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To: Craig Quigley
Subject: EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.

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EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF | SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

TOP STORIES

White House Whistleblower

An [intelligence officer has filed a report](#) after learning of a promise President

Trump made to a foreign leader. The report involves a phone conversation had by the President and a foreign leader. Ukraine has been identified as the country involved by the *Washington Post*. It is reported that the administration, specifically the acting director of national intelligence, Joseph Maguire, has withheld information to Congress regarding the whistleblower. The specifics of the report, the promise and the foreign leader involved, have yet to be released.

Saudi Arabia's Oil Infrastructure Damage

Saudi Arabia has released images of the damage left by the [Sep. 14th attacks on its oil facilities](#), which the U.S. and Saudi Arabia believe were executed by Iran. Iran denies any involvement in the attacks that severely impacted Saudi Arabia's oil output, effectively hurting the largest petroleum exporter in the world. The attacks were claimed by Yemen's Houthi movement, an Iran-aligned group. The oil facilities are expected to be back to full working condition by the end of September. Saudi Arabia and Iran have been battling over power in the region, while President Trump is seeking a peaceful solution to the conflict between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Three Key Weapon Systems Facing Possible Delays

The Pentagon has identified [three key weapons programs that will suffer under a potential continuing resolution](#) heading into the new fiscal year. A continuing resolution seems more likely, as the House just passed legislation to keep the government open under a CR through November 21st. Budgets will be locked at FY19 levels under a CR, and no new programs can be launched. A one to three month CR would severely impact training, readiness and recruitment, as

well as various modernization programs. Three programs in particular include the long-range hypersonic weapon, the advanced helicopter training system, and the B-52 GPS interface unit replacement.

Government Investments in Artificial Intelligence

The government plans on spending [\\$1 billion in non-defense artificial intelligence research and development in the next fiscal year](#). A [supplemental report](#) to the President's budget has been released, addressing specifics in AI spending including agency-by-agency federal investments in non-defense AI research, research and development coordination efforts, and key programs for the administration's strategic priorities around AI. Three big topics that need to be addressed with improvements of AI include the privacy regime in regards to AI, improving the federal workforce's AI skills, and prioritizing AI technology within agencies. The administration is emphasizing the importance of AI technology, but many say more needs to be done.

Global Climate Change Strikes

Millions of people are expected to join the [Global Climate Strikes](#) that begin today in more than 150 countries. The strikes are being held ahead of the opening of the United Nations General Assembly and the Climate Action Summit on September 23rd. The strikes have been coordinated by young people around the world to demand their political leaders take urgent action to combat climate change.

New York Mayor Drops Out of Presidential Race

The [Mayor of New York, Bill de Blasio](#), pulled his candidacy for the U.S. Democratic presidential nominee. He cites one of his main reasons for ending his run is the Democratic Party's rules for qualifying for televised debates. De Blasio failed to qualify for a debate earlier this month that featured 10 leading candidates. Left in the race are now 19 Democrats, with Joe Biden currently ahead in the polls.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1378

The election of Robert of Geneva as anti-pope by discontented cardinals creates a great schism in the Catholic Church.

1519

Ferdinand Magellan embarks from Spain on a voyage to circumnavigate the world.

1784

Packet and Daily, the first daily publication in America, appears on the streets.

1806

Explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark pass the French village of La Charette, the first white settlement they have seen in more than two years.

1830

The National Negro Convention convenes in Philadelphia with the purpose of abolishing slavery.

1850

The slave trade is abolished in the District of Columbia.

1952

Scientists confirm that DNA holds hereditary data.

1971

Hurricane Irene becomes the first hurricane known to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific, where it is renamed Hurricane Olivia.

1973

In a pro tennis bout dubbed "The Battle of the Sexes," Billie Jean King beats Bobby Riggs at the Houston Astrodome in Texas.

1977

Socialist Republic of Vietnam admitted to the United Nations.

2001

U.S. Pres. George W. Bush, addressing a joint session of Congress, declares a
"war on terror."

2011

U.S. military ends its "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and allows gay men and
women to serve openly.

LOOK AHEAD

Monday, September 23

10:00 AM EDT

Conference: The Center for Strategic and International Studies and
Northeastern University

Topic: Defense

Location: CSIS, 1616 Rhode Island Avenue NW

3:00 PM EDT

Discussion: The Heritage Foundation

Topic: Foreign Affairs

Location: Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Allison
Auditorium

Tuesday, September 24

8:30 AM EDT

Workshop: The National Academy of Sciences

Topic: Technology

Location: NAS, Keck Center, 500 Fifth St. NW, Room 100

8:30 AM EDT

Discussion: The National Defense Industrial Association's Electronics Division

Topic: Defense

Location: IBM, 600 14th St. NW, Suite 300

9:00 AM EDT

Workshop: The National Academy of Sciences

Topic: Health

Location: NAS, 2101 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 120

9:30 AM EDT

Forum: The Environmental and Energy Study Institute

Topic: Defense

Location: 2168 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EDT

Discussion: The Brookings Institute

Topic: Defense

Location: Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Falk
Auditorium

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: House Oversight and Reform Committee

Topic: E-Cigarette-Related Lung Disease

Location: 2154 Rayburn House Office Building

10:30 AM EDT

Hearing: House Energy and Commerce Committee

Topic: America's Wireless Future

Location: 2322 Rayburn House Office Building

2:00 PM EDT

Hearing: House Science, Space, and Technology Committee

Topic: Artificial Intelligence/Future of Work

Location: 2318 Rayburn House Office Building

Wednesday, September 25

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: House Judiciary Committee

Topic: Military-Style Assault Weapons

Location: 2141 Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: House Appropriations Committee

Topic: NIH Investments in Medical Research

Location: 2358-C Rayburn House Office Building

10:00 AM EDT

Conference: The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement

Topic: Defense

Location: Homewood Suites, 1900 North Quinn St., Arlington, Va.

10:00 AM EDT

Hearing: House Energy and Commerce Committee

Topic: E-Cigarette Public Health Impacts

Location: 2123 Rayburn House Office Building

2:00 PM EDT

Hearing: House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Topic: Coast Guard and Port Infrastructure

Location: 2253 Rayburn House Office Building

2:30 PM EDT

Briefing: Senate Armed Services Committee

Topic: Defense Cyber Operations

Location: SVC-217 U.S. Capitol

Thursday, September 26

8:50 AM EDT

Conference: The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement

Topic: Defense

Location: Homewood Suites, 1900 North Quinn St., Arlington, Va.

1:00 PM EDT

Meeting: State Department

Topic: State Department Defense Trade Issues

Location: 1777 F St. NW

Friday, September 27

8:30 AM EDT

Seminar: The Air Force Association's Mitchell Institute for Aerospace Studies

Topic: Defense

Location: Capitol Hill Club, 300 First St. SE

8:50 AM EDT

Conference: The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement

Topic: Defense

Location: Homewood Suites, 1900 North Quinn St., Arlington, Va.

Have a great weekend!

The Executive Insight Brief is a compilation of articles of interest prepared by the The Roosevelt Group research team. This information is provided for situational awareness. Items are chosen to highlight trends and issues in the news and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of The Roosevelt Group.

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