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OPINION OTHER VIEWS

ISIL: A War With 'Smoke And Mirrors'

BOSTON HERALD (July 8): President Obama put the best face he could on his strategy to defeat the Islamic State.

After a rare visit Monday to the Pentagon, the commander in chief said, "ISIL is opportunistic, and it is nimble. In many places in Syria and Iraq, including urban areas, it's dug in among innocent civilian populations. It will take time to root them out, and doing so must be the job of local forces on the ground, with training and air support from our coalition."

Yesterday it was Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) who offered some hard but necessary truths.

"While our coalition may own the skies, as the president said yesterday, our air campaign against IS continues to be limited significantly by overly restrictive rules of engagement and a lack of ground intelligence, which only gets worse as IS moves into urban areas to avoid coalition bombing," McCain said at the start of a congressional hearing on the subject.

"Pilots will tell you that they are only as good as the targets they receive," he said, and "when three-quarters of our air missions against IS still return to base without dropping weapons, that is indicative of a fundamental problem with our air campaign."

It is an embarrassing statistic, clear evidence that this White House-run "war" on ISIL is little more than smoke and mirrors.

The other ugly truth Defense Secretary Ashton Carter was forced to admit was that the moderate rebels Obama is counting on to fight both the Islamic State and the dreaded Assad regime in Syria however belatedly — now number about 60. Yes, you read that right. The region is a powder keg, the civil war has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and displaced millions, but this administration has finally settled on a handful of recruits it trusts to arm and train.

It's a half-assed way to fight any conflict. Even Obama can't truly believe this is the way to "degrade and ultimately destroy" the Islamic State as he has pledged to do. And if he doesn't believe it, then he must be lying to the American people — again.

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IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press Today is Thursday, July 9, the 190th day of 2015. There are 175 days left in the

year

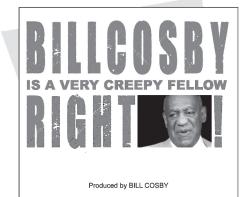
in Washington. Five years ago: The largest U.S.swap since i vvar too place on a remote stretch of Vienna airport tarmac as planes from New York and Moscow arrived within minutes of each other with 10 Russian sleeper agents and four prisoners accused by Russia of spying for the West.

Florida Keys. A panda cub, later named

Tai Shan, was born at the National Zoo

BILL COSBY'S GREATEST

ALL IN THIS ONE AMAZING ALBUM SET TO BE RELEASED ANY DAY NOW!



THE MMM AGTHEARE DAVUYSTAR 2015

New Girlfriend - 0:51 Ludes - 2:31 Wrestling - 1:31 Nap Time - 4:21 The Devil Made Him Do It - 0:58 The Lone Ranger - 3:07

Prescription Refill - 1:53

Side two

Side one

Frizzle Frazzle Gossip - 3:45 Girls and Wonderfulness - 0:59 Out to Get Me - 5:45 An Innocent Man - 0:45 The Neanderthal - 6:44 Zippity Lippity - 4:45 Prison Pudding- 3:48

Is Your Church Abetting 'Sanctuary Nation'?

BY MICHELLE MALKIN

Creators.com

The random, heartless murder of a young tourist on San Francisco's Pier 14 by a five-time illegal alien deportee who benefited from the "progressive" city's sanctuary policy has lawabiding Americans, law enforcement officials and political opportunists of

all stripes up in arms. But for decades, feckless government leaders ignored the pleas of families who suffered the bloody

consequences of open borders. For every Kate Steinle who died at the hands of an illegal alien sanctuary beneficiary, there is a Tony, Michael and Matthew Bologna in San Francisco. A Jamiel Shaw (age 17) or Xinran Ji

(age 24) in Los Angeles. A Martin Kudlis (age 3) in Denver.

An Iofemi Hightower, Dashon Harvey, Terrance Aeriel, or Natasha Aeriel in Newark.

A Zina Linnik (age 12) in Tacoma. A Vanessa Pham (age 19) in Fairfax County,

Va.

As I've reported time and again, liberal "sanctuary" programs in these metropolitan areas have protected, harbored and enabled criminal illegal aliens who disappeared into the deportation abyss. Both Democrats and Republicans, goaded by Big Government and Big Business interests, collaborated to turn America into a collective sanctuary nation. Non-enforcement is the rule, deportation evasion is the game, and the country is a safe haven — for law-breakers from around the world.

Yet, even as born-again tough-on-borders grandstanders now race in front of cameras to condemn these dangerous policies, churches across the country are brazenly thumbing their noses at our immigration laws. And political phonies are doing nothing to stop them.

In Northeast Portland, Ore., the Augustana Lutheran Church is shielding illegal alien Francisco Aguirre-Velasquez after he committed drunk driving and drug crimes and violated deportation rules.

In Tucson, Ariz., illegal alien Daniel Nevov

church is harboring illegal alien Sulma Franco after the feds denied her deportation appeal.

In Denver, illegal alien Arturo Armando Hernandez Garcia has taken up long-term residence at First Unitarian Society of Denver church. In Chicago, illegal alien Elvira Arellano settled at the United Methodist Church of Adalberto

for a year before finally being ejected back to Mexico. Last year, the serial law-breaker somehow returned to the Windy City to protest her status "in the shadows.

The Catholic Church has been at the forefront of the 1960s-era sanctuary movement, with top officials openly promoting immigration anarchy and lawlessness among their flock in the name of "humanity" and "compassion.'

As I've long noted, it's one thing to show compassion to legal immigrants, legitimate refugees and asylees, and those abused and mistreated by smugglers. It's quite another to conspire

against an orderly immigration and entrance system that imposes common-sense limits, eligibility requirements, criminal background checks, medical screening and a commitment to assimilation. Catholic groups have contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to building shelters for illegal aliens from Central America and way stations in southern Mexico.

The unholy alliance between church leaders and the open-borders lobby extends from the Vatican to Rev. Jim Wallis' Faith in Public Life (FPL) network, the Los Angeles-based Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) and the George Soros-tied Interfaith Worker Justice (IWJ). It's a web of nearly 100 interfaith committees, campus agitators and "workers centers" steeped in the organizing tactics of Saul Alinsky on behalf of millions of illegal aliens filling the pews and coffers of their abettors.

Capitol Hill's abdication of its duties to protect and defend our borders is bad enough. But if people of faith choose to sit silently as a "new sanctuary movement" of tax-exempt houses of worship defiantly and recklessly undermines our immigration laws, our national sovereignty doesn't have a prayer.



Rachel Frederick Jeremy Hoeck Nicole Myers Robert Nielsen Diana Smallwood David Stephenson Cathy Sudbeck IoAnn Wiebelhaus Brenda Willcuts Alissa Woockman

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Published Daily Monday-Saturday

Periodicals postage paid at Yankton, South Dakota, under the act of March 3, 1979.

Weekly Dakotian established June 6, 1861. Yankton Daily Press and Dakotian established April 26, 1875.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078.

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The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan is a member of the Associated Press, the Inland Daily Press Association and the South Dakota Newspaper Association. The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to use of all the local news printed in this newspaper.

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(Payable in advance) **CARRIER DELIVERY** 1-month.....\$12.09 3 months..... . \$36.27 6 months..... \$72.53 .. \$133.09 1-year ... MOTOR ROUTE (where available) 1 month \$14.51 3 months..... \$43.53 6 months..... \$87.05 1 year \$139.14 MAIL IN RETAIL Trade Zone 1-month.....\$16.93 3 months..... \$50.79 6 months..... \$101.57 1-year \$148.82 MAIL OUTSIDE RETAIL TRADE ZONE 1 month \$19.35

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Highlight in History: O July 9, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was read aloud to Gen. George Washington's troops in New York.

On this date: In 1540, England's King Henry VIII had his 6-month-old mar-riage to his fourth wife, Anne of Cleves, annulled.

In 1816, Argentina declared inde-

Pendence from Spain. In 1850, the 12th president of the United States, Zachary Taylor, died after serving only 16 months of his term. (He was succeeded by Millard Fillmore.)

In 1896, William Jennings Bryan delivered his famous "cross of gold" speech at the Democratic national convention in Chicago

In 1918, 101 people were killed in a train collision in Nashville, Tennessee. The Distinguished Service Cross was established by an Act of Congress. In 1938, Supreme Court Justice Ben-

jamin Cardozo, 68, died in Port Chester, New York. In 1945, architect Frank Lloyd Wright

unveiled his design for the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, a spiral structure on Manhattan's Upper East Side that was completed in 1959.

In 1951, President Harry S. Truman asked Congress to formally end the state of war between the United States and Germany. (An official end to the state of war was declared in October 1951.)

In 1965, the Sonny & Cher single "I Got You Babe" was released by ATCO Records.

In 1974, former U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren died in Washington at age 83.

In 1986, the Attorney General's Commission on Pornography released the final draft of its report, which linked hard-

core porn to sex crimes. In 1995, Jerry Garcia performed for the final time as frontman of the Grateful Dead during a concert at Chicago's Soldier Field (Garcia died a month later).

Ten years ago: A purported Taliban spokesman in Afghanistan said the group had beheaded a missing American commando, but he offered no proof and the U.S. military said it was still searching for the Navy SEAL. (The body of the com-mando was found the next day; officials said it appeared he died as a result of fighting, and was never abducted.) Hur-ricane Dennis dealt a glancing blow to the

One year ago: President Barack Obama began a two-day visit to Texas, where he met with state officials, including Gov. Rick Perry, to discuss the influx of unaccompanied children at the U.S. Mexico border. Stephen and Katie Stay and four of their five children were shot to death at their suburban Houston home; the couple's 15-year-old daughter, who survived by playing dead, identified the shooter as her aunt's ex-husband. Ronald Lee Haskell, who faces multiple charges of capital murder. Modeling agency founder Eileen Ford, 92, died in Morristown New Jersev.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-singer Ed Ames is 88. Former Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld is 83. Neurolo gist and author Oliver Sacks is 82. Actor James Hampton is 79. Actor Brian Dennehv is 77. Actor Richard Roundtree is 73. Author Dean Koontz is 70. Football Hallof-Famer O.J. Simpson is 68. Actor Chris or-Famer O.J. Simpson is 68. Actor Chris Cooper is 64. TV personality John Tesh is 63. Country singer David Ball is 62. Business executive/TV personality Kevin O'Leary (TV: "Shark Tank") is 61. Rhythmand-blues singer Debbie Sledge (Sister Sledge) is 61. Actor Jimmy Smits is 60. Actress Lisa Banes is 60. Actor Tom Hanks is 59. Singer Marc Almond is 58. Actress Kelly McGillis is 58. Rock singer Jim Kerr (Simple Minds) is 56. Actress-rock singer Courtney Love is 51. Rock musician Frank Bello (Anthrax) is 50. Actor David O'Hara is 50. Rock musician Xavier Muriel (Buckcherry) is 47. Actor Scott Grimes is 44. Actor Enrique Murciano is 42. Rock singer-musician Isaac Brock (Modest Mouse) is 40. Musician/producer Jack White is 40. Rock musician Dan Estrin (Hoobastank) is 39. Actor-director Fred Savage is 39. Country musician Pat Allingham is 37. Actress Linda Park is 37. Actress Megan Par len is 35. Rhvthm-and-blues sinder Kielv Williams (3lw) is 29. Actor Mitchel Musso is 24. Actress Georgie Henley is 20.

Thought for Today: "If writers were good business men, they'd have too much sense to be writers." — Irvin S. Cobb, American humorist (1876-1944).

FROM THE BIBLE

And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out of you is the new covenant in My blood." Luke 22:20. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'A Class Act!'

Shari Brasel, Sioux Falls

What a class act you have in the Yankton Girls Softball Association!

On June 20-21, my daughters 16U team traveled from Sioux Falls to participate in the YSGA Tournament. From the moment we hit the fields at Sertoma Park Saturday, it was clear we were in for a great tournament. Everything was extremely organized, the fields were in fantastic condi-

tion, and the volunteers kept the day running smoothly. We had some great competition, and top notch umpires.

Not only did we have a great weekend at the ballfield, but found the business we patronized to be equally as welcoming.

Special shout out to Kim, the Yankton Extreme 16U coach for taking great care of one of our players who suffered an injury. That is teamwork at its best.

We look forward to playing in Yankton again!

Ruiz took open, public refuge at Southside Presbyterian Church and then First Christian Church to avoid deportation. Fellow illegal alien Rosa Robles Loreto has been living at First Christian for nearly a year.

In Austin, Texas, First Unitarian Universalist

Writer's Block

Some Historical Tracings

BY JAMES L. VAN OSDEL

For the Press & Dakotan

While reading a current best seller, Margaret Mitchell's book came to mind because the novel (I have my mother's very early edition) and the resultant movie, "Gone With the Wind" have always intrigued me. It is an earthy saga of the American Civil War and another in which our family members served a part

Our Low Dutch ancestors were among the working class in Holland who built dikes around the sloughs, built windmills to pump water and filled in the swamps to create their fields. Those were my ancestors who came to America in the 1660s to settle along the Hudson River Valley and create New Amsterdam. Ever read Rip Van Winkle? Washington Erving was writing about the Low Dutch immigrant families he knew along the Hudson.

One of our relatives owned a farm near a village called Greenwich, now referred to as Greenwich Village, New York City. I also have ancestors buried in a New York city park. These ancestors had to fight for everything they ever owned and they fought in every battle in which America was involved, including the Civil War.

'Gone With The Wind" discusses the issues on both sides: the romanticism of the Southerners, who thought the North would quickly capitulate to their bravery and the realistic approach of those who sided with the much more mechanized North.

My great-great grandfather had moved from Arkansas to Indiana, then to Minnesota, most likely to avoid the conflict. His oldest sons, John and Henry, remained in Arkansas and fought with their friends for the South. Henry was killed leading a Confederate cavalry charge against the North at Newtonia, Missouri, near Springfield. This was the last Civil War engagement west of the Mississippi. His brother, John, survived the war and came to South Dakota to farm with his younger brother, my great-grandfather, on Section 18, Gayville Township. He is buried somewhere on what was the 1862 family homestead seven miles east of Yankton.

My great-grandfather served on the Western front with the Minnesota Cavalry. His younger brothers, Sam and Will, served with the famed Dakota Cavalry in helping settle the West for the advancing pioneers.

Will Van Osdel, at age 15, signed on with Company B of the Dakota Cavalry in 1862, serving as a scout. In 1865, he was a scout when the Boze-

Michelle Malkin is author of the new book "Who Built That: Awe-Inspiring Stories of American Tinkerpreneurs." Her email address is malkinblog@gmail.com.

man Trail was opened up. His daughter, Lura Van Osdel, married Frank Frick, son of Thomas E. Frick, a comrade in arms of Will and Sam in the Dakota Cavalry. Their son, Franklin Frick, was a bachelor genealogist to whom the Van Osdel families owe a great debt of gratitude for researching and transcribing their family history.

Sam Van Osdel was only 13 when he signed on with Co. B, Dakota Cavalry, as a messenger.

After his service and several rugged "employment opportunities", he and his family spent 20 years developing a 1,000-acre farm just north of Omaha, only to lose it to the ravages of the "wild and scenic" Missouri River. After striving, again at many jobs, to raise enough cash, he bought another farm and settled in far south Gayville township, again right on the Missouri

Sam Van Osdel and his wife had nine children. Their third youngest, William L. "Will" Van Osdel, was born Feb. 12, 1892 and married May Morri-

son. He owned and operated Van Osdel Produce in Yankton. I believe at the corner of Second and Douglas. He served on the Yankton City Council during the time the "new" city hall was built as a WPA project in 1932-1933. The former Yankton city hall served for many years as the home of Moose Lodge 1536.

The Will Van Osdels moved to California because of poor health. He died in 1966. Both Will and May Van Osdel are buried in Yankton.

Because Sam and Anna Oliver Van Osdel had a large family, as did most of his family members, we have a great many cousins. While decorating the family plot in the Mission Hill Cemetery last year. I had the good fortune to renew acquaintance with a third cousin, Mary Ann Ryken, as well as to meet her daughter and grandchildren, fourth and fifth cousins. They are part of Sam Van Osdel's extended family.

Reading and enjoying many such family histories in the 1987 issue of "Yankton County History", authorized by the Yankton County Historical Society, are much akin to examining a family quilt or tapestry which changes colors with the light of day. My second cousin, Bennett Van Osdel, longtime county commissioner, was president of the historical society at the time and, with Don Binder, served as co-chairman of the history book committee.

And did you know our great-great grandmother was the first woman school teacher in Yankton?



VAN OSDEL