

# The Press & Dakotan

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**OPINION OTHER VIEWS**

## Iran Nuclear Deal Is Historic Accord

**THE SACRAMENTO BEE (July 15):** "Trust, but verify" is what Ronald Reagan said about arms control agreements with the old Soviet Union.

With Iran's track record, President Barack Obama is right that the nuclear pact announced Tuesday must be even stricter. "This deal is not built on trust. It is built on verification," he said from the White House.

The agreement between Iran and six world powers led by the United States is historic. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called it a "historic mistake" that would allow Iran to become a "terrorist nuclear superpower."

Supporters, including Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, called it a historic accomplishment. "This is a strong agreement that meets our national security needs and I believe will stand the test of time," she said in a statement.

But Sen. Barbara Boxer of California sounded a more skeptical note, saying that "if this agreement is what the administration says it is, it is a major, historic diplomatic breakthrough."

The president has a lot of convincing to do, starting with Congress. Because negotiators missed a July 9 deadline, Congress gets 60 days instead of 30 to review the agreement. However, Obama immediately vowed to veto any attempt to scuttle the deal. So that means opponents need to muster a two-thirds majority in both the House and Senate.

In the House, the president will be counting on Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi to prevent just that. She praised Obama for "tough, bold and clear-eyed leadership" that produced the agreement. "Aggressive restrictions and inspections offer the best long-term plan to stop Iran from building a nuclear weapon," Pelosi said in a statement.

She's dead-on.  
When you listen to the critics, ask yourself: Are they offering any kind of plausible alternative?

Without this pact, we're left with what? More economic sanctions that hurt the civilian population as much as Iran's leaders? A military strike that may or may not completely wipe out Iran's nuclear capability, but could spark a wider war in the Middle East, where there is more than enough bloodshed already?

Under the 15-year agreement, Iran would be required to give up 98 percent of its enriched uranium and to reduce the number of centrifuges by two-thirds. That would lengthen the "breakout" time to produce a nuclear weapon to one year — giving the U.S. and other nations more time to respond if Iran pulls out of the accord.

In return, crippling international sanctions on Iran's oil industry and its financial sector would be lifted, generating billions of dollars for the regime. A key provision would "snap back" the sanctions if a majority of an eight-nation panel decides that Iran is violating the deal.

In his remarks Tuesday, Obama also quoted another former president, John F. Kennedy: "Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate."

Yes, this agreement should be closely vetted. But until opponents come up with a realistic strategy, it is the best option available.

**ABOUT THIS PAGE**

The View page provides a forum for open discussion of issues and interests affecting our readers. Initialed editorials represent the opinion of the writer, but not necessarily that of the **PRESS & DAKOTAN**. Byled columns represent the view of the author. We welcome letters on current topics. Questions regarding the Views page should be directed to Kelly Hertz at [kelly.hertz@yankton.net](mailto:kelly.hertz@yankton.net).

**IN HISTORY**

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Thursday, July 16, the 197th day of 2015. There are 168 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlights in History:** On July 16, 1945, the United States exploded its first experimental atomic bomb in the desert of Alamogordo, New Mexico. The same day, the heavy cruiser USS Indianapolis left Mare Island Naval Shipyard in California on a secret mission to deliver atomic bomb components to Tinian Island in the Marianas.

**On this date:** In 1790, a site along the Potomac River was designated the permanent seat of the United States government; the area became Washington D.C. In 1862, Flag Officer David G. Farragut became the first rear admiral in the United States Navy.

In 1912, New York gambler Herman Rosenthal, set to testify before a grand jury about police corruption, was gunned down by members of the Lennox Avenue Gang.

In 1935, the first parking meters were installed in Oklahoma City.

In 1951, the novel "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger was first published by Little, Brown and Co.

In 1964, as he accepted the Republican presidential nomination in San Francisco, Barry M. Goldwater declared that "extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice" and that "moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue."

In 1970, Three Rivers Stadium, home of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Pittsburgh Pirates, officially opened as the Pirates lost to the Cincinnati Reds 3-2. (The stadium was demolished in 2001.)

In 1979, Saddam Hussein became president of Iraq.

In 1980, former California Gov. Ronald Reagan won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Detroit.

In 1981, singer Harry Chapin was killed when his car was struck by a tractor-trailer on New York's Long Island Expressway.

In 1995, William Barlow and David Daliberti, two Americans imprisoned in Iraq for crossing the border from Kuwait four months earlier, were released.

In 1999, John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife, Carolyn, and her sister, Lauren Bessette, died when their single-engine plane, piloted by Kennedy, plunged into the Atlantic Ocean near Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

**Ten years ago:** A suicide bomber

blew up a fuel tanker near a Shiite mosque in Musayyib, Iraq, killing nearly 100 people. More than a week after the London terror bombings, British Prime Minister Tony Blair warned that an "evil ideology" of Islamic extremism was bent on spreading terror through the West. "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," the long-awaited sixth book in J.K. Rowling's fantasy series, officially went on sale.

**Five years ago:** Retired intelligence analyst Kendall Myers, the 73-year-old great grandson of Alexander Graham Bell, was sentenced to life in prison without parole for quietly spying for Cuba for nearly a third of a century from inside the State Department; his wife, Gwendolyn, was sentenced to 5 1/2 years. American sprinters who'd been stripped of their 2000 Olympics relay medals because teammate Marion Jones was doping won an appeal to have them restored.

**One year ago:** The U.S. and the European Union imposed new economic sanctions on Russia; in his announcement, President Barack Obama said, "What we are expecting is that the Russian leadership will see once again that its actions in Ukraine have consequences." Texas blues legend Johnny Winter, 70, died in Zurich.

**Today's Birthdays:** Former Attorney General Dick Thornburgh is 83. Soul singer Denise LaSalle is 81. Soul singer William Bell is 76. International Tennis Hall of Famer Margaret Court is 73. College Football Hall of Famer and football coach Jimmy Johnson is 72. Violinist Pinchas Zukerman is 67. Actor-singer Ruben Blades is 67. Rock composer-musician Stewart Copeland is 63. Playwright Tony Kushner is 59. Dancer Michael Flatley is 57. Actress Phoebe Cates is 52. Actor Paul Hipp (TV: "The Middle") is 52. Actor Daryl "Chill" Mitchell is 50. Actor-comedian Will Ferrell is 48. Actor Jonathan Adams is 48. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Barry Sanders is 47. Actress Rain Pryor is 46. Actor Corey Feldman is 44. Rock musician Ed Kowalczyk (Live) is 44. Rock singer Ryan McCombs (Drowning Pool) is 41. Actress Jayma Mays is 36. Actress Annalynne McCord is 28. Actor-singer James Maslow is 25. Actor Mark Indelicato is 21. Pop singer-musician Luke Hemmings (5 Seconds of Summer) is 19.

**Thought for Today:** "Any life, however long and complicated it may be, actually consists of a single moment: the moment when a man knows forever more who he is." — Jorge Luis Borges, Argentine author (1899-1986).

**FROM THE BIBLE**

And [He] rescued us from our foes, for His steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 136:24. Portals of Prayer, Publishing House, St. Louis.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Water Plant Location**

**Cheryl and Mark Wenzlaff, Yankton**  
We live at 101 Douglas Ave. across the street from the entrance to Riverside Park and directly across from the "green" area that is the location for the Yankton water plant.

We have been and continue to be extremely concerned about this location for the water plant. In talking to many citizens, we find that the majority of our community are not even aware of the building of the water plant in this location. We appeared

before the City Commission, along with Jim Means and Larry Ness and other concerned Yankton citizens, requesting the Commission to move the plant to a different location. To no avail!

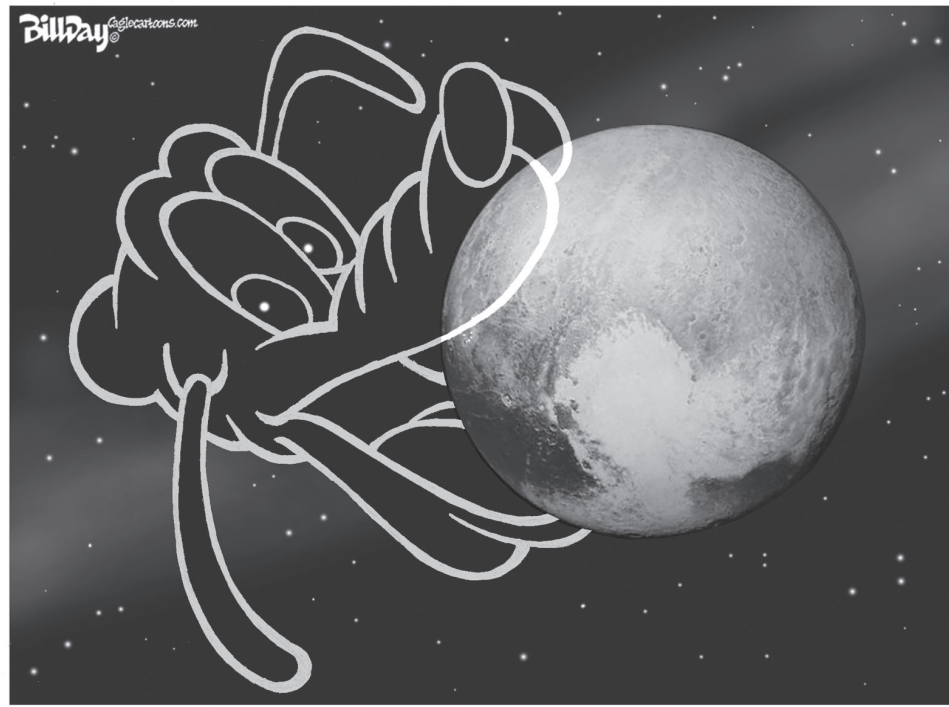
This property is the "golden goose" of Yankton. No one is aware, as we are, of the activity that takes place 24 hours a day in this park area. Tonight, we observe 30 cars "passing by" in 10 minutes, along with multiple families going for a walk, and a group of five young boys playing Frisbee in the green area.

Millions of dollars have been spent for the Meridian walking bridge and river walking paths. Why in the world would we jeopardize this area with a water plant? The discussion was that it would be aesthetically pleasing; in my estimation the plan looks like the new fire hall, just like any other new building. This building will also include new city offices, with an awesome view of the river! The citizens and visitors of Yankton deserve the beauty of the view, not city offices!

When the noise of the current plant

turns on, I remind myself it will shut off soon! Why are we constructing an amazing Meridian Bridge Plaza to look at the water plant and listen to the noise? Why are we purchasing additional land out north when we supposedly cannot afford to have the water plant in an industrial park elsewhere?

As citizens of Yankton, I hope and pray you will approach the City Commission and insist on reconsideration. Please insist that the commission act on what is best for our city, not simply because the water plant has been discussed for several years!



**Writer's Block**

## Our Prison Pallor

**BY WILLIAM KERR**  
For the Press & Dakotan

We are "the Land of the Free, and the home of the Brave." Really?

With less than 5 percent of the world's population, we lock up about 25 percent of the world's prisoners, according to The Economist (June 20-26). At any one time, we have 2.3 million of our citizens locked up in federal and state prisons and jails.

Did you have any idea we were near that level? I sure didn't. We lock up more of our citizens than any other country in the world. More than Russia and more than Communist China, which has three times our population!

To accomplish that, we are spending \$34,000 per inmate per year for a total of \$80 billion per year to keep them all cared for.

One reason we are not aware of this situation is that it is of recent origin. As recently as 1970 (when I was just 44), the total population of federal and state prisons was less than 200,000. In 2013 (the most recent year that figures are available), the total number of inmates in federal and state prisons was 1,580,000.

This extraordinary growth was begun with the "War on Drugs" by President Nixon. The first state laws which added mandatory sentencing for drug crimes were introduced in 1973 by New York under Gov. Nelson Rockefeller. During President Reagan's administration, both the federal and state governments introduced stiffer penalties for dealing crack cocaine than for dealing powder cocaine. Between 1980 and 1990, the portion of prisoners with drug offenses rose from 8 percent to near 25 percent. Then came the "three strikes" provision which mandated prison for a third offense, however minor, which was promoted strongly by prison guard unions.



**William KERR**

A Pew Charitable Trust study showed that the average prisoner released in 2009 had served three years, up from 2 years in 1990 (a 50 percent increase), even though crime began to diminish during the 1990s. A University of California study found that crime fell just as fast in states that had not adopted the "three-strikes laws" as in those which had.

A report by Amnesty International in 2012 reported such inhumane practices as "thousands of prisoners confined to windowless cells for 22 to 24 hours per day without any access to education or indeed without access to any sensory stimulation at all;" a women's prison where guards routinely rape the inmates and put them in solitary confinement if they complain, and prisons in a Southern state that are not air-conditioned.

The results of these kind of conditions shows up in a recent Department of Justice survey of those released from state prisons in 30 states. "Seventy-seven percent of those released in 2005 were arrested within five years; more than half of the arrests were within a year of release."

The good news is that in the past five years, the prison population level seems not to have changed much. In 2009, for the first time since 1970, the total population actually declined slightly. One reason is that the rising costs pressured larger states, especially, to try to reduce the number of inmates. California, New York and Texas have all been working to reduce prison populations. Then too crime numbers have been receding.

That is just one more subject we are not all brave enough to call to the attention of our elected representatives by mail, telephone or e-mail and push for reform. Minor offenses do not need to be treated in prisons and those in for major offenses do not need to be treated inhumanely.

## Planned Parenthood's Butchers

**BY MICHELLE MALKIN**  
Creators.com

Hannibal Lecter ain't got nothing on the profit-maximizing abortion ghoul caught on tape hawking aborted baby parts as she swilled wine and nibbled on a gourmet salad.

In newly released undercover footage from the pro-life Center for Medical Progress, seasoned abortionist Dr. Deborah Nucatola, who serves as national senior director of "medical services" at Planned Parenthood, chitter-chattered eagerly about fulfilling the bloodthirsty demand for "intact hearts," "lower extremities" and lungs.

Price tag? "You know, I would throw a number out," she babbled breezily as she twirled her fork. "I would say it's probably anywhere from \$30 to \$100" per specimen.

Hollywood couldn't conjure monsters this chillingly, banally evil.

Nucatola exulted at how fetal lives have become tres chic: "A LOT of people" want them.

She then spoke of the new hot trends in body-parts trafficking as if she were raving about the latest craze for crop tops or artisanal cheese.

"I was like wow," she gushed to her potential clients about the market for unborn baby hearts, "I didn't even know!"

Like wow.  
This master of murderous euphemism repeatedly referred to an unborn baby's head as a "calvarium" and casually described the tricks and techniques she and her fellow abortionists use to "increase your chance of success." Rotating the babies so they are delivered breech before being mutilated and slaughtered by the practitioners of Planned Parenthood works fabulously, in case you were wondering.

Pausing only to swig more luxury libations from her jumbo wine glass, the loquacious death doc explained to investigators posing as fetal tissue company executives how her "providers" use "ultrasound guidance" to target the coveted body parts — "so they'll know where they're putting their forceps."

In a singsong recitation, this lettuce-chomping Mengele in a silk tank top detailed how the "providers" use ultrasound to become "cognizant of where you put your gaspers."

This method is not employed to reduce the pain and suffering of unborn baby and mother, mind you. It's to get "good at getting heart, lung, liver, because we know that — so I'm not gonna crush that part. I'm going to basically crush below, I'm gonna crush above, and I'm gonna see

if I can get it all intact."

Think about that. Planned Parenthood has officially declared it "torture" for women to see their unborn children through ultrasound before submitting to abortion. The billion-dollar abortion industry has lobbied vociferously against increasing ultrasound access to pregnant women on the fence about abortion.

But when the same imaging technology is used to help Planned Parenthood's "providers" place their forceps strategically to protect their precious organ commodities, it's invaluable "guidance."

Now you know if you didn't already or if you were in abject denial. Planned Parenthood's fetish for late-term abortion stems not from compassion for mothers, but from the cold-blooded drive to drum up cold, hard cash. The practice has continued for at least 15 years, when Planned Parenthood's human harvesters in Kansas were first uncovered.

Can it get any more stomach-turning? Brace yourselves. This video is just the first in a series by the Center for Medical Progress, which has been investigating Planned Parenthood's illegal, immoral trafficking of aborted fetal parts for almost three years.

The expose comes after years of undercover journalistic work by Lila Grace Rose and Live Action, who have caught government-supported Planned Parenthood officials covering up for sexual predators, promoting gendercide, flouting health regulations and disclosure laws, soliciting money from racist eugenics zealots who want more black babies aborted, and perpetuating a homicidal racket in the name of "reproductive health."

Nucatola is no rogue underling. She's Planned Parenthood's "senior director" of "medical services" with years of scalpel-wielding, hands-on abortion training. She bragged not only about her own expertise in procurement of baby body parts, but about the everyday trafficking that goes on "behind closed doors" at countless "affiliates."

When you're recovered from your nausea, ask yourselves this: What kind of country do we live in where law-abiding businesses are fined, threatened and demonized for refusing to bake gay wedding cakes, but barbaric baby butchers are hailed by feminists, Hollywood and a president who asked God to "bless" them?

God help us.

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