

territorial boundaries

Rise of man-made islands marks latest flashpoint in Asia's seas

MICHAEL PEEL in KANSAS
ROBIN HARGREAVE in TOKYO
TOM MITCHELL in BEIJING

Nation-building has come to Asia's seas. Literally: as China and Japan, already embroiled in territorial disputes over existing islands, raise artificial land masses from the ocean.

The expansion of these man-made islands is the latest flashpoint in a region where relations have long been fractious and marked by mutual suspicion, and has sparked concern across the region.

Pham Binh Minh, Vietnam's foreign minister and deputy prime minister, has demanded China halt work on transforming reefs into small colonies with airports, in one case, a heliport and a jetty.

"This action has really risked escalating tension in the area, which is already complicated," said Mr Minh. "This is a shared interest for maritime security and safety in this region."

His remarks highlight the constant tensions around the arc of ocean surrounded by China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Cambodia and Vietnam. Obscure – if aptly named – places such as the

Prata Ground, Mischief Reef and Puro Crua are now being used as crucial sites in regional powers' battle for territorial supremacy.

Mr Minh called on countries outside Asia to join the US, which has raised concerns privately with Beijing, pressing "through all possible channels" for China to stop work, but he acknowledged it was unlikely to do so.

"Many countries are making noise about this," said Seishiro Takagi, senior associate fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs think-tank. "But I

would say China's are very thick skin," he says. "China will still work in the Spratly island chain over the past six months represents a change in tack by Beijing in the long-running South China Sea disputes."

After backing down from confrontations over territorial claims with Vietnam and Japan last year, Beijing shifted focus to fortifying islets that it already controls, perhaps with a view to reinforcing its military presence and control of the skies in the area, analysts say.

The dredging and construction work

marked a diplomatic protest from the Philippines in early February. Beijing rebuffed the complaint, saying the activity was well "within its sovereign rights."

While China's activities are the most stirring, other countries have used similar means. In February, Taiwan's coast guard confirmed that building plans were under way at the Spratly island of Itu Aba, which boasts an airstrip and fresh water supply.

Japan has also engaged in island-building to help shore up its claim to an exclusive economic zone around Okinawa, a coral atoll about 1,000 miles south of Tokyo. It is an island, deserving of a 12-nautical-mile zone, while China insists it is a continental shelf.

With typhoons constantly threatening to sweep the land away, Japan as long ago as 1967 began constructing concrete embankments and a research station to shore up the island.

Tokyo has also been investigating whether it can breed coral to extend the island "naturally". The move is aimed at complying with UN rules that say the land must be a natural feature to make a territorial claim.



Chinese-controlled Subi Reef, part of the Spratly Islands

Short View

Josh Noble



Australians have a fondness for nicknames. Milko (for milkman) and umpire (for umpire) may lack imagination, but they do suggest an affinity for garcon.

The latest target is the local currency, which has fallen so much that some are now dubbing it the Aussie. Whatever its name, the Aussie has been a standout loser in Asia Pacific, dropping 12 per cent to A\$0.76 against the US dollar over the past six months. The tumbling euro has fared only slightly more.

China's slowdown is often highlighted as the main culprit for Aussie weakness. Vanishing Chinese orders for iron ore have sent prices for Australia's biggest export to a multi-year low. With China's housing market still well overstocked, demand for steel – and so ore – is not expected to rebound soon.

Though iron ore prices are still sinking, the China slowdown is not the only factor.

The big change is what the Reserve Bank of Australia is doing about it. Markets are now pricing in a 75 per cent chance of a rate cut in the RBA meets next week, which would be a good move this year. Sydney's runaway housing market remains a worry for policy makers – prices rose 3.5 per cent month-on-month in March alone. But the falling value of the Aussie and an unbalanced economy are now deemed the greater concern.

The prospect of lower rates has brought yields on Australian 10-year government bonds down to 4.55 per cent, about 40 basis points higher than for US Treasuries. The spread was over 500bp six months ago, which helped entice global investors – like the Japanese – searching for yield. But with the Watanabe – the nickname for the typical Japanese retail investor – and his low income, hand-ers now looking elsewhere, and more rate cuts to come, the Aussie should have further to fall.

A name change from the dollar to the peso may be too kind even for the poor Aussie. The region's existing peso – the Philippine one – has been the strongest performer against the US dollar over the past six months, gaining 0.5 per cent. The Australian viciy has a better ring to it anyway.

Australian dollar the weakest currency in Asia-Pacific
Australian dollar against the US dollar (US\$ per A\$)



Source: Bloomberg

The Aussie has been a standout loser in Asia-Pacific, dropping 12 per cent to A\$0.76 against the US dollar over the past six months.

josh.noble@bfi.com

BY STEVE KNOPPER

NOT LONG AFTER stuntpeople for Vin Diesel, Michelle Rodriguez and the rest of the "Fast and Furious" crew filmed their usual death-defying car chases on a twisty mountain road west of Colorado Springs, Colo., Richard Jansen received a call. Somebody from the movie had seen his "we buy junk cars" highway sign, and wondered if the owner of Jansen's Car Crushers could find 25 or 30 vehicles smashed beyond repair, including several black Mercedes-Benzes, a Ford Crown Victoria and a Mitsubishi Montero. "Sure," Mr. Jansen said.

Then Mr. Jansen and his crew, based in nearby Perote, spent several days loading the cars onto a semitrailer truck to take them away. Filmmakers insisted he shred or crush them all, to prevent anyone from fixing one up and getting hurt in a damaged movie car. So today, a large black semitrailer sits on the side of a road in a "Fast and Furious" car chase exists somewhere in the world. "It was kind of unusual, to see some relatively late-model Mercedes-Benzes, all crunched up and good for nothing," Mr. Jansen says.

How cars are built and scrapped for action movies has been well documented. The process involves mechanics, not chips, and a lot of fuel cells. But after the movie ends, what happens to the cars that parachute out of planes, plunge off cliffs and get run over by tanks?

"It's pretty easy," says Dennis McCarthy, picture car coordinator for the "Fast and Furious" franchise, whose latest installment, "Fast and Furious 7," premieres in theaters this week. The film crew has to follow a specific protocol, documenting every step for



Vin Diesel, left, and Jason Statham in "Fast 7." Cinema Vehicles Services, below.

both insurance and liability reasons, he says. "We have to document every vehicle that is destroyed in each film."

"Fast and Furious" filmmakers track hundreds of cars every movie—more than 230 alone for "Fast and Furious 7." According to "Fast & Furious 6," where a tank bursts out of a military transport and flattens numerous cars on a highway in Tenerife Island, Spain, Mr. McCarthy's people made deals with local junkyards and used-car lots. "We'd wreck 25 cars a day, they'd come out at night, scoop 'em up and bring in 25 more," he says. "It was a round-the-clock process, with multiple tow trucks and car ramps." For 2013's "Fast Five," in which the "Fasties" crew haul a massive bank vault through Puerto Rico, filmmakers struck a deal with the government to transport used cars inexpensively from San Juan's wrecking yard to the set, destroy them, then deliver them back to the yard.

After filming the "Fast and Furious 7" mountain-highway chase on Colorado's Monarch Pass, the car crew



stowed its crashed cars in the parking lot of the small, rustic Monarch Ski Resort. Mr. Jansen had two days to remove them so the resort could prepare for its opening season. "We probably destroyed 40-plus vehicles just shooting that sequence," Mr. McCarthy says.

In the early days of car-chase movies, producers arranged to haul the smashed cars to junkyards and forget about them. But what happened to Steve McCarthy's wrecked Mustang in 1968's "Bullitt," according to the historical car website MustangSpecs.com, is a second Mustang, used mostly for the high-speed driving scenes, wound up in the hands of

"I don't like the liability issues."

Two years ago, Mr. Claridge and his crew assembled 250 vehicles for "Captain America: The Winter Soldier." After the movie finished filming in Cleveland, they showed up to find them in various stages of destruction at a warehouse. It took five 10-hour days to sort them into two categories: the no-hope vehicles, including a city bus, went to a local wrecking yard for crushing. The remaining 40 or so returned to Los Angeles for recycling.

The stories of what happened to crushed vehicles in Hollywood car chases can be as dramatic as the movies themselves. After 1983's "Christine," about Stephen King's demonic car, filmmakers sold and donated the two Plymouth Barracudas that survived the movie's destruction: MTV auctioned one of them, and a Santa Cruz, Calif., public-radio station sold the other. "We bought and cannibalized 25 Plymouths. We ended up smashing, beyond recognition, 15 of those," says producer Richard Kobritz, who is now a producer at Columbia Pictures. "One ended up in a Dumpster, and the car auctioned for about \$164,000. Then somebody in Florida bought it. It sat for three years ago to verify it."

Every actor and their stunt person who drives a famous car finds a way to bring it home. Two of the 1970 Novas that Kurt Russell's character Stuntman Mike souped up and smashed in Quentin Tarantino's "Death Proof" were destroyed. "Straight to the junk yard," says Buddy Lee Hooker, stunt coordinator for the movie. Mr. Hooker kept a third version, used mostly for background shots. Mr. Hooker occasionally visits his friend, Mr. Tarantino. The stuntman takes the "Death Proof" Nova and the director drives the Ford Mustang from "Killing Joe." "Every once in a while, we'll go for a little drive," he says.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



Ray Claridge, above, owner of Cinema Vehicles Services; Dennis's Car Crushers, left, smashed cars for "Fast and Furious 7."

collections. Of the 300 high-flying Dodge Chargers that roared into production as the orange General Lee in the "Dukes of Hazzard" TV show in the '80s, many were recycled into set cars for the background of the show. Others went to the junkyard, sometimes not for long. "There were people down in the South that would actually go to the junkyard and try to restore them," recalls Greg S. Heston, a veteran stunt coordinator and director who worked on the show.

As car-chase movies have evolved from cult classics to multimillion-dollar franchises, Hollywood car wranglers have strengthened their policies for disposing of smashed cars. Nobody wants to be used when a fan makes off with a restored Mini Cooper from "The Bourne Identity" and drives it down a flight of stairs. "I don't handle anything that has a roll cage in it, like a stunt car—we will automatically get rid of them," says Ray Claridge, president of 39-year-old Cinema Vehicles Services in Los Angeles, which recycles and junks cars destroyed or damaged in films.

USA \$100 Canada C\$150

Nuclear deal first step to less hostile relationship with west, says Tehran

Iran crowds cheer 'historic' agreement • Obama and Rouhani face battle with sceptics

ALEX BARKER — LOS ANGELES
GEORGE J. BROWN — WASHINGTON
NAJMEH BICCHIORENE — TEHRAN

Iran has heralded a "historic" nuclear deal as just the "first step" towards a new, less hostile relationship with the west as cheering crowds thronged the streets of Tehran for a second night and opponents scrambled to respond to the country's most promising move with the US since the 1979 hostage crisis.

President Hassan Rouhani signalled that the deal represented a clear reference to the US.

Draft terms brokered through 18 months of painstaking diplomacy—and eight days of marathon talks in Geneva—potentially paved the way for Iran's return to the international fold, with curbs on its nuclear programme and a path to broad sanctions relief.

Both US president Barack Obama and Mr. Rouhani have staked their personal reputations on the deal and must now shield its precarious terms from ambush by hardliners.

Mr. Rouhani said the nuclear pact as his greatest foreign policy victory, saying yesterday that the "approach of this government bore fruit". He had challenged hawkish opponents: "Some [politicians] think we should either fight with the world or surrender. But we believe we can co-operate with the world."

Within minutes of Mr. Obama unveiling the deal in a press conference shown



Celebrations in Tehran after the deal was announced.

on Iranian television, sceptics in the US Congress, led by Sen. Bob Corker, the Republican chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, said the panel would vote on his bill, allowing Congress to approve or reject a final deal, after the House votes. The White House believes the legislation could kill the talks.

Bill Galston, a congressional expert at the Brookings Institution, said the Corker bill had about 65 supporters in the Senate, near the 67 votes needed to override the presumed presidential veto.

Israeli premier Benjamin Netanyahu condemned the framework as a "grave" threat to global security and the existence of Israel, demanding Iran recognise Israel's right to exist.

Under the terms of the deal, Iran must drastically shrink its nuclear programme and undergo inspections before economic sanctions can be lifted.

In a sign that the deal may yet win over hardliners in Iran, a conservative cleric in Tehran backed the agreement and thanked the negotiation team. But

Ayatollah Mohammad Khatami-Kouhaki said that while Iran was committed to the agreement, sanctions had to be "lifted" and not "suspended", highlighting the potential negotiations that could still drag on for months ahead.

Editorial Comment page 6
Nicholas Burns page 7

Where the
water flows
like money

In well-to-do areas, per-capita use far exceeds that of the less affluent.

In well-to-do areas, per-capita use far exceeds that of the less affluent.

By FRANK SHYONG,
HAILEY BRANSON-POTTS
AND MATT STEVENS

There are few signs of California's epic drought along a stretch of Maple Drive in Beverly Hills.

Deep-green front lawns stretch out, dotted with healthy trees and sculpted foliage. The only brown lawn in sight is at a home under construction.

As California gears up for the first mandatory water restrictions in its history, a long-standing class divide about water use is becoming increasingly apparent.

Beverly Hills and other affluent cities use far more

22 SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2015

Wealthier areas consume more

"Some people—believe it or not—don't know we are in a drought," said George Murdoch, Newport Beach's utilities general manager, whose city is beginning to find chronic water wasters. "The least people that own a home here haven't around a lot, so they could be wasters."

Stephanie Pinzell, who works on the UCLA water-use study, said wealthy Californians are "lacking sense that we are all in this together."

"The problem lies, in part, in the social isolation of the rich, the moral isolation of the rich," Pincus

Beverly Hills officials said that until now they have focused on educating, rather than penalizing water wasters. The city is in the second stage of its emergency water conservation plan, which calls for voluntary limits on pavement washing, lawn watering and the use of fountains that do not use recycled water, to reduce water consumption by 30%.

Across from City Hall at the Beverly Gardens Park, perfect green hedges frame rows of blooming flowers, tended by columnar black sprinkler heads. A fountain balanced on the backs of four satyrs bubbled pleasantly. Tourists posed for pictures in front of iconic Beverly Hills sign, which overlooks a water feature the shape of a racquetball court.

City officials plan to introduce a stricter plan at a council meeting this month; they say it will achieve the governor's 25% reduction target. There is some debate over how much residents can change.

Kay Dargaard, a longtime Liberty Hills resident who recently moved to a condo just outside the city, said she's seen much about the drought.

"In this part of town, everyone's just too important to see out themselves," Dargard said as he shopped at the Beverly Hills Food Market. "Where are the people going to go with all the money when the water is gone? Besides, the beautiful

Despite the growing



MARK BOSTER, Los Angeles Times

THE LAWN between Newport Beach's City Hall and library is lush. One reason for disparity in water rates, says a researcher involved in a water study, is the social and "moral isolation of the rich."



MEL MELCON Los Angeles Times

LEONARDO ALBORTANTE tends to the manicured lawn of a home on Alta Drive in Beverly Hills, a city with high water use.

landscaping, there are signs that Beverly Hills is beginning to get the message.

Melissa Dzierzbinska, 41, listed her water conservation tactics as she hefted strawberry cartons at the Whole Foods. She uses cold water that runs before the shower gets hot to water her plants. When her finicky wire terriers Alfie and Lily knock some food into their water and refuse to drink it, she collects the leftovers in a bucket.

last strategy.

"When I don't have guests, don't flush every single time," Dzierzbinska whispered.

as Keller restaurant in the heart of Beverly Hills that seats 120, general manager Justin Williams says the restaurant is doing all it can to help. Water is only available on request. He instructs his bartenders to scrape the ice for drinks, not scoop it. They use less water to wash dishes and keep the restaurant clean.

ure we can," he said. "But we doo

There are some early signs that Beverly Hills may be conserving more. According to state data, the city's water use dropped from 226 gallons per capita per day in July to 144 in January. Water use is seasonal, however, so the true test will come this summer when temperatures rise.

But some residents aren't sure how far they're willing to go. Eric, an entertainment industry worker who did not want his full name used, said he tries to conserve water, making sure the faucet doesn't run as he brushes his teeth or washes dishes. But there's also his fountain and the whirlpool and the lemon and orange trees to con-

Seated at a sidewalk table at the Urth Caffe in Beverly Hills, he said he could probably conserve more.

"This is America. You gotta live it up a little bit, right?" he joked.

High water use by upscale cities is about more than lifestyle. The communities tend to have fewer apartments and less dense housing. The dwellings tend to be large and include sprawling grounds that need water.

The Santa Fe Irrigation District

trict, which serves affluent communities in northern San Diego.

frank.shyong
@latimes.com
haley.karoon
@latimes.com
craft.stevens@latimes.com
Times staff writer Javier Pizar
contributed to this report.



CO-PILOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ALPS AIR TRAGEDY, SAY PROSECUTORS

A helicopter hovers over the remains of Germanwings flight 4U9525 (above and inset), which crashed in the French Alps last week, killing all 15 people on board. Officials believe the crash was intentionally caused by the co-pilot Andreas Lubitz (inset, left) who is said to have locked the captain out of the cockpit and brought down the plane as it flew from Barcelona to Düsseldorf. A search of his home

On hearing news of the disaster, King Felipe and Queen Letizia of Spain (below, with French President François Hollande) cut short a visit to France as a mark of respect, while a monument set up close to the crash site was quickly covered with floral tributes (below left).

SWINGING SAFARI! You might fancy yourself a bit of a pro when it comes to golf, but in South Africa's Legend Golf & Safari Resort in the Waterberg mountains, it's a hole different ball game. Shown here is the Extreme 19th atop Hanglip Mountain, where a helicopter is par for the course. Because apart from being the world's longest par three at 391 yards, it's a rough drive to get to the tee!

CACHE IN HAND Scuba divers made a big splash when an underwater tour of the ancient harbour of Caesarea in the Eastern Med revealed a treasure trove that turned out to include as many as 2,000 gold dinars minted during the Fatimid Caliphate from 909 to 1171.

PHOTOS: CLARA AMTNER/GETTY IMAGES; WORLD MARSHALL CENTER; SHUTTERSTOCK/STANISLAW

HELLO! lifestyle

BEAUTY

BRUSH WORK

THE LATEST MAKE-UP BRUSHES HAVE BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO FIT THE CONTOURS OF THE FACE - A STROKE OF GENIUS

1 Elizabeth Arden Pure Mineral Foundation Make-up Brush, £21, from Debenhams. Not new, but the subtle curve means this is still the best blending brush around for mineral make-up

2 Real Techniques Bold Metals Collection 101 Triangle Foundation Brush, £22, from Boots. This brilliant applicator is triangular in shape, which means it not only fits into your facial contours but also enables you to use the three sides to apply different shades for contouring and concealer blending

3 Smashbox Arced Liner Brush, £16; visit smashbox.co.uk. Makes liquid liner much easier to control thanks to the fact that it is shaped to be held upright against the eye rather than pointing at it. Smart

4 Estée Lauder Sculpting Foundation Brush, £37; visit esteelauder.co.uk. Want to contour your cheeks with two or three shades of foundation? With this you can get around those cheekbones with ease

5 Catlyn Cosmetics Of Wow Brush, £20, from victoriahealth.com. Use this innovative domed, angular design to blend and buff in foundation, BB creams, concealer and blush for a flawless finish

6 The Vintage Cosmetics Company Fanfall Blush Brush, £14, from teekunike.com. If you love powder liner and shadow and need a brush to wipe away those speckles that drop onto your under-eyes and cheeks, then look no further

7 bareMinerals Perfecting Face Brush, £24; visit bareminerals.co.uk. Purposely designed with a dimple that holds and distributes serum foundation, plus short stipple bristles for seamless blending

8 Tweezerman Contour Concealer Brush, £15.95, from Boots. The concave shape may seem strange



Dust settles around Japan coal ritual

Australian miners are being paid a bumper premium amid signs of structural change

Japan's annual supply agreements, which run from April, the start of the country's financial year, are one of the most important events in the thermal coal market. And this year's negotiations are being watched closely.

In it the Japanese utilities, whose call bill fell 17 per cent from last year's 10.5 for coal, are expected to sign the first of the coal contracts.

The deal, at \$67.50 a tonne, was the lowest in eight years, but the fall in the Australian dollar means the margin is going well. It is also the first time the price has been set at what the Japanese premium of almost \$10 a tonne "is bigger than any point in the past 15 years", says a senior analyst at IHS GlobalVantage.

Over the past six years the contract has been set at an average premium of \$7 and \$44 tonne, to provide the forward market with a signal. This year's market is expected to be "a record for these books", says.

For all the excitement around this year's negotiations, there is a sense in the coal market that the importance of this ritual is fading.

The Japanese utilities, the largest consumers of sub-sea thermal coal, which is burnt to generate electricity, Japanese utilities and Australian miners, their suppliers of choice, are under great pressure to reach a deal.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market. The price of coal has fallen 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.



It is still not clear how many tonnes will reference this year's first deal between Kio and Ishihara, but it is expected to be a record.

In addition to the price, structural changes in the coal market are ending the importance of the April-March contracts.

Contractual trading is still the main method of pricing coal into Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, however, for Chinese buyers of coal, transactions have become increasingly electronic.

That is reflected in the rising volume of swap on the open market by buyers and exporters, but the market is still dominated by the volume of the benchmark futures market representing 25 per cent of the total.

The first three months of this year's volume stand at almost 10m tonnes.

holders, will not necessarily fix all their needs through longer-term contracts, given their strong negotiation position.

The O'Brien, Chief Executive of the Japanese Coal Association, says: "The Japanese are not desperate for coal, but they will not pay a price above what they think the market is worth, just to lock in their volume."

Contractual trading is still the main method of pricing coal into Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, however, for Chinese buyers of coal, transactions have become increasingly electronic.

That is reflected in the rising volume of swap on the open market by buyers and exporters, but the market is still dominated by the volume of the benchmark futures market representing 25 per cent of the total.

The first three months of this year's volume stand at almost 10m tonnes.

Coal from Newcastle is a sought-after commodity for a berth off the east coast of Australia.

While a fall in the price of coal is a good thing for Japan's annual coal imports, it is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region.

Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

The deal is also a referendum for contracts across the Asia-Pacific region. Historically, the April-March contracts have accounted for about half of Japan's annual coal imports.

Japan's annual coal imports in the first year of the year fell 10 per cent in the first year to \$28 a tonne, and the market has become a buyers' market.

Hackers take over French TV network

BY CAROL J. WILLIAMS

Hackers acting in support of Islamic State extremists knocked out the global broadcast network of France's TV5 early Thursday, then hijacked its website and social media to post warnings about French participation in airstrikes against the militants in Iraq and Syria.

The computer system of TV5 Monde, whose Facebook page says it reaches 27 million households in 200 countries and territories, was invaded by malware late Wednesday that took over the network's transmission server and blocked its satellite signal, network executives told journalists.

All 11 channels were off for three hours until pre-recorded programming was directed to fill viewers' blank screens, said TV5 Monde Director General Yves Bigot.

"For the moment, we are unable to produce our own programs," Bigot told France 24 TV, calling the attack "unprecedented in the history of television." He said one television channel had been restored but it would be hours, possibly days, before the entire network was again functional because the systems had to be secured for residual infection.

The hackers also temporarily controlled TV5's Facebook page and other social media accounts. For two hours before the network recovered those sites, an image of a masked militant filed the page under the title "Cybercaliphate" and the French phrase "Je suis IS," a co-opting of the message of unity — "Je suis Charlie (I am Charlie)" — proclaimed by millions in France in solidarity with those slain Jan. 7 by Islamic extremists at the Charlie Hebdo satirical magazine in Paris.

Another post said that French President Francois Hollande had committed

by joining Western forces in attacking Islamic State and that the offensive is "a war that serves no purpose."

Material posted on the network's social media by the hackers included identity cards and resumes of family members of French soldiers deployed with the coalition that has been waging airstrikes on Islamic State fighters in Iraq and Syria. The militants control about one-third of the territory of those two countries and have proclaimed a "caliphate" committed to invoking a harsh, medieval version of Islamic law.

"Soldiers of France, stay away from the Islamic State!" a message on the network's Facebook page read overnight. "You have the chance to save your families, take advantage of it."

The posting of individuals' identity cards appeared to be a warning to French troops involved in the coalition that the militants know how to reach their families and harm them.

More than 1,500 militant Muslims of French origin or residency are believed to be fighting with Islamic State, providing the group insight and contact with broad sectors of the French public.

Wassim Nasr, a militancy expert for France 24, noted that some of the hackers' Arabic Internet postings contained numerous spelling and grammar mistakes, suggesting that the authors are not Arabs.

The Paris prosecutor's office said an investigation had been opened to identify the perpetrators of what it called a terrorist attack.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls joined other government officials in showing solidarity with the hacked network by visiting the Paris headquarters.

"We are up against determined terrorists," Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said. "We are determined to fight them."

The Fun of Wrecking Downtown

The entertainment industry has a long history of destroying Downtown, often to the detriment of Downtowners. The problem isn't the movies and TV shows that feature explosions, gun battles, car crashes, natural disasters and more. Rather, it's the process of making them, and legions of area workers and residents have been frustrated by shuttered streets, sometimes rude production crews and helicopters that whirl late into the night when residents are trying to sleep.

A new take from the entertainment industry adds to the wrecking crew legacy, and sometimes ramps the situation higher, such as having a crane fall into a Grand Avenue office building. However, the creators of *Battlefield Hardline* managed to do it all without stealing a single parking space or bothering local inhabitants with even the noise of a pop gun. The new work is a video game, and the destruction was handled remotely by people sitting at computers hundreds of miles away in Redwood City.

We're pleased that, for once, local commuters and residents were not inconvenienced. Also, despite the fact that Downtown gets beaten up pretty badly in *Battlefield Hardline*, we think it's cool that the designers chose this location. We're not saying that wrecking Downtown is a good thing, and the hyper-violence and attacks on police are disconcerting, but after all this is a game, with suspension of disbelief required as in any big-budget spectacle. Ultimately being the focus of an enormous imaginative effort is fun, in part because it is not real.

The work in the game is detailed and impressive, and there's a joy in spotting the landmarks, the same way that there is when you see familiar Downtown streets, restaurants or buildings in films, TV shows or commercials. In *Battlefield Hardline* motorcycles rip through Bunker Hill with police cars in hot pursuit (amusingly, a sign on what is Grand Avenue instead reads "Regal"). There's a segment on Lower Grand Avenue. There are even freeway shootouts and, something you don't see every day, bad guys going from building to building not on foot, but by zipline.

Battlefield Hardline is unlikely to have any sort of economic impact. There probably won't be gamers who, after shooting up the town or seeing KPMG Tower get smashed, decide that they need to visit Downtown. Still, there could be a more subtle effect, with players of the game later seeing the same sights in TV shows or movies. Maybe some of the upcoming coverage of the opening of The Broad museum or this summer's Special Olympics World Games will cause a flicker of recognition. Perhaps, over time, this recognition will build and get someone interested in the area.

There's even a degree of fun for Downtowners who pick up a game controller. Given all the traffic snarls and frustrations over questionable architecture, there's an amusing element in ripping things apart, knowing no one really gets hurt and that things will be reassembled the next time the game starts. We're enjoying this unlikely moment under the sun with our own skyline.

orell



From Page A1

by. Industry officials say that one of the consequences of the 2007 shooting has been to impose more rigorous controls on contractors handling diplomatic security for the State Department, as Blackwater was doing when its security guards fired into Baghdad's crowded Nisour Square, killing unarmed Iraqis, marring the country.

"Those sort of reckless days with contractors running around like cowboys are over," said one senior industry executive, speaking on the condition of anonymity. "It is 180 degrees different. There is a lot more oversight and regulation."

Others, including Ryan Crocker, the former American ambassador to Iraq, agree that there are more controls over contractors. Still, there are calls for greater transparency.

Just tracking the growth of the industry as it has expanded beyond work for the United States government has proved exceptionally difficult. In Africa and the Middle East, most governments do not publicize the companies they hire, and private businesses are similarly tight-lipped. As a result, there are no solid numbers on how many armed contractors are currently working around the world, and estimates of industry revenues range from a few billion dollars to \$10 billion.

Even determining how many private security contractors are employed by the United States government is nearly impossible because the contracts are often opaque, subcontractors do much of the work on the ground and some of the business is classified. State Department officials refused on Tuesday to provide statistics on how many contractors it uses today.

The United States Central Command, which is in charge of military forces in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan, reported in January that 54,700 private contractors worked for the Defense Department in its areas of responsibility.

In Afghanistan alone, where about 8,800 American troops are



ALAN FERGUSON

Above, Erik Prince, the founder of Blackwater, in 2009. Left, Nisour Square in Baghdad, where company security guards shot and killed unarmed Iraqis in September 2007. Four former guards were sentenced to prison Monday in the shootings.



AP PHOTO/AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

deployed, the Pentagon is paying for almost 40,000 private contractors, more than a third of whom are American, according to the

conducting intelligence work.

Last year, the United States also sought to hire private military contractors in Iraq to buttress the small number of American troops there to help stop the advance of the Islamic State. The contractors' tasks would involve assisting the Iraqi military, including administrative tasks, public affairs and operational planning, according to the Pentagon.

Experts believe that private security contractors are likely to remain a permanent part of the American presence overseas. "You are going to keep having contractors for security," said Mr.

Crocker, the former ambassador. "You can't do things in Iraq or Afghanistan without them. You just can't."

Ann Hagedorn, the author of "The Invisible Soldiers," a 2014 book about security contractors, agreed that contractors would have plenty of work. "Iraq has been called the first contractors' war," she said. "With an increasing dependence on these companies worldwide, we could easily be going into another contingency operation that will be another contractors' war."

Blackwater, the company Mr. Prince built into a corporate symbol of the American war in Iraq,

never really recovered from the Nisour Square shootings and its many other controversies and legal woes. In addition to the prosecution of the guards in the 2007 shooting, five top Blackwater executives were indicted on weapons-related charges; the company was forced to pay millions of dollars in fines to the State Department for export law violations, and it faced costly civil lawsuits from the families of the victims of Nisour Square and the families of four guards killed in Falluja, Iraq, in 2004.

Blackwater was eventually blocked from providing diplomatic security in Iraq. Meanwhile, Afghanistan banned private security companies in 2012 after years of allegations of guards killing civilians and other abuses. Foreign military and diplomatic missions were exempted, however.

In response to the controversies surrounding Blackwater, Mr. Prince first renamed the company and then sold it in 2010. Now known as Academi, it has since been resold and merged, along with one of its main competitors, Triple Canopy, into the Constellation Group. The consolidated company is still a major player in security contracting for the American government and other customers, while Blackwater's sprawling facility in Moyock, N.C., is now one of Academi's major assets as a training center.

Mr. Prince emerged from the wreckage of Blackwater relatively unscathed, never facing any criminal charges from the multiple government investigations into the company. But he was embittered by the legal scrutiny and negative publicity, all part of what he believed were unfair political attacks on him and his firm.

He moved his family to Abu Dhabi in 2010, when one former colleague told The New York Times that Mr. Prince "needs a break from America."

In his 2013 memoir, "Civilian Warriors," Mr. Prince defended the actions of Blackwater as well as the guards who fired in Nisour Square, protesting that "shifting political tectonic plates crushed my company as an act of partisan theater."

Blackwater's Legacy Goes Beyond Public View

By JAMES BISEN and MATTHEW ROSENBERG

By the time four former Blackwater security guards were sentenced this week to long prison terms for the 2007 fatal shooting of 14 civilians in Iraq, the man who sent the contractors there had long since moved on from the country and the company he made famous.

Erik Prince, the founder of Blackwater, a former member of the Navy SEALs and heir to a Michigan auto parts fortune, has spent the last few years searching for new missions, new fields of foreign new customers.

He has worked in Abu Dhabi and now focuses his efforts on Africa, with ties to the Chinese government, which is eager for access to some of the continent's natural resources. Mr. Prince's current firm, Frontier Services Group, provides what it describes as "expedient logistics" for mining, oil and natural gas operations in Africa, and has the backing of Cinc Group, a large state-owned Chinese investment company.

The private security industry

Security Industry Is Now Sprawling Across Globe

that Mr. Prince helped bring to worldwide attention has faded from public view since the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But the two conflicts sped the maturation of security firms from bit players on the edge of global conflicts to multinational companies that guard oil fields in Libya, analyze intelligence for United States forces in Afghanistan, help fight insurgents in

parts of Africa and train American-backed militaries in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere.

This industry is now truly global, said Sean McPhee, author of "The Modern Mercenary," a book of the private security industry. "That's the legacy of Blackwater — they didn't really make the business, but they've symbolized it. They've become the hood orators for an industry that was for centuries pretty much illegal, and now it's pretty much re-emerged."

Security companies say they have taken steps toward ensuring that their guards are well-trained and behave professionally.

Continued on Page A7

A Wolverine Lands in Newark, and Reinforcements Are Required

A metal cage proves no match for a 40-pound animal on his way to Alaska.

Alaska, where the conservation center sits on a remote island in the Gulf of Alaska, about 100 miles north of Anchorage, in Petersburg.

He will get three acres, at least, though he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

Mr. Miller said he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

Mr. Miller said he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

Mr. Miller said he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

Mr. Miller said he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

Mr. Miller said he will have a mate, Mr. Miller said. But by wolverine standards — they can range over 200 square miles — but it is enough to train a wolverine.

[illegible]

The future of flying

Air travel is hugely popular yet damaging to the planet.
In the long term, is it sustainable, justifiable, rational?
Pilota Clark turns to pilot Mark Vanhoenacker for answers



Portrait of
British Airways
pilot Mark
Vanhoemacker
by Greg Farnell,
illustrations by
Toby Leigh

The Wright brothers created, built and, in 1903, flew the world's first plane



Then there is the intriguing way airways are navigated, using radio beacons and "way points", spots defined by geographic co-ordinates or their bearing and distance from a beacon. These way points are typically given five-letter capitalised names that are supposed to be simple enough for any controller or pilot to recognise them, regardless of their first language.

Europe's sky-mappers turn out to have taken a fairly businesslike approach to naming their way points, though there is a TULIP off the Dutch coast and England has a KILGORE, for Sir Francis. Australia has had a bit more fun, naming points off their west coast WONSIA, JOELIA, ERACAT, CAMBS, BUIYA, BILJA, BONGA, in honour of the open-mouthed tales of the country's unofficial rary-as-a-catchers, "Waltzing Matilda".

The Americans have just gone mad, not that has MOTTW and WONDRE (Boswell was born in Michigan), Houston has a KOKIT for its Space Center. There is a NODDY in Boston (where Leonard was born), plus several local culinary references (CHWIND, LOSTA and CLAWW) and SNOCK, STRKK and OUTTT for the Red Sox baseball team.

"Let's see if there is a PILITA," says Vanhoosem, grabbing the iPad BA photo and one instead of holes of paper charts. It turns out there is a PILITA in my native Australia, as well as a CLACK, a coincidence obviously, but a childishly pleasing one.

The last time I was in Australia, at the start of this year, I was struck by how many people asked for the first time about the reason we fly to London. One couple told me they were planning to fly to Europe via Canada, in order to avoid war zones. This probably should not have been a surprise. There were 27 people from Australia on board Malaysia Airlines' flight MH370 when it was downed over Christmas last July. Another seven were on the same airline's flight MH320 when it disappeared in March, in what has become the aviation industry's greatest modern mystery. Australia is still leading a search in the southern Indian Ocean for any sign of the missing aircraft.

Being a serving British Airways pilot, Vanhoosem was reluctant to speculate openly about things such as a disappearing aircraft. He said he had never had any close call in more than a decade of flying for BA and, like most pilots, was eager to talk of statistics showing how much safer it is to fly than to drive. "To be honest, what starts me when I land and get on [a motorway] is, 'We fly 100', then better controlled," they put it some, body telling everybody where to go and why are we so close to those other objects?" he said wryly.

He even managed to sound cheerful about all the security measures that came after hijackers crashed two jets into New York's World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, ending one of the great joys of flying: a visit to the cockpit. People forget it is still possible to ask to visit the cockpit once a plane is on the ground, he said. "We love to have visitors before take-off and after landing."

And there is still a lot to marvel about in the sheer physics of flying, he added, recommending passengers get a window seat at the back so they can watch how a 747's great wings bend in flight or how the flaps are deployed on the plane lands. Another tip he offered, for those flying anywhere near the Northern Lights, is that pilots rarely announce such things because they normally occur as passengers are trying to sleep. If you want to be alerted, you need to let the cabin crew know.

Still, I doubt any of this is enough to compensate for all the frustration that accompanies the average flight these days. The indignity of having to renege on a toothpaste in a bathroom or struggling to get your shoes off as a security line would not be so annoying if the rules were not so randomly applied.

Even pilots get fed up with such things, I discovered, after talking to Paul Mattison, a Boeing 777 captain on a major US international airline until his retirement last October. He said some pilots from his old airline deliberately avoid going to Heathrow because they find the security checks so tedious. "We have numerous pilots that do not fly to London simply because of the security measures. They go through absolutely everything. They single us out. With glee sometimes," said Mattison.

Another thing that annoys him is the way the airline industry has changed. "Airlines are more and more run by business people rather than aviation people," he says, which has led to a surplus of regulations and procedures.

If there are more business people

Continued on page 18



Los Angeles Times

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2015 A11

OP-ED

A BUST OF FORMER National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden in Brooklyn's Fort Greene Park on April 6.

Millennials ♥ Snowden

By Anthony D. Romero

ABOUT A YEAR ago, a thirty-something sculptor in Los Angeles began working on a bust of Edward Snowden. When he was done, he shipped the bust to his artist friends on the East Coast. Just before dawn April 6, the artists crept under cover of darkness into Brooklyn's Fort Greene Park and installed the 100-pound bust atop a Revolutionary War memorial.

"We chose to pay tribute to Snowden through the medium of a bust because that is one of the visual pieces society uses as a guidepost to who a hero is," one of the artists said in a video released after the bust was installed.

By 3 p.m., the New York Parks Department and police had taken the bust down. But the next morning, a different group of artists cast a holographic image of Snowden where the bust had stood.

The message to the authorities could not be clearer: Snowden is not going away. A large and important segment of our society sees Snowden as hero and whistleblower — and its members are the future.

In late February, the American Civil Liberties Union commissioned a global poll surveying millennials (18- to 34-year-olds) in 30 countries, including the United States, about their opinions of Snowden and what the effect of his disclosures will mean for privacy. The results confirmed that surveillance reform, the marriage

equality, will come about because of generational change.

The poll showed that in every country surveyed — Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Britain, Italy, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Spain and the U.S. — millennials have an overwhelmingly positive opinion of Snowden. In continental Europe, 78% to 86% has positive opinions of him. Even in the United States, where the Justice Department has charged Snowden with espionage, 56% view him favorably.

The poll also found that millennials believe Snowden's disclosures will benefit privacy rights. In Germany, Italy, Spain and the Netherlands, 54% to 59% said they thought Snowden's actions would lead to more privacy protection.

It might seem counterintuitive to think that Snowden's disclosures will lead to greater privacy protections when many of the governments in the countries polled are insistent on maintaining or enhancing their abilities to spy on their citizens. Canada, France and the Netherlands are considering expansive surveillance powers similar to the Patriot Act, and Australia already has enacted such a law.

Though surveillance reform may confront resistance in the near term, millennials have made it clear that they don't want government agencies tracking them online or collecting data about their phone calls. In the U.S., millennials will surpass the baby boomer generation this year, and by 2020, they will represent 1 out of 3 adults. As they grow in influence,

And where these young people go, society is sure to follow.

so too will the demand to rein in the surveillance state.

Conventional wisdom says that the young and idealistic grow up and shed their naive ideas as they confront the real world. By that logic, as millennials age, they will recognize the need for the surveillance state to keep us safe from terrorism. But given the lack of evidence that mass surveillance works — President Obama's own review group concluded that the National Security Agency's call-records program never played a pivotal role in any investigation — it is unlikely this generation of digital natives will shed a fundamental commitment to the free exchange of information.

Their ethos — that the Internet should be a place where people are free to share knowledge and ideas without government interference — is already reflected in tech culture. Technology companies, compelled by profit and principle, recognize how governments continue to violate their citizens' trust with secretive surveillance practices, and some have responded by providing encryption measures for their customers to circumvent it. Last month, the Reform Government Surveillance coalition, which includes Google, Apple,

AOL, Facebook, LinkedIn, Microsoft, Twitter and Yahoo, sent a letter to U.S. lawmakers calling for the government to end the bulk collection of data.

It's important to remember how fast even the most entrenched beliefs can change. Not so long ago, the majority of Americans opposed same-sex marriage. In 2003, the Pew Research Center found that 59% of the U.S. population opposed same-sex marriage. But that same year, 58% of millennials supported it. Since then, support for it has increased every year. In every age group, federal legislation of same-sex marriage now appears inevitable.

It took about a decade for U.S. policies and laws to catch up to millennials on same-sex marriage. But Congress will have an opportunity to tackle the surveillance issue much faster. In June, key provisions of the Patriot Act are set to expire, including Section 251, which the NSA claims as the legal backing for its bulk collection of Americans' phone call records. Congress should let these provisions expire.

When millennials translate their political ideals into public policy, the future will be more in the spirit of 1776 than 1864, and Snowden will assume his place in American history as whistleblower and patriot. The establishment might not like him now, but one day, it will erect a monument honoring him.

Anthony D. Romero is the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union.

QUEEN VICTORIA ROYAL TALE HAS A HAPPY ENDING



Long before the novel *Victoria*, Queen Victoria was a more modest literary figure. At the age of ten and 14, the future monarch (above left) penned her first two novels, *The Captain's Daughter* and *The Princess Alexandra*, written in 1832 and 1833 respectively. Published by the publisher of *The Times*, the two novels were a part of an English country school exercise, who of 12-year-olds, a girl who is very much a child. The exercise was a part of her mother's plan to prepare her for the dramatic, often colorful, life of a monarch, including a one-eyed man dedicated to her mother, the Duke of Kent.

Scottish, "To my dear Mamma," reads the inscription on the book. "This my first attempt at composition is dedicated to you and is full of mistakes." The exercise was a part of her mother's plan to prepare her for the dramatic, often colorful, life of a monarch, including a one-eyed man dedicated to her mother, the Duke of Kent.



mean the *Recessant*, her daughter, Fox-Ben, who was a member of the group. So when she wrote the novel, she was already a member of the group. But she kept all the way through until she had the novel published. The novel was a part of an English country school exercise, who of 12-year-olds, a girl who is very much a child. The exercise was a part of her mother's plan to prepare her for the dramatic, often colorful, life of a monarch, including a one-eyed man dedicated to her mother, the Duke of Kent.

Scottish, "To my dear Mamma," reads the inscription on the book. "This my first attempt at composition is dedicated to you and is full of mistakes." The exercise was a part of her mother's plan to prepare her for the dramatic, often colorful, life of a monarch, including a one-eyed man dedicated to her mother, the Duke of Kent.

But even though she's been famous in her own right, it's hard to be famous in your own right. "I have a slight feeling of being at home," she said. "I think that's a very happy ending."

But even though she's been famous in her own right, it's hard to be famous in your own right. "I have a slight feeling of being at home," she said. "I think that's a very happy ending."



War on extremists. Surveillance

Hostage deaths pile pressure on drone operations

Attention focuses on targeting of unidentified individuals and the killing of US citizens

CROFT OVER — WASHINGTON Central Intelligence Agency surveillance aircraft monitored the compound in Pakistan's Shawal valley, close to the Afghan border, for several weeks before concluding with "high certainty" that the building housed al-Qaeda operatives. And, shortly before a US drone strike destroyed the compound in North Waziristan in January, they believed it had four occupants.

The first indication they were mistaken came when images showed six bodies pulled from the rubble. On Thursday, US officials confirmed the uncomfortable truth: the other two bodies were two aid workers taken as hostages: Warren Weinstein, an American, and Giovanni Lo Porto, an Italian.

Their deaths have created the biggest crisis yet for the Obama administration's drone programme, which has become a central part of US counter-terrorism strategy but has provoked a

strong backlash in the countries where the strikes from remotely piloted planes take place, from Pakistan to Yemen. Critics say the incident highlights the reality behind an operation shrouded in secrecy. As James Jaffer, deputy legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union, put it: "The US quite literally didn't know who it was killing."

The administration also revealed that two US citizens believed to be senior al-Qaeda operatives had been killed in separate strikes, even though officials did not know they were present at the sites.

The deaths, announced by a taciturn President Barack Obama at the White House, focus attention on two of the most questionable aspects — the targeting of individuals whose identities are unknown and the killing of US citizens.

Although they do not use the phrase, US officials acknowledged that the January bombing was a "signature strike", a bombing was a "signature strike", when intelligence officials choose a target based not on the confirmed identity of the individuals but because the behaviour which has been observed at the site fits a pattern of terrorist activity.

Critics say signature strikes are bound to result in more civilian casualties. The

Bureau of Investigative Journalism has calculated 421 to 960 civilians have died in drone strikes in Pakistan since 2002. US officials have played down reports of civilian casualties, although they have provided no figures of their own.

Last month John Brennan, CIA director, said: "A lot of these stories you hear about — in terms of 'Oh, my God, there are hundreds of civilians killed' — a lot of that is propaganda that is put out by elements that are very much opposed to the US coming in and helping."

But aware that signature strikes were feeding the backlash against the use of drones in countries such as Pakistan, Mr Obama indicated in 2013 that the strikes would be curtailed once combat operations in Afghanistan ended. In 2014, Thursday's revelation, however, indicate that such strikes still continue.

The deaths of the supposed al-Qaeda leaders, Ahmed Farooq and Adam Gadahn, taken to eight the number of Americans killed in strikes, according to researchers, although only one, the cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, was targeted by the US authorities.

This highlights a Catch 22 element to the guidelines for targeted killings. Offi-

cials are only allowed to order a strike on US terror suspects if they perceive an "imminent threat" of an attack. Yet, as the CIA did not know the two Americans were present at the sites bombed, these restrictions did not apply.

While the legal reasoning for targeting Americans has been published, the opinions that underpin the rest of the drone programme remain classified.

Josh Earnest, a White House spokesman, says US protocols allowed drones to "carry out operations against al-Qaeda compounds". He also defends methods involve greater risks for civilians. "The truth is that narrowly tailored counter-terrorism actions are actually the least likely to result in civilian or innocent loss of life," he adds.

While Mr Obama's announcement is likely to provoke tough questions within the administration, as some officials have long questioned their legality and political consequences, he has so far largely had bipartisan support.

Lindsay Graham, a Republican senator, said: "I have been a big critic of President Obama [but] I am not going to blame him for this. I blame al-Qaeda."

THE LIFE OF A SONG

ENTER SANDMAN

The riff, a great swaggering beast of a thing, came to Metallica's guitarist Kirk Hammett while he was jamming in a hotel room in the early hours. It was Sam, the spookiest time of the night, when suicides peak and the spirit world is at its most restless. "Enter Sandman" actually calls it, for Sam is the opposite of Spas, supposed time of Christ's death.

Hammett's inspired, or possessed, moment of insomnia was the foundation for one of the most famous songs in heavy metal. It is "Enter Sandman", the lead single of Metallica's self-titled 1991 album. Also known as *The Black Album*, this was the LP that marked the California band's ascension to superstar status, selling 16m copies in the US alone and spending more than 300 weeks in the charts.

"Enter Sandman" is about a boy suffering nightmares after being visited by a macabre Sandman, a bringer of dreams in European folklore. The song opens with an ominous acoustic guitar melody, a dark lullaby summoning sleep. Then Lars Ulrich's drums and Hammett's chugging riff rise up like rising moaners from the deep. Singer James Hetfield's roar comes next, building to a chorus as bleak as any Samuel Beckett stage direction: "Exit baby/ Enter night".

Despite its witching hour theme, "Enter Sandman" marked a move towards a crisper, more streamlined sound for the thrash metal pioneers. It was produced by seasoned producer Bob Rock, starting a long and, to diehard fans, controversial partnership



with the band. He persuaded Hetfield to simplify his lyrics and made Ulrich improve his drumming. Taken with Hammett's riff, the result is a juggernaut of a song, like the huge runaway truck that tries to mow down the sleeping boy in the song's video.

"Enter Sandman" has entered US popular culture as surely as any American songbook standard. It has been covered repeatedly — by acts from Motörhead to Björk Again — is regularly played at sports events and



Kirk Hammett of Metallica — *com*

was even blasted out as intro music to a 2013 speech by Republican presidential hopeful Rand Paul.

It might seem odd that a song about night terrors should be clasped so close to the American bosom — until you realise that "Enter Sandman" is actually not at all scary. Lately even the most timid reader to find the hills as Hetfield growls about "heavy thoughts tonight/ And they aren't about Snow White".

Hammett's guitar solo at the bridge is pure metal peacockery, not a desperate wail of anguish. The song is a display of power, not an exercise in tension.

Truly chilling music is different. It is higher pitched, highly strung, full of anxiety. Think of the screeching chords of Bernard Herrmann's score for *Psycho* or the shrieking strings in Krzysztof Penderecki's masterpiece of dread, "Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima". The violin is the prime generator of fear here. Celebrated as the musical instrument closest to the human voice, its screeching tones evoke the wailing sound of all the screams.

The gap between "Enter Sandman's" ostensible scariness and its actual non-scariness has been ably exploited by parody songs, such as a twinkled-eyed big band version by veteran smoothie Pat Boone. But there is a sinister twist to the tale.

After the invasion of Iraq in 2003, "Enter Sandman" was among a perverse playlist of songs used by the US military to torture prisoners, blasted at stress-wielding soldiers with strobe lighting for 24 hours at a time. It was America's very own Sam moment, the dark side of the "war on terror". Hetfield's indifferent response to the nightmares' misuse of his song is far scarier than his cartoonish lyrics. "It's just a thing," Metallica's singer said. "It's not good or bad."

Ludovic Hunter-Tilley
For a podcast with clips from the songs, visit ft.com/culturecast

Buy Ties

'A dumb of humo The New 'Ground- Financial



India, China Mobilize Aid for Quake Zone

Search crews arrive from Nepal's neighbors, who are rivals for regional influence

India and China rushed rescue teams and other assistance to earthquake-hit Nepal, a strategically important neighbor for the two Asian giants, which are jostling for influence in the Himalayan nation.

By Niharika Manchanda in New Delhi and Charles Hatcher in Beijing

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has sought to rebuild India's position as a regional power, responded quickly after the quake, seizing his counterpart in Nepal of "support and assistance during this tough time," according to a tweet from his personal account.

By the end of the day Saturday, four Indian aircraft carrying nearly 300 disaster-response personnel and a mobile hospital had landed in the Nepalese capital, Kathmandu. More aircraft landed Sunday carrying food, medical supplies and rescue equipment, India's Foreign Ministry said.

China responded by sending a 62-member search-and-rescue team to Nepal on Sunday, along with six sniffer dogs and medical equipment, the Chinese government's news agency Xinhua said.

China's Ministry of Commerce said it was coordinating with other agencies and providing about \$3.2 million in tents, blankets, generators and other materials to be sent by charter flights to Nepal.

The U.S. also ramped up disaster assistance for Nepal, with several aid groups dispatching humanitarian specialists, search-and-rescue workers and supplies. The government set aside an initial \$1 million for relief organizations to address urgent humanitarian needs.

Chinese leaders sent messages



Bodies were strewn among the rubble of Bhaktapur, near Kathmandu, on Sunday, as rescue workers searched for survivors. More than 2,400 people were killed across Nepal.

expressing shock at the disaster and condolences to victims' families.

"The Chinese side is willing to offer all necessary disaster assistance to the Nepalese side," Chinese President Xi Jinping said.

India has long seen Nepal as part of its sphere of influence. China has been making inroads for decades, and the rivalry with India has gathered momentum with the increasing pace of Chinese invest-

ment in recent years.

This picture has emerged across South Asia, from the island-nations of Sri Lanka, Maldives and Mauritius to Bangladesh and Pakistan, where an expanding Chinese footprint has spurred India's officials to reinvigorate India's often fragile relationships with its neighbors.

"Nepal is located between these two superpowers and there is a competition within Nepal for influ-

ence," said Michael Hutt, professor of Nepal and Himalayan studies at the University of London.

In Nepal, China is committing billions of dollars for highway projects, power plants and factories, and the Chinese government pledged last year to increase its annual aid to \$25 million, as it seeks to discourage the Himalayan nation from offering refuge to Tibetans fleeing China.

Since coming to power in May

last year, Mr. Modi has tried to play catch-up, offering \$1 billion in loans to help build infrastructure in Nepal and moving forward on power-trading deals to help India harness Nepal's abundant hydroelectric power potential.

But with fewer resources to commit overseas, Mr. Modi is also trying another tack: highlighting the historical closeness and cultural ties between the two Hindu-majority countries.

In a monthly radio address on Sunday, Mr. Modi said the priority of India's rescue teams would be to find survivors trapped in debris and save lives. In the coming days, he said, India would also assist with relief and reconstruction work. "My beloved brothers and sisters of Nepal, India is with you in your sadness," Mr. Modi said. "India will wipe their tears. We'll hold their hands. We'll support them in this hour of pain."

es Rock Baltimore After Funeral; Curfew Is Set National Guard Is Called Amid Looting

BY SHIRLEY GAY STOLBERG

BALTIMORE — Maryland's National Guard announced a curfew for residents as a turbulent day unfolded in the city. A 22-year-old Freddie Gray, the nation's latest symbol of police brutality, ended with racing by rock-throwing protesters and at least 15 police officers injured.

The violence that shook the city in the days after his funeral in the Mt. Vernon neighborhood of northwest Baltimore, where Mr. Gray's funeral had taken place, had been a series of chest-burns, rocks and chants of "concrete at officers who fired at us." The protests were fueled by anger over the death of Mr. Gray, who was shot in the back of the head by police officers on April 19.

CVS drugstore was looted, and a CVS pharmacy was also looted. A CVS drugstore was looted, and a CVS pharmacy was also looted. A CVS drugstore was looted, and a CVS pharmacy was also looted.

Protesters, the chaos seemed to be spreading to the streets. Looting was reported in several areas, including the city's downtown. The National Guard was called in to help maintain order.

Protesters, the chaos seemed to be spreading to the streets. Looting was reported in several areas, including the city's downtown. The National Guard was called in to help maintain order.

On the Street

Screens of chaos and calm



Officers standing guard Monday night. At least 15 officers were injured and dozens of people were arrested.

THE NEW YORK TIMES NATIONAL TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2015

A15

Enlists National Guard and Curfew to Halt Riots and Looting



Above, a young man jumping on a Baltimore Police patrol car on Monday as riots and looting hit the city. Left, police officers carrying a comrade injured in a clash with protesters in the streets near Mondawmin Mall. Below, marchers on North Avenue. Pastor Jamal Bryant, who delivered the eulogy for Mr. Gray, is seen in the background.

With curfew, Baltimore sees a calmer night

Most protesters comply with calls by community leaders to leave the streets.

BY NOAH BIERMAN, W.J. HERNIMAN AND TIMA SUZMAN

BALTIMORE — With the National Guard on patrol and the city under curfew, officials struggled Tuesday to prevent a second night of rioting and appeared to succeed.

Baltimore Police Commissioner Anthony Batts said at a late-night news conference that 30 people had been arrested, two for looting, one for disorderly conduct and seven for violating the 10 p.m. curfew. "The city is stable," he said.

The night before, more than 200 people were arrested after unrest that followed the funeral of a young black man whose spine was nearly severed in police custody. The riots drew rebukes from the mayor, residents and President Obama.

At darkness, blankets the city Tuesday, helicopters thundered above crowds defying the curfew, and officials used loudspeakers to urge people to get off the streets. Some defiant protesters were met with pepper spray from riot police, who stood in long lines holding shields for protection.

Community leaders joined officers in appealing for stragglers to go home and prevent another round of looting, arson and rock-throwing.



CHARLOTTE CHALK, LOS ANGELES TIMES

POLICE ATTEMPT to disperse protesters and reporters at an intersection in Baltimore after the curfew. Officials later said only 30 people had been arrested.

"Please go home to your families. I'm not asking you, I'm begging you," Rep. Elijah E. Cummings (D-Md.), whose district includes much of Baltimore, told a crowd lingering outside a CVS pharmacy on the city's west side, the center of Monday's violence.

Darlen Ford, 35, said that standing their ground was how demonstrators' voices could be heard. "It looks like this is the only way to get some attention here in Baltimore," he said.

Nevertheless, the crowds soon thinned.

Baltimore, a city of 622,000, had erupted in anger after the funeral of Freddie Gray, 25, whose death is the latest in a string of incidents to fuel allegations of police abuse of minority men. Gray died April 19, a

week after his injury. Six officers have been suspended with pay during the investigation into the incident.

The toll from Monday's violence was staggering. More than 235 people were arrested, including at least 34 juveniles; 15 buildings were set on fire; 144 vehicles were destroyed; about 20 police officers were injured, including one who was hit in the head with an object and remained hospitalized Tuesday, Batts said. At least one civilian was in critical condition as a result of a building fire, police said.

Public schools closed Tuesday, keeping nearly 85,000 children out of classes. Schools were to reopen Wednesday.

The Baltimore Orioles postponed until May home games against the Chicago

White Sox that had been scheduled for Monday and Tuesday. But in a first for Major League Baseball, the Orioles' Wednesday game against Chicago was to be closed to the public and played in an empty stadium.

At the White House, Obama said Gray's death was part of a "slow-rolling crisis" affecting America.

"We have seen too many instances of what appears to be police officers interacting with individuals — primarily African American, often poor — in ways that have raised troubling questions. And it comes up, it seems like, once a week now, or once every couple of weeks," he said. "And so I think it's pretty understandable why the leaders of civil rights organizations, but more importantly moms and dads

across the country, might start saying this is a crisis."

Obama also denounced "criminals and thugs" who he said hijacked what had been peaceful demonstrations.

Residents of the afflicted Baltimore neighborhoods were distraught over the damage. Their city had not seen such violence since race riots in 1968.

Tears streamed from behind Rodae Kenly's dark sunglasses as she looked at North Avenue, its shops marked by broken windows and barren shelves. "I have love for my city, but I can't support what's happening here," said Kenly, 32, a veterinarian technician.

"There's just no excuse for this," said Earl Johnson, a resident who pleaded unsuccessfully with looters not to attack a Rite Aid drugstore in his east-side neighborhood Monday night.

"Think about the absurdity of trashing your own neighborhood to make a point," said Megan Kenry, 38, as she joined others in cleaning up North Avenue. "The movement isn't going to end. I mean, how do you end racism?"

noah.bierman@latimes.com
w.j.herniman@latimes.com
tima.suzman@latimes.com
Bierman and Herniman reported from Baltimore and Suzman from New York. Times staff writers Joseph Tanti and Michael A. Memoli and Christi Parsons in Washington contributed to this report.

The Moodsman Mall, where the riots began, was a scene of shattered glass and desolation.

Police defended their response, saying they had to show restraint because of the ages of many of those in-

involved. Batts said the looting began after teenagers swarmed over the mall in response to social media calls for a "purge" at 3 p.m. Monday. Such calls have circulated before and are based on the film "The Purge," which posits a dystopia where all laws are suspended for 12 hours.

"Do you want people using force on 14-, 15-, 16-year-old kids?" Batts said. "They're old enough to know better — but they're still kids."

Some parts of Baltimore tried to return to a semblance of normalcy. Volunteers bringing brooms and shovels from their homes showed up in droves Tuesday to clean up riot debris. Many offered bottled water to police who stood guard over damaged shops.

But there was a fear that the goodwill could sour at any time.

"The anger you saw is about decades of pain and abuse in our community," said Megan Kenry, 38, as she joined others in cleaning up North Avenue. "The movement isn't going to end. I mean, how do you end racism?"

Gray's death was the spark for the worst riots since the assassination of Martin Luther King in 1968. They say that sparked mounting grievances over alleged police brutality and appalling economic conditions in the area.

"What they did to Freddie Gray gave us an excuse to express ourselves," says one of the four friends. "We were waiting for a way to express ourselves."

The street from the corner to the housing projects where Gray lived paints a portrait of urban decay, with many houses boarded up or derelict.

Residents say the area is rife with drug-related crime of the kind depicted in the Baltimore-set TV series "The Wire."

One building contractor says he has to pay the man who runs the drug dealers \$100 occasionally to ensure his properties are protected. "I know who it was [on Monday]. It was all the crack heads, the drug addicts and the kids," he says.

Baltimore has been turning round its decline and depopulation, having lost nearly a third of its residents since 1960

inner-city residents tell of their despair

DEMETRI SEVASTOPOULOS — BALTIMORE
SAM FLEMING — WASHINGTON

The four young men, standing on a corner where the worst riots to hit Baltimore since 1968 erupted on Monday, are incensed at the fate of Freddie Gray, who died last week from spinal injuries suffered in police custody.

As police helicopters hover over the inner-city ghetto of Sandtown, the unemployed black youths warn that more violence will flare if prosecutors do not indict officers over the death of Gray, the latest African-American man to die because of alleged police brutality.

"If they don't get convicted, all hell will break loose," says Chris Jackson. His friend Kare Smith, 21, chimes in: "They will have guns and cocktail bombs."

Gray's death was the spark for the worst riots since the assassination of Martin Luther King in 1968. They say that sparked mounting grievances over alleged police brutality and appalling economic conditions in the area.

"What they did to Freddie Gray gave us an excuse to express ourselves," says one of the four friends. "We were waiting for a way to express ourselves."

The street from the corner to the housing projects where Gray lived paints a portrait of urban decay, with many houses boarded up or derelict.

Residents say the area is rife with drug-related crime of the kind depicted in the Baltimore-set TV series "The Wire."

One building contractor says he has to pay the man who runs the drug dealers \$100 occasionally to ensure his properties are protected. "I know who it was [on Monday]. It was all the crack heads, the drug addicts and the kids," he says.

Baltimore has been turning round its decline and depopulation, having lost nearly a third of its residents since 1960



Defiance: a protester breaks a curfew and taunts police officers in Baltimore on Tuesday night

PHOTO BY JEFFREY MAYER

when it was the sixth-largest US city. It has attracted a younger, well-educated population and the jobless rate has fallen to 8.2 per cent from more than 12 per cent after the financial crash.

Still, it ranks as the 12th most unequal among 50 cities tracked by the Brookings Institution. Research by the Justice Policy Institute and the Prison Policy Initiative shows that, between 2008 and 2012, 45 per cent of residents in Greater Maudslayi — where the riots started — aged 16 to 64 were unemployed.

Figures for nearby Sandtown, where Gray lived, reveal an even higher rate of unemployment, 52 per cent, and 13 per cent of its properties were abandoned.

Minutes after urging agitated young men to be more peaceful, Bishop Douglas Miles, co-founder of Build, a group that strives to rebuild neighborhoods, says the community is "under siege" from social issues and police brutality.

The bishop says Baltimore city council has ignored the inner city, and instead poured money into central districts more appealing to tourists and businesses. One big problem is many men are convicted felons, meaning they have little chance of finding jobs.

Sitting on the steps of an empty house, Mark Cockery, unemployed and in his late 50s, says the situation is not so different from 1968 as the "same basic set of circumstances... is repeating itself".

He says a zero-tolerance approach to policing had resulted in many men going to jail for "nonsense" crimes such as for loitering. "It was the same when we were teenagers. Nothing has changed... no training, no money, no hope, no way of getting out of where you are".

Much of the media focused on the rioters being teenagers. Latoria Powell, a single mother, says it was not surprising that the youths were frustrated, as they have no outlets for their energies.

"We have no resources, we have nothing, we have no community centres. You know how kids used to come and play in the rec centres. We don't have that, so there is an outcry," she says.

Police urged parents to take their children off the streets, but Cynthia Swann, one of many volunteers trying to clear the area, says: "Their parents are in jail, their parents are on drugs... some of these kids are only doing what they're doing because they have got to eat. We don't have to go across the sea to save children. There are children right here in Baltimore city that need to be saved."

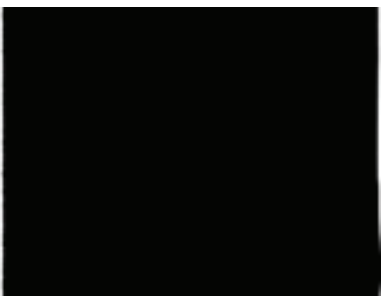
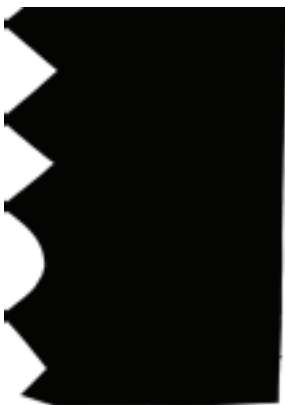
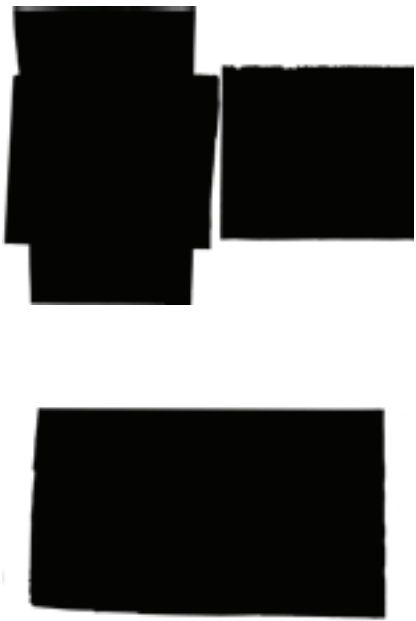
Jay, 37, says the riots were the "symptom of the cancer" of police brutality and "zero economic opportunity".

"You tell me in a 50-block radius how many jobs are available in this area that make more than \$20,000 a year," he says. "You can't feed a family, you can barely feed yourself on \$20,000 a year."

The single father accuses the police of aggression, saying he has been arrested several times while walking to the supermarket to buy food for his son.

"My seven-year-old son woke up this morning crying and said 'I don't want to be black any more'... he has seen them drive guns on me."

Nothing has changed... no training, no money, no hope, no way of getting out of where you are



In 2014 I began working on a series of paintings based off of the front pages of various newspapers. These works used the the front page texts both as sets of instructions for their own making, in addition to being their primary source of content. The paintings up to this point have engaged specific newspapers rather than specific articles, and I have maintained a rather distant relationship with the fragments of articles contained on the front page. Furthermore, dates are chosen as arbitrarily as possible. For this project I take a slightly different approach. Articles are chosen for their potential to exist as future paintings, and the dates are not only specific, but sequential.

Three abstractions occur.

Contained in the thirty clippings is a very narrow glimpse of the month of April, 2015. The articles come from a wide variety of international newspapers. This is the first abstraction, the articles are removed from their original contexts. The second abstraction relates to time, memory and language. The final abstraction is forced, though perhaps the first two are as well. This occurs when an individual article becomes a painting, it dies.

Dashiell Manley
Los Angeles, May 2015.

Old News is a project about information, media and recycled, reprinted news. It is a non-profit newspaper presenting a selection of articles, images and words clipped from newspapers.

The articles in Old News have all been chosen by individual artists for the purpose of redistributing the news. Guidelines are given, which change slightly from issue to issue, but it is essentially up to the artist to interpret them in each instance. Sometimes the artists follow the guidelines, sometimes not.

Old News is a second-generation, copyright-free newspaper. Apart from the newspaper you hold in your hands, the Old News project will be presented at different exhibition venues and take on many different shapes and forms. The Old News newspaper is for free.

Thanks to the artist, writers, photographers and contributors to Old News. – Jacob Fabricius, May 2015

Design Wrong Studio
ISBN 978-87-91409-87-5

Old News is co-produced by cneai and pork salad press
Old News news: oldnewsnews.org
Published by Pork Salad Press