IRAN

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views

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OPINION

Trump's Verbal Volley Predictable

onald Trump's verbal attack on former Vietnam War POW and Arizona Sen. John McCain was disgusting and shocking — and et, mostly predictable.

This is the kind of thing that almost invariably happens to politicians, lawmakers and anyone else whose communication style and appeal is based on shooting from the hip and/or the lip instead of carefully weighing your words.

If you missed it, Trump, campaigning in Iowa last weekend, lashed out at McCain, who claimed that Trump's fiery rhetoric appealed to 'the crazies" in the Republican Party. (To be fair, McCain's comment is a little insulting to Trump and especially to people who find his tough talk motivating.) In Iowa, Trump responded by attacking McCain's military record: ("McCain) is a war hero because he was captured (by the North Vietnamese)," Trump bellowed. "I like people who weren't captured."

The backlash from other Republican candidates, who had found much of the media oxygen sucked away in recent weeks by Trump, was immediate and severe. At least one Democratic candidate has condemned the attack. Trump tried to pivot away from his dumb remark by saying via Twitter that "all veterans are heroes" but that McCain had done very little for veterans as a U.S. senator.

How this impacts Trump's recently red-hit campaign will be revealed soon enough.

But let's face it, this kind of style has gotten Trump pretty far in his 2016 Republican presidential bid. His outspoken takes on illegal immigrants have raised eyebrows and drawn scorn, but they've also tapped into a mindset that has been long harbored by certain portion of the electorate. They like Trump's words, they like his bombast and they like his frankness, which can be admittedly refreshing in a calculated realm in which stagecraft is everything.

This style has bolted him to the top of some recent presidential polls — although, with more than 15 people running, it actually doesn't take a whole lot to make headway in such a field.

So, in short: This is what Donald Trump is, like him or not. This is what his maverick candidacy is all about, and this is minefield where such antics lead occasionally along the way.

There is a difference, by the way, between carefully parsed, canned campaign rhetoric and genuinely thinking before speaking. Trump did neither in this case.

Also, as far as McCain's service record and whether or not he is a hero, Trump should be reminded that McCain was a soldier for this country, and getting captured wasn't his idea. But he endured it with all the bravery and strength a soul could muster. That counts for a lot more than billionaire bluster.

Honestly, it's not clear what kind of damage Trump has done to himself, but it may not be as much as the snapshot critics might think. The best guess is, he will continue to fire away on the issues and this incident may well fade in that din of other potent comments. However, if his star now fades, he has absolutely nowhere to look but in a mirror to figure out just where it went all started going wrong.

kmh

ONLINE OPINI

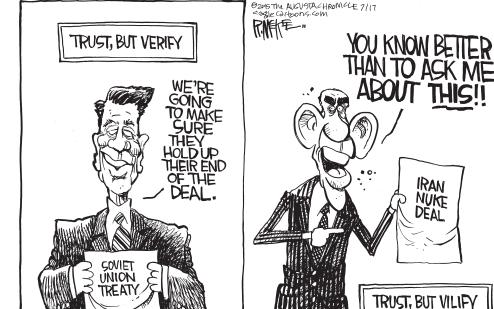
The results of the most recent Internet poll on the Press & Dakotan's Web site are as follows:

LATEST RESULTS:

Do you support a tax levy in Yankton County to help pay for road and repairs bridge repairs and maintenance

No	.51%
Yes	
Not sure/don't care	.6%
TOTAL VOTES CAST	
The Press & Dakotan Internet poll is not a scientific survey and reflects the opi	inions
only of those who choose to participate. The results should not be construed as	an ac.

only of those who choose to participate. The results should not be construed as an accurate representation or scientific measurement of public opinion.



The Rez Of The Story

History, 'GIR' Style

BY VINCE TWO EAGLES

Hau Mitakuepi (Greetings My Relatives), GIR stands for "God is Red," which is the title of one of late Vine Deloria, Jr.'s books,

copyrighted in 1973. Written a few years ago for sure, but just as relevant to our ongoing conversations about Native peoples of the Americas. Vine presents his unique views of history in much more detail than can be done justice to in a limited space like this column, so I absolutely recommend that you read his works like "Custer Died for Your Sins" and "We Talk, You Listen," in addition to "God is Red."

Taken from "GIR," Vine writes: The world is ... literally strewn with ruins of overwhelming propor-

tions, structures that we cannot duplicate if we wished to do so, yet the Western interpretation of world history is always skirting a straight-forward effort to incorporate theories about the origin of these ruins and structures. We are fixed on a rather staid reading of man's history, because we are emotionally and religiously tied to the assumption, today perhaps subconsciously at least, that everything is pretty much the way man once believed centuries ago.

"Even the relatively short time period of American history has been influenced by our religious heritage. There is sufficient evidence that this continent was visited by numerous expeditions prior to the arrival of Columbus. Pottery discovered in South America suggests fairly early contact between Japan and this hemisphere. Ruins in Massachusetts and Arizona may be the evidence of early visits by Phoenicians and Romans. Yet up to this time scholars have adamantly refused to believe that any pre-Columbian landing took place. Even the Viking ruins in Minnesota have been buffeted by tremendous criticism and the jeers of skeptics, while the Columbian primacy has prevailed.

"Cyrus Gordon, noted scholar of Brandeis University, has recently taken a cautious stand in favor of pre-Columbian expeditions in his book Before Columbus. He documents two possible pre-Columbian visits to the New World. In the immediate past scholars have had their reputations destroyed for suggesting less. Hopefully Gordon's prestige will give backbone to

men of less renown who, lacking the courage of their convictions, have remained silent.

The reluctance of scholars to consider the possibility of pre-Columbian visits to the Western Hemisphere is but one example of the

stranglehold that the one interpretation of history has had over the minds of men. There is, to a certain extent, a political justification in refusing to accept pre-Columbian discoveries. The land title of the United States relates back to the famous doctrine of Discovery, whereby Christian nations were allowed by the Pope to claim the discovered lands of non-Christian peoples. To accept a series of pre-Columbian visitations would mean that the lands of the Western Hemisphere were hardly "discovered" by Europeans. It would call into question the interpretations and justifications given to coloni-

zation, exploitation, and genocide committed by Europeans during the last five centuries.

"Christian religion and the Western idea of history are inseparable and mutually self-supporting. To retrench the traditional history at this point would mean to invalidate the justifications for conquering the Western Hemisphere. Americans will in some manner will cling to the traditional idea that they suddenly came upon a vacant land on which they created the world's most affluent society. Not only is such an idea false, it is absurd. Yet without it both, Western man and his religion stand naked before the world.

"It is said that one cannot judge Christianity by the actions of Western secular men. But such a contention judges Western man much too harshly. Where, if not from Christianity, did Western man get his ideas of divine right to conquest, of manifest destiny, of himself as the vanguard of true civilization, if not from Christianity? Having tied itself to history to maintain that its god [who] controlled that history, Christianity must accept the consequences of its past. Secular history is now out of control and is becoming a rather demoniac, disruptive force among the nations of men, and this is part and parcel of Christian religion. If the lack of history can be called a shortcoming of tribal religions, as indeed it can, overemphasis on historic reality and its attendant consequences can



TWO EAGLES

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

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CURRENT QUESTION:

Do you consider Pluto a full-fledged planet? To cast your vote in the PRESS & DAKOTAN'S Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net

extend the USA Patriot Act. Two weeks

after the deadly London terror bombings,

small explosions struck the Underground and a bus, but no deaths resulted. Two

Algerian diplomats and their driver were

abducted in Baghdad; al-Qaida later an-

nounced it had killed the diplomats. Suda-

nese security officers roughed up mem-

bers of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice's entourage; Rice demanded, and

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Obama ordered employment protection for gay and transgender employees who

tor gay and transgender employees who worked for the federal government or for companies holding federal contracts, tell-ing advocates at a White House signing ceremony he embraced the "irrefutable rightness of your cause." Pro-Moscow separatists, bowing to international pressure, agreed to turn over flight data recorders from the downed Malaysia Air-lines plane four days after it plunged into

lines plane four days after it plunged into eastern Ukraine.

Today's Birthdays: Singer Kay Starr is 93. Movie director Norman Jewison is 89. Former Attorney General Janet Reno

is 77. Actress Patricia Elliott is 73. Actor

David Downing is 72. Actor Leigh Lawson is 72. Actor Wendell Burton is 68. Singer

Yusuf Islam (formerly Cat Stevens) is 67. Cartoonist Garry Trudeau is 67. Actor

Jamey Sheridan is 64. Rock singer-mu-sician Eric Bazilian (The Hooters) is 62.

Guest is 55. Actor Matt Mulhern is 55. Comedian Greg Behrendt is 52. Rock musician Koen Lieckens (K's Choice) is 40. Control and the state of the st

49. Soccer player Brandi Chastain is 47. Rock singer Emerson Hart is 46. Rock-

soul singer Michael Fitzpatrick (Fitz and the Tantrums) is 45. Actress Alysia Reiner

is 45. Country singer Paul Brandt is 43. Christian rock musician Korey Cooper

(Skillet) is 43. Actress Ali Landry is 42. Actor-comedian Steve Byrne is 41. Actor

Justin Bartha is 37. Actor Josh Hartnett is 37. Contemporary Christian singer Brandon Heath is 37. Actress Sprague Grayden is 37. Reggae singer Damian

Marley is 37. Country singer Brad Mates (Emerson Drive) is 37. MLB All-Star pitch-

("American Idol") is 35. Singer Blake Lewis ("American Idol") is 34. Rock musician Will Berman (MGMT) is 33. Rock musician Johan Carlsson (Carolina Liar) is 31. Ac-

tress Vanessa Lengies is 30. Actor Jamie Waylett ("Harry Potter" films) is 26. Figure skater Rachael Flatt is 23.

many high-sounding words, and too few actions that correspond with them." — Abigail Adams, American first lady (1744-1818).

Thought for Today: "We have too

One year ago: President Barack

and high finance rules since the 1930s.

IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press Today is Tuesday, July 21, the 202nd day of 2015. There are 163 days left in the

Today's Highlight in History: On July 21, 1925, the so-called "Monkey Trial" ended in Dayton, Tennessee, with John T. Scopes found guilty of violating state law for teaching Darwin's Theory of Evolution. (The conviction was later overturned on a technicality.)

On this date: In 1773, Pope Clement XIV issued an order suppressing the Society of Jesus, or Jesuits. (The Society was restored by Pope Pius VII in 1814.) In 1861, during the Civil War, the first

Battle of Bull Run was fought at Manassas, Virginia, resulting in a Confederate in 1930, President Herbert Hoover

signed an executive order establishing the Veterans Administration (later the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs).

In 1944, American forces landed on Guam during World War II, capturing it from the Japanese some three weeks later. The Democratic national convention in Chicago nominated Sen. Harry S. Truman to be vice president

In 1949, the U.S. Senate ratified the North Atlantic Treaty.

In 1955, during a summit in Geneva, President Dwight D. Eisenhower present-ed his "open skies" proposal under which the U.S. and the Soviet Union would trade information on each other's military facilities and allow aerial reconnaissance. (The Soviets rejected the proposal.)

In 1959, the NS Savannah, the first nuclear-powered merchant ship, was christened by first lady Mamie Eisenhow-

er at Camden, New Jersey. In 1961, Capt. Virgil "Gus" Grissom became the second American to rocket

Earth, flying aboard the Liberty Bell 7. In 1972, the Irish Republican Army carried out 22 bombings in Belfast, Northern Ireland, killing nine people and injur-ing 130 in what became known as "Bloody

Friday." In 1973, Israeli agents in Lilleham-mer, Norway, killed Ahmed Bouchikhi, a Moroccan waiter, in a case of mistaken identity, apparently thinking he was an of-ficial with Black September, the group that attacked Israel's delegation at the 1972 Munich Olympics and killed 11 athletes.

In 1980, draft registration began in the United States for 19- and 20-year-old

In 1990, a benefit concert took place in Germany at the site of the fallen Ber-lin Wall; the concert, which drew some 200,000 people, was headlined by Roger Waters, a founder of Pink Floyd. (The concert ended with the collapse of a mock Berlin Wall made of styrofoam.)

Ten years ago: The House voted to

FROM THE BIBLE

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the LORD has comforted His people and will have compassion on His afflicted. Isaiah 49:13. Portals of Praver, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Response

Kim Dale, Yankton

In response to Eric Leise's letter (Press & Dakotan, July 14):

I thank you, Éric, for your letter. You are right — this country does afford free speech and freedom of religion, in which, I, as well as you, choose to exercise.

I have had a few gay friends in my life. I worked for a couple of men in Minnesota who were pretty good people. The one good thing was they did NOT shove their sexuality in our faces. They kept it quiet. As it should be.

And there were a couple of women I worked with, who were also good friends and they didn't shove their sexuality in our faces either.

You see Eric, I do not have problems with people who are gay. What I don't like is the way the gays are trying to force your sexuality into our faces. If you want to be gay, it's your prerogative. But please leave the rest of us out

Eric, since you say you are/were a Catholic, then you know perfectly well you are going completely against Catholic Church teaching. Because of that, you will not be allowed the sacraments, which you need in order to one day be in heaven with God, who does indeed love you and everyone else, but who also expects you and me and every person on

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certainly be called a bad grade for the Christian religion.

And now you know the rez of the story. Doksha (later) ...

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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. Bylined 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/.

earth to be obedient to His laws. So you have to decide, Eric, who you want to listen to -God in heaven, or the Supreme Court and this government. If you think marriage is going to make your sex life A-OK with God, think again, Eric.

The best thing you can do and others can do is live as brother and brother or sister and sister, and remain celibate. And it has to be that way in order for you to ever be allowed in to full communion in the Catholic Church. God bless you, Eric. I wish you well and thank you for the offer to have coffee or a beer, but I have to pass your gracious offer up at this time. Though a beer does sound rather tasty at the moment. Maybe sometime.

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