

Hagel Orders Review In Sexual Abuse Cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Friday ordered the military to recertify all 25,000 people involved in programs designed to prevent and respond to sexual assault, an acknowledgment that assaults have escalated beyond the Pentagon's control.



Hagel

He said this step, which also applies to the military's approximately 19,000 recruiters and must be completed by July 1, is one among many that will be taken to fix the problem of sexual abuse and sexual harassment within every branch of the military.

At a news conference with Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Hagel said he believes alcohol use is "a very big factor" in many sexual assault and sexual harassment cases, but there are many pieces to the problem.

He and Dempsey spoke one day after all of the military's leadership were summoned to the White House to discuss the sexual assault problem with President Barack Obama, who has expressed impatience with the Pentagon's failure to solve it.

At his Pentagon news conference, Hagel said it has become clear to him since taking office in February that holding people accountable for their actions is important, but simply firing people is not a solution. He said he gets a lot of advice on that.

60 Injured As Conn. Commuter Trains Collide

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (AP) — Connecticut Gov. Dannel P. Malloy says a total of 60 people have been taken to hospitals with injuries from a collision between two New York-area commuter trains.

The governor said from the scene of the accident Friday night that most people were not seriously hurt but five were critically injured, including one very critically injured.

The trains on the Metro-North Railroad commuter line, which serves New York City, collided shortly after 6 p.m. when one train derailed and smashed into the other.

The governor said there was extensive damage to the train cars and the track, and that the accident will have a "big impact" on the Northeast Corridor. He said it could take until Monday for normal service to be restored. He said the area where the accident happened was down to two tracks because of repair work.

Venezuela's Military Enters High-Crime Slums

PETARE, Venezuela (AP) — Stern-looking soldiers clutching assault rifles wave down the beat-up Chevy Caprice entering this sprawling slum on the outskirts of Caracas.

Flashlights in his face, the driver steps out and places his hands on the roof while the soldiers frisk him for drugs and weapons.

He's clean, and a hand gesture from the commanding officer sends him off into the maze of ramshackle homes that is Petare, one of the most dangerous parts of Venezuela's notoriously crime-infested capital.

Since Monday, this scene is playing out day and night at dozens of military checkpoints set up here in the socialist government's latest attempt to control the oil-rich country's pandemic of violence.

Critics dismiss the "Secure Homeland" initiative as a political charade that risks degenerating into human rights abuses while having no lasting impact on crime. But to many residents, weary of being terrorized by armed gangs, seeing troops on the streets is a welcome projection of government power.

Simpson's Ex-Lawyer Contradicts Testimony

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The lawyer who defended O.J. Simpson on armed robbery charges delivered a potentially heavy blow to the former football star's bid for a new trial Friday, testifying that Simpson knew his buddies had guns when they went to a hotel room together to reclaim some sports memorabilia.

Miami attorney Yale Galanter took the stand at an often combative hearing on Simpson's claim that he was so badly represented by his lawyer that his conviction should be thrown out.

Point by point, Galanter contradicted much of his former client's testimony and strongly defended himself.

He denied giving Simpson the go-ahead to retrieve the photos and footballs he believed had been stolen from him. He denied keeping Simpson in the dark about plea bargain offers that carried only a few years in prison. And he disputed Simpson's claim that the former athlete had no idea anyone in the hotel room had guns.

"When you look at the entire trial, I don't think I could have fought harder, done more," Galanter said of his handling of the case. "I put every ounce of blood, sweat and soul into it."

Facebook Aims To Become Advertising Giant

NEW YORK (AP) — It was supposed to be our IPO, the people's public offering.

Facebook, the brainchild of a young CEO who sauntered into Wall Street meetings in a hoodie, was going to be bigger than Amazon, bigger than McDonald's, bigger than Coca-Cola. And it was all made possible by our friendships, photos and family ties.

Then came the IPO, and it flopped. Facebook's stock finished its first day of trading just 23 cents higher than its \$38 IPO price. It hasn't been that high since.

Even amid the hype and excitement surrounding Facebook's May 18 stock market debut a year ago, there were looming doubts. Investors wondered whether the social network could increase advertising revenue without alienating users, especially those using smartphones and tablet computers.

The worries intensified just days before the IPO when General Motors said it would stop paying for advertisements on the site. The symbolic exit cast a shroud over Facebook that still exists. Facebook's market value is \$63 billion, some two-thirds of what it was the morning it first began trading. At around \$27 per share, the company's stock is down roughly 30 percent from its IPO price. Meanwhile, the Standard & Poor's 500 index is up 27 percent over the same period.

IRS Scandal

Treasury Knew Of Probe

Ousted IRS Chief Says He Did Not Deceive Congress

BY STEPHEN OHLEMACHER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senior Treasury officials were made aware in June 2012 that investigators were looking into complaints from tea party groups that they were being harassed by the Internal Revenue Service, a Treasury inspector general said Friday, disclosing that Obama administration officials knew there was a probe during the heat of the presidential campaign.

J. Russell George, the Treasury inspector general for tax administration, testified alongside ousted IRS head Steven Miller, who did little to subdue Republican outrage during hours of intense congressional questioning. Both defiant and apologetic, Miller acknowledged agency mistakes in targeting tea party groups for special scrutiny when they applied for tax-exempt status, but he insisted that agents broke no laws and that there was no effort to cover up their actions.

Miller only stoked the criticism of many Republicans, who are assailing the administration on a sudden spate of other controversies, as well, even as some Democrats tried to contain the political damage.

"I don't know that I got any answers from you today," Rep. Mike Kelly, R-Pa., told Miller. "I am more concerned today than I was before."

At one point in the day's hearing, Treasury IG George said he had told the department's general counsel about his investigation on June 4, 2012, and Deputy Treasury Secretary Neal Wolin "shortly thereafter." But, George cautioned, those discussions were "not to inform them of the results of the audit. It was to inform them of the fact that we were conducting the audit."

After the hearing, inspector general spokeswoman Karen Kraushaar said George "informed Department of Treasury officials that we were looking into the IRS' handling of applications for tax-exempt status, partly due to allegations raised by conservative organizations."

Kraushaar said the disclosure was part of a routine briefing about the office's activities.

The Treasury Department issued a statement Friday saying officials first became aware of the actual results of the investigation in March of this year, when they were provided a draft of George's report, a standard practice.



Acting IRS Commissioner Steve Miller testifies on Capitol Hill at a hearing on Internal Revenue Service targeting conservative groups Friday in Washington.

George's disclosure came before the House Ways and Means Committee in the first of several congressional hearings on the matter. He was joined by Miller, who spoke publicly about the controversy for the first time.

Miller was contrite as he apologized for the actions of agents who singled out conservative political groups for additional, often burdensome scrutiny.

"First and foremost, as acting commissioner, I want to apologize on behalf of the Internal Revenue Service for the mistakes that we made and the poor service we provided," he told the committee. "The affected organizations and the American public deserve better."

But the hearing turned prickly when Miller insisted he did not deceive Congress, though he repeatedly failed to reveal the controversy last year when he was asked about it by lawmakers — even after he had been briefed.

"I did not mislead Congress or the American people," Miller said.

The administration is on the defensive for a trio of issues that are threatening to derail the president's second-term agenda. In addition to the IRS case, President Barack Obama and other officials are being pressed about last September's terrorist attack in Benghazi, Libya, that killed the U.S. ambassador and three other Americans, and the government's seizure of Associated Press telephone records as part of a leaks investigation.

"Listening to the nightly news, this appears to be just the latest example of a culture of cover-ups and political intimidation in this administration," said Rep. Dave Camp, R-Mich., chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. "It seems like the truth is hidden from the American people just long enough to make it through an election."

Committee Democrats were also critical of the IRS, but several took offense at Camp's assertion that this matter is part of a wider problem within the administration. They noted that there has been no evidence so far that anyone outside the IRS was involved in targeting conservative groups.

"If this hearing becomes essentially a boot-strap to continue the campaign of 2012 and to prepare for 2014, we will be making a very serious mistake," said Rep. Sander Levin of Michigan, the top Democrat on the panel.

Levin said Lois Lerner, who heads the IRS division that makes decisions about tax-exempt groups, "should be relieved of her duties." Lerner is the IRS official who made the scandal public May 10 in what Miller said was a planned event at a legal conference.

Obama forced Miller to resign this week though he will remain on the job a few days until a new acting director takes over. Obama named Daniel Werfel, a top White House budget officer, to replace Miller and met with Werfel on Friday.

Benghazi Probe Co-Chair Is Subpoenaed By House Panel

BY MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The head of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee has subpoenaed the co-chairman of the Accountability Review Board by refusing to participate in a voluntary transcribed interview prior to testifying publicly, Issa said in a letter to Pickering.

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., said in a statement Friday that he had issued the subpoena to retired veteran diplomat Thomas Pickering, who co-chaired the Benghazi Accountability Review Board with a former Joint Chiefs of Staff chief Mike Mullen, has offered to testify before Issa's committee in public. But Issa said a closed-door meeting is needed first in order for the committee to fully understand how the review board conducted its investigation.

"While I am very much committed to having you testify publicly and appreciate your newfound willingness to do so, I



Issa

was disappointed that you are attempting to limit the committee's understanding of the Accountability Review Board by refusing to participate in a voluntary transcribed interview prior to testifying publicly," Issa said in a letter to Pickering. "In light of your continuing refusal to appear voluntarily for a transcribed interview, however, I have found it necessary to issue a subpoena to compel your appearance at a deposition."

Issa's letter, which was released by his office, said he would consider lifting the subpoena for next Thursday's deposition if Pickering agreed to show up on his own. Issa complained that prior to a public hearing about Benghazi that he chaired last week, Pickering had refused to speak with him and other members of the committee.

Pickering said Sunday that he had sent a request through the White House to testify at Wednesday's hearing, but, "we were told

the majority said I was not welcome at that hearing, I could come at some other time." He made his comment on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Issa is one of several GOP lawmakers who have suggested the Obama administration is trying to cover up the circumstances and aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on the Benghazi outpost that killed the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans.

The review board convened by then-Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton was harshly critical of the State Department, blaming systematic leadership and management failures at senior levels for inadequate security in Benghazi. It made 29 recommendations to improve matters, and the State Department has vowed to implement all of them.

Issa said numerous questions about the review board's report remain unanswered, including its methodology. He noted that the ARB conducted its work in secret and appears not to have recorded or transcribed its interviews with witnesses.

CBO: Obama Budget Cuts Deficits \$1.1T By 2023

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress' nonpartisan budget analyst says President Barack Obama's budget would trim projected federal deficits by \$1.1 trillion over the coming decade.

The Congressional Budget Office said Friday that after four straight years of annual shortfalls exceeding \$1 trillion, Obama's budget would leave this year's deficit at \$669 billion.

The report says annual budget gaps would fall slowly to \$399 billion in 2017 before gradually rising again.

The budget office says that of the overall savings Obama proposes, \$974 billion would come from higher revenues and \$172 billion from spending cuts.

Overall, the budget office says Obama's budget would produce \$5.2 trillion in red ink through 2023. But that is \$1.1 trillion less than the deficits that would be generated over that time if no tax or spending laws are changed.

OBITUARIES

Janice Johnson

Funeral services for Janice L. Johnson, 87, of Wausa, Neb., are at 1:30 p.m. Monday, May 20, at Thabor Lutheran Church, Wausa. Pastor Michelle Oetken will officiate, with burial in the Lutheran Cemetery, Wausa.

Visitation is 5-7 p.m. Sunday at Brockhaus Funeral Home, Wausa. Janice died Friday, May 17, 2013, at Osmond General Hospital, Osmond, Neb.

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Memorial Day Deadlines
The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Monday, May 27th, for the Memorial Day holiday.
The following deadlines will apply:
Out On The Town — Wednesday, May 22
Tuesday, May 28 newspaper — 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 22
Wednesday, May 29 newspaper — 5 p.m., Thursday, May 23
Thursday, May 30 newspaper — 5 p.m., Friday, May 24
There will be no newspaper on Monday, May 27, 2013.
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Thank You
The Yankton Parents for a Safe Prom would like to thank the businesses and individuals who donated to the 2013 After Prom party. Thank you so much for your support year after year to keep this going for our young people's special night!
We apologize if anyone was inadvertently left out; your support is greatly appreciated.
Abes Detailing & Car Wash; Academy of Dance; Ace Hardware; Affordable Expressions; Affordable Self Storage, L.L.C.; Alpha Gamma-Beta Sigma Phi; American Foods Group; Applied Engineering, Inc.; Arby's; Avera Sacred Heart Hospital; Baldwin Filters, Inc.; Dr. John Baumann; B-Dazzled Downtown; Bob's Candy Service; Bon Homme Yankton Electric; Brad & Sheryl Dykes; Burger King; BY Electric; Carmike Cinemas; Carpenter's Shop; Casey's General Store (Central); Casey's General Store (East); Casey's General Store (West); Chesterman Company; Collision Center; Conkling Distributing; CorTrust Bank - Fox Run; Culligan Water Yankton; Dairy Dock; Dairy Queen; Echo Electric Supply; Fejfar Plumbing & Heating, Inc.; First National Bank South Dakota; Floor Tec; Floor To Ceiling Store; Fry'n Pan Restaurant; Gehl Power Products, Inc.; Godfather's Pizza; Graham Tire Service; Hair & Beyond; Hanson Briggs Specialty Advertising, Inc.; Harold's Photo Center; Head 2 Heels; Healthy Yankton; Hy-Vee; JC Penney Company; JJ Benji's Screen Print & Embroidery; Jerry's Photography; Johnson, Miner, Marlow, Woodward & Huff Law Firm; Karttrax Family Fun Park; Kennedy, Pier & Knoff, L.L.P.; Knights of Columbus; Kolberg-Pioneer, Inc.; Koletzky Implement, Inc.; L & S Electric, Inc.; Lance Anderson Construction, Inc.; Larry's Heating & Cooling; Lewis & Clark Specialty Hospital; LilyCrest; Linda's Angel Crossing; Luken Memorials, Inc.; Maurices; Mexico Viejo; Midwest Autoplex, Inc.; Midwest Insurance Agency, Inc.; Milbrath-Saylor Bookkeeping & Tax Service; Minevas Grill & Bar; Mount Marty College; MT & RC Smith Insurance; Neighborhood Dental; Northwestern Energy; On The Edge Clothing Co.; Photography by Jerry; Pied Piper Flower Shop; Pizza Hut; Pizza Ranch; Premium Best Transport; Quinzos; Rita's Purse-o-Nalities; Riverfront Event Center & Hotel; Riverside Auto Body, L.L.C.; Road King, Inc.; Royal Sport Shop; Salon A'more 104; Sapa Extrusions, Inc.; Services Center Federal Credit Union; Slumberland Furniture; Smith Insurance Inc., M.T. & R.C.; South Dakota Magazine; St. Wencelsaus Parish Alter Society; Steiners Locker Service; Stern Oil Company; Subway Sandwich Shop; Summit Activities Center; The Collision Center; TMA/Tire Muffler Alignment; TSC (Tractor Supply Company); Unique Tan; VanDerhulpe Moving & Storage, Inc.; Verizon Wireless; Veterinary Medical Clinic; Vishay Dale Electronics; Vision Real Estate Services; Walgreens; Walmart Discount Cities; Wells Fargo Bank; Wilcoxon Eye Associates, P.C.; Wintz & Ray Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Inc.; WNAX/104.1 The Wolf; Yankton County Observer; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan/Yankton Printing; Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C.; Yankton Missouri River KOA; Yankton Motor Company; Yankton Rexall Drug Company; Wireless, Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer; Sharon Alits; Yankton Optimist Club; Shelly Eilers; Kmart; Bonnie's Impressions Portrait Studio; Yankton School District