the role of the SAC in economic policy, which the constitution previously assigned to the Cabinet.[62]

See also
- Charter of the Workers' Party of Korea
- Law of North Korea
- National symbols of North Korea
- Socialist law
- Ten Principles for the Establishment of a Monolithic Ideological System

References
16. “Terenti Shytov: the other ruler of nascent North Korea” by Andrei Lankov. “...even the North Korean constitution was edited by Stalin himself and became law of the land only after a lengthy discussion in Moscow, where Shytov and Stalin sat together looking through the draft of the country’s future supreme law. They approved it, but not completely, since some articles were rewritten by Soviet supervisors. So Shytov, together with Stalin himself, can be seen as the authors of the North Korean constitution.” Korea Times (https://koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/01/363_103451.html) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20150417010008/https://koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2012/01/363_103451.html) April 17, 2015, at the Wayback Machine

17. Constitutionalism in Asia: Cases and Materials. By Wen-Chen Chang, Li-ann Thio, Kevin YL Tan, Jiunn-rong Yeh


Works cited


Further reading


Original texts


External links

