

### Hugo Chavez Won't Attend Swearing-In

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez won't be able to attend his scheduled swearing-in this week, Venezuela's government announced Tuesday, confirming suspicions that the leader's illness will keep him in a Cuban hospital past the key date.

National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello made the announcement during a legislative session while reading a letter from Vice President Nicolas Maduro.

Tensions between the government and opposition have been building in a constitutional dispute over whether the ailing president's swearing-in can legally be postponed. The president underwent his fourth cancer-related surgery in Cuba last month and hasn't spoken publicly in a month.

Opposition leader Henrique Capriles said earlier Tuesday that the Supreme Court should rule in the disagreement between the opposition and Chavez's government. He said the constitution is clear that the current presidential term ends on Jan. 10.

Other opposition leaders have argued that the inauguration cannot legally be put off and that the National Assembly president should take over as interim president if Chavez hasn't returned from Cuba on inauguration day.

### Possible Sentence Reduced In WikiLeaks Case

FORT MEADE, Md. (AP) — A military judge on Tuesday reduced the potential sentence for an Army private accused of sending reams of classified documents to the WikiLeaks website.

Col. Denise Lind made the ruling during a pretrial hearing at Fort Meade for Pfc. Bradley Manning.

Lind found that Manning suffered illegal pretrial punishment during nine months in a Marine Corps brig in Quantico, Va. She awarded a total of 112 days off any prison sentence Manning gets if he is convicted.

Manning was confined to a windowless cell 23 hours a day, sometimes with no clothing. Brig officials say it was to keep him from hurting himself or others.

The judge said that Manning's confinement was "more rigorous than necessary." She added that the conditions "became excessive in relation to legitimate government interests."

### Senator Presses For Answers On Libya Raid

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's choice of John Brennan to be the next CIA director hit a snag Tuesday as a Republican senator threatened to delay the nomination until the Obama administration provides answers on the deadly assault in Libya that killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, whose opposition helped scuttle U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice's hopes of becoming secretary of state, said the Senate should not confirm any Obama nominee for the nation's top spy post until the administration elaborates on the attack on the diplomatic mission in Benghazi.

"My support for a delay in confirmation is not directed at Mr. Brennan, but is an unfortunate, yet necessary, action to get information from this administration," the South Carolina senator said in a statement. "I have tried — repeatedly — to get information on Benghazi, but my requests have been repeatedly ignored."

He added that the administration's "stonewalling on Benghazi" must end.

### Booby Trap Found At James Holmes' Apartment

CENTENNIAL, Colo. (AP) — An elaborate booby trap system allegedly set up to pull police away from the Colorado theater shooting included improvised napalm and thermite, which burns so hot that water can't put out the blaze.

FBI bomb technician Garrett Gumbinner described the system Tuesday at a hearing in which prosecutors laid out their case against suspected gunman James Holmes.

He said three different ignition systems were found in Holmes' apartment. There was a thermos full of glycerin leaning over a skillet full of another chemical. Flames and sparks are created when they mix, and a trip wire linked the thermos to the door.

Police said Holmes hoped loud music would lure someone to the apartment.

# White House Fights For Momentum On Gun Control

BY JULIE PACE  
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Less than a month after a horrific elementary school shooting, the White House is fighting to keep the momentum for new gun legislation amid signs it's losing ground in Congress to other pressing issues.

Vice President Joe Biden has invited the National Rifle Association and other gun-owner groups for talks at the White House on Thursday. On Wednesday, the vice president will meet with victims' organizations and representatives from the video game and entertainment industries. The administration's goal is to forge consensus over proposals to curb gun violence.

President Barack Obama wants Biden to report back to him with policy proposals by the end of January. Obama has vowed to move swiftly on the recommendations, a package expected to include both legislative proposals and executive action.

"He is mindful of the need to act," White House spokesman Jay Carney said on Tuesday. But as the shock and sorrow over the Newtown, Conn., shooting fades, the tough fight facing the White House and gun-control backers is growing clearer. Gun-rights advocates, including the powerful NRA, are digging in against tighter legislation, conservative groups are launching pro-gun initiatives and the Senate's top Republican has warned it could be spring before Capitol Hill begins considering any gun legislation.

"The biggest problem we have at the moment is spending and debt," Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said on Sunday. "That's going to dominate the Congress between now and the end of March. None of these issues will have the kind of priority as spending and debt over the next two or three months."

Tuesday marked the second anniversary of the Tucson, Ariz., attack that killed six people and critically injured former U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords. Following that shooting, Obama called for a national dialogue on gun violence. But his words were followed by little action.

Giffords took a prominent role in the gun debate on Tuesday's anniversary. She and husband Mark Kelly, a former astronaut, wrote in an op-ed published in USA Today that their Americans for Responsible Solutions initiative would help raise money to support greater gun control efforts "to balance the influence of the gun lobby." Kelly has indicated that he and Giffords want to become a prominent voice for gun control and hope to start a national conversation about gun violence.

There was also little national progress on curbing gun bloodshed following shootings at an Aurora, Colo., movie theater, a Texas Army base or a Sikh temple in Wisconsin, all of which occurred during Obama's first term.

Still, the killing of 6- and 7-year-olds at Newtown's Sandy Hook Elementary School on Dec.

14 did appear to stir a deeper reaction from the White House and Capitol Hill. Obama pushed gun control to the top of his domestic agenda for the first time and pledged to put the full weight of his presidency behind the issue. And some Republican and conservative lawmakers with strong gun rights records also took the extraordinary step of calling for a discussion on new measures.

But other gun-rights advocates have shown less flexibility. The NRA has rejected stricter gun legislation and suggested instead that the government put armed guards in every school in America as a way to curb violence. A coalition of conservative groups is also organizing a "gun appreciation day" later this month, to coincide with Obama's inauguration.

The president hopes to announce his administration's next steps to tackle gun violence shortly after he is sworn in for a second term on Jan. 21.

Obama wants Congress to reinstate a ban on military-style assault weapons, close loopholes that allow gun buyers to skirt background checks and restrict high-capacity magazines. Other recommendations to the Biden group include making gun trafficking a felony, getting the Justice Department to prosecute people caught lying on gun background-check forms and ordering federal agencies to send data to the National Gun Background Check Database.

# Officials: U.S. May Leave No Troops In Afghanistan

BY ROBERT BURNS  
AP National Security Writer

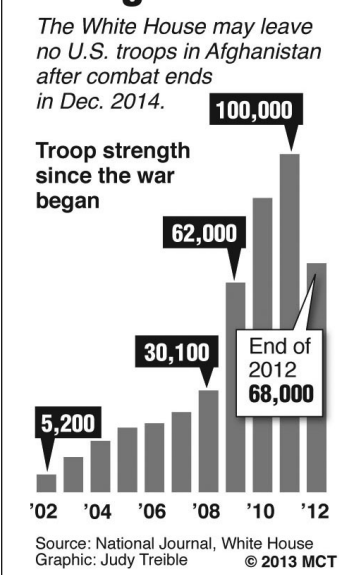
WASHINGTON — The Obama administration gave the first explicit signal Tuesday that it might leave no troops in Afghanistan after December 2014, an option that defies the Pentagon's view that thousands of troops may be needed to keep a lid on al-Qaida and to strengthen Afghan forces.

"The U.S. does not have an inherent objective of 'X' number of troops in Afghanistan," said Ben Rhodes, a White House deputy national security adviser. "We have an objective of making sure there is no safe haven for al-Qaida in Afghanistan and making sure that the Afghan government has a security force that is sufficient to ensure the stability of the Afghan government."

The U.S. now has 66,000 troops in Afghanistan, down from a peak of about 100,000 as recently as 2010. The U.S. and its NATO allies agreed in November 2010 that they would withdraw all their combat troops by the end of 2014, but they have yet to decide what future missions will be necessary and how many troops they would require.

At stake is the risk of Afghanistan's collapse and a return to the chaos of the 1990s that enabled the Taliban to seize

### U.S. troops in Afghanistan



power and provide a haven for Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. Fewer than 100 al-Qaida fighters are believed to remain in Afghanistan, although a larger number are just across the border in Pakistani sanctuaries.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta has said he foresees a need for a U.S. counterterrorism force in Afghanistan beyond 2014, plus a contingent to train Afghan forces. He is believed to favor an option that would keep about 9,000 troops in the country.

Administration officials in recent days have said they are considering a range of options for a residual U.S. troop presence of as few as 3,000 and as many as 15,000, with the number linked to a specific set of military-related missions like hunting down terrorists.

Asked in a conference call with reporters whether zero was now an option, Rhodes said, "That would be an option we would consider."

His statement could be interpreted as part of an administration negotiating strategy. On Friday Afghan President Hamid

Karzai is scheduled to meet President Barack Obama at the White House to discuss ways of framing an enduring partnership beyond 2014.

The two are at odds on numerous issues, including a U.S. demand that any American troops who would remain in Afghanistan after the combat mission ends be granted immunity from prosecution under Afghan law. Karzai has resisted, while emphasizing his need for large-scale U.S. support to maintain an effective security force after 2014.

In announcing last month in Kabul that he had accepted Obama's invitation to visit this week, Karzai made plain his objectives.

"Give us a good army, a good air force and a capability to project Afghan interests in the region," Karzai said, and he would gladly reciprocate by easing the path to legal immunity for U.S. troops.

Karzai is scheduled to meet Thursday with Panetta at the Pentagon and with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton at the State Department.

## Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

"Like" Kid Scoop on Facebook!

© 2013 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 29, No. 4

### HARVEST OF THE MONTH

# BROCCOLI

**Eat green and powerful with broccoli!**

A bite of broccoli is a bite of power! Broccoli makes your body stronger with all of its vitamins and minerals. It also has a cancer-fighting nutrient!

Rich in minerals and vitamins, broccoli is known as "The Crown Jewel of Nutrition."

#### Weekly Writing Corner

### Eat Your Broccoli!

Come up with a way to get kids to eat broccoli!

One way to get your kids to eat their broccoli is to cover it in chocolate and say that there is a surprise inside.

Another way is to say if you don't eat your broccoli, you will turn all white and will stay that way unless you eat the broccoli.

Mary Fanta, Sacred Heart School, 5th Grade

#### Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw the veggie that should come next to continue the pattern in each row.


Standards Link: Mathematical Reasoning: Extend simple patterns.

Broccoli isn't always green, you can get violet broccoli. To learn more, go to [www.kidscoop.com/kids/](http://www.kidscoop.com/kids/)

#### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. Then look for each word in this week's Kid Scoop stories and activities.

CASSEROLES	K C A N S P O F C N
CABBAGE	E R E W O P R O A P
GARLIC	R F E E U E G R B O
FOREST	L T N B W A U E B R
FLORET	S E L O R E S S A C
FLOWER	E T L L R I N T G R
STEW	E F I G T I A O E O
CROWN	R C N M U N C H A W
TREES	T E R O L F K L T N
GLOBE	
SNACK	
MUNCH	
POWER	
CROP	

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

#### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

www.kidscoop.com

### Healthy Actions

Look through the newspaper for 10 verbs. Can you act out each one? Create a game that would use five of the ten verbs and teach a friend!

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify verbs.

#### Write On!

### Spinach Power

Send your story to:  
Press & Dakotan  
C/o Noelle Schlechter  
319 Walnut Street  
Yankton, SD 57078  
605-665-7811, ext 112

Why eat spinach?  
What does it do for you?

Deadline: February 3 Published: Week of Mar. 3  
Please include your school and grade.

#### Extra! Extra!

### Broccoli Dot-to-Dot

On one page of the newspaper, find and circle all of the letters in the word "BROCCOLI." Now connect the dots your circles have made and create a new design. Can you do this with the words for broccoli in the other languages mentioned on this page?

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

#### How much is one serving of broccoli?

A serving of broccoli is one cup chopped broccoli. This is about two cupped handfuls. Broccoli tastes great when it's eaten as a crunchy snack, lightly steamed or as an ingredient in soup, stews and casseroles.

How many broccoli can you find on this page?

#### Starts with 'BRO'

Broccoli starts with the letters BRO and so do these words in this puzzle. Use the definitions to figure out each word.

A small rectangle of dense chocolate cake:	B R O
The color of a tree trunk:	B R O
The area above the eyes but below the hair:	B R O
Not narrow:	B R O
A liquid used in soups:	B R O
Something shattered into pieces:	B R O
A brush for sweeping:	B R O
A kind of metal often used for sculpture:	B R O
A small stream:	B R O
A wild horse:	B R O

Standards Link: Vocabulary: Spell grade-level appropriate words correctly.

#### Broccoli Around the Globe

Follow each path to discover what broccoli is called in other languages.

Spanish: **broccoli**

French: **brokkoli**

Italian: **brocol**

German: **broccolis**

#### Biggest Broccoli

The world's heaviest broccoli weighed in at an astounding **14 + 7 + 14** pounds!

#### BROCCOLI TREES & DIP

Crunch your way through a forest of little broccoli trees!

With an adult, cut a head of broccoli into little "trees."

Mix 2 tbsp of salsa, 1 tbsp chopped green onions into sour cream.

Season with garlic salt.

Dip a little broccoli tree into the dip and then munch!

#### Did you know...

- Broccoli is a member of the family.
- Broccoli heads are actually groups of that are almost ready to flower; each group of buds is called a .
- California is broccoli country—more than of the nation's broccoli crop grows here!

#### Use the code!

= 50%	= POTATO
= CABBAGE	= FLORET
= BUDS	= 90%