

China “cheating” the market

In the last few months, China has been working the international market hard. In recent months, they have seriously devalued their currency.

China's currency last week dropped by a cumulative 4.4% against the U.S. dollar. That may sound like a good thing, but the practice is known as “currency manipulation,” and in effect, it is quite dangerous to market stability.

By lowering the value of their currency, it makes everything that they produce and export cheaper, which helps their economy. It also makes everything that they import more expensive, which means that they won't buy products from us, and that can hurt our economy. This is exactly what the Chinese

government wants to happen.

“Today's provocative act by the Chinese government to lower the value of the yuan is just the latest in a long history of cheating,” said Republican U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham.

Since China began devaluing their currency, Kazakhstan and Vietnam have also done so.

The long-term effects of what this means are hard to tell until we see if the trend continues, but some people fear that this is the beginning of a slide that will end with countries all around the world continuously devaluing their currency to stay competitive in the global money market.



Guatemalan Spring

Just days ago, the people of Guatemala voted to lift the President's immunity, allowing him to be charged with, and tried for, allegations of corruption related to an import scandal known as La Linea, or The Line.

Shortly after this, a warrant was issued for his arrest and then he resigned as president.

The interim president, Alejandro Maldonado, used to be the Vice President, a position he took when the previous Vice President resigned amid allegations that she too was part of La Linea.

“This is an opportunity,” says Maldonado, “they cannot rest, they must keep the pressure on the politicians, the media must keep investigating and the people must accompany them. If they go back to sleep, the corruption will return because it's a plague which infests everything.”

The people seem to be answering this call. It appears that the citizens have awakened and throw off a shroud of apathy that allowed corruption to grow and fester. Let us hope that they keep it up.



Russia backing Bashar al-Assad

The anti-ISIS coalition has claimed that the Russian Government is aiding Bashar al-Assad by sending military equipment and personnel to an airfield near Latakia Syria.

They say that Russia has sent a military advance team, prefabricated housing, and a portable air traffic control station, to aid Assad, a longtime ally of Russia.

It is estimated that the amount of housing sent to Syria would allow Russia to send and house upwards of

1,000 military personnel

The coalition has been calling for the resignation of Bashar al-Assad since the beginning of the Syrian civil war, and has been backing the armed opposition trying to end his rule.

Many claim that Assad is largely responsible for how prominent ISIS has become because he has used the group as a tool to maintain his position, claiming that he is the protector against them, while making very little action to stop them.

Unidentified rocket spotted over Barksdale



Reader submitted photo of strange trail of smoke resembling a rocket near Clyde Fant, Shreveport

On Sunday, the 13th of September, an unidentified rocket was spotted flying over Barksdale Air Force Base. The trajectory of the rocket, or missile, was vertical to the launching spot, before beginning to fly somewhat horizontally, heading a westward direction.

Barksdale is the second largest Air Force base on American soil, and while area residents are accustomed to seeing B-52s and other aircraft flying overhead, missiles

and rockets are not exactly common.

This was most likely some sort of test procedure conducted by the Air Force. It is doubtful that this missile was fired at a hostile target, because Barksdale AFB is so far inland from the coast, and an enemy target would almost certainly never make it that far into US airspace without being annihilated.

4 shot in drive-by shooting, including 3 juveniles

Shreveport police say that a dark colored sedan drove near the intersection of Clanton and Dowdell Streets and shot at the victims multiple times around 8:30 PM on Saturday.

Tadaruis Kennedy, 25 and 3 juveniles, ages 17, 16 and 11 years-old, were victims in the shooting that occurred on the 1500 block of Clanton Street. Kennedy suffered a gunshot wound to the hand, while a 17-year-old male was hit in his upper torso, a 16-year-old girl was grazed



Police officers on the scene in Shreveport

by a bullet on her head, and the 11-year-old boy was grazed on his jaw. All of the victims were quickly taken to University Health Hospital for treatment of their

Mansfield officer caught speeding

A Natchitoches Parish sheriff's deputy clocked a Mansfield police officer in uniform going 100 mph on a motorcycle on Interstate 49. Officer Richard Duncan, 25, of Mansfield, was cited for two speeding infractions, along with driving under suspension because of a prior unpaid traffic ticket.

Duncan, who was fired last year from the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office, was released in Natchitoches after receiving his citations.



Don't get caught speeding!

wounds. The 17-year-old suffered the most serious injury, and still remains in critical condition.

"I had just told him to go home. You know? And when I left, I get a call he's down in the street where the gunfire was. And they were like 'he's been shot in the face, he's dead.' I mean my mind was in a million places," said Brithney Williams. Her son, 11-year-old DMarkeo Johnson, had been caught in the crossfire, hit in the jaw by a bullet, and released from the hospital on Sunday morning. By afternoon, he was back on his bike and riding around his neighborhood again.

What's going on with the CIA?

The Pentagon has erupted in 'revolt' amid claims from 50 intelligence analysts that senior defense officials manipulated intelligence reports to downplay the severity of the Islamic State's increasing upper-hand in the Middle East.

The former No. 2 at the Central Investigation Agency, Michael Morell, says that heads should roll over reports that top intelligence officials are painting unrealistically rosy pictures of the U.S.'s fight against Islamic extremists. Mr. Morell claimed that more than 50 Central Command intelligence analysts have filed formal complaints with the Defense Department's Inspector General saying that their reports had been inappropriately edited or were not being passed up the chain of command.

"The cancer was within the senior level of the intelligence command," one defense official said, which broke the story late Wednesday. Two senior analysts at CENTCOM — the U.S. military's central command in the Middle East and Central Asia — filed the formal complaint with the Defense Department's Inspector General in July (the analysts are formally employed by the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Pentagon's dedicated spy wing). The analyses were changed to show that the U.S. was making greater progress against the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) than was actually happening, the outlet reported.

"One of the key aspects of the policymaking process in the United States is that analysts get to say what they think without any interference, without anyone changing it," Morell stated.

11 of 50 intelligence analysts spoke anonymously, detailing various methods senior defense officials have used to downplay the terrorist group's influence and power. Not only would the meddling with analysts' work indicate that operations against ISIS were not actually going so well, but it also could present a crisis of confidence in intelligence officials.



Central Intelligence Agency emblem

Huckabee lacks respect for human life



Mike Huckabee

Former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee recently made an indecent comment regarding the tragic refugee crisis stemming from the war-torn Middle East. ISIS has ravaged the countries of Iraq and Syria, sending millions fleeing to safety in foreign lands.

Mike Huckabee said "Are they just coming because they've got cable TV? I'm not trying to be trite but I just don't know." Seeing as how ISIS is beheading people by the thousands in their country, I doubt that cable TV matters much to them. Mike Huckabee, you are an idiot and a bad person. You and ISIS are heading to the same place (Hell), and I doubt they have cable.

Virginia drops rebel flag from license plates

The state of Virginia is spending close to \$8,000 to have license tags that feature the Confederate Flag replaced. Newly designed tags were sent to around 1,600 drivers, who must now remove the old license plates in order to comply with Virginia law.

"I say they've hijacked the flag for their own nefarious purposes, and that shouldn't be," said Dexter Oliver,

a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

The older license plates were recalled after a federal judge ruled that the state of Virginia could remove the Confederate Battle Flag from license plates, overturning a 2001 injunction, previously allowing it to appear on specialty plates. Governor Terry McAuliffe called for the removal of the flag from state-issued license plates after Dylann Roof was spotted posing with a Confederate Flag, following the deaths of nine Black church members in South Carolina.



Sample of Virginia's old license plate

Vladimir Putin makes visit to America

Russian President to speak at the 70th United Nations General Assembly



Vladimir Putin at the 2006 General Assembly

This week, the United Nations will hold its 70th General Assembly session, with many world leaders expected to participate. Russian President Vladimir Putin is expected to travel to New York City to deliver a speech at the opening of the UN General Assembly. Putin last spoke before the UN General Assembly 10 years ago – prior to that he had attended in 2003 and 2000. In 2008, the speech at the UN General Assembly session was delivered by then-Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and over the past years Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has represented Russia at major UN events.

Senior Russian officials, including Putin himself, have always prioritized the UN's role in resolving major international crises and have repeatedly accused the US of attempts to “hijack” the UN powers and violate the basic principles of international law. “Any attempts to replace the universal principles of the United Nations’ Charter by unilateral actions or some bloc agreements, or, worse even, the attempts to use force to bypass the UN Charter, never lead to anything good,” Vladimir Putin said in his 2012 speech before foreign diplomats.

Russia is currently facing opposition from Western countries over the ongoing situation in Ukraine, where the pro-Western regime in Kiev is waging a civil war against the southeastern regions of Donetsk and Lugansk. The greater area known as Donbass has a pro-Russian population, many of whom are ethnic Russians. Obama and Putin have been at odds for

months over what the United States calls Russian aggression in Ukraine and Syria. “When the president sits down with President Putin, the top item on his agenda will be Ukraine,” White House spokesman Josh Earnest said.

Charlie Rose of 60 minutes recently sat down for a one-on-one interview with Russian President Vladimir Putin to discuss what the Russian leader thinks of America, and about how the world views him. When asked what he admired most about America, Vladimir Putin replied: “I like the creativity. Creativity when it comes to your tackling problems. Their openness -- openness and open-mindedness -- because it allows them to unleash the inner potential of their people. And thanks to that, America has attained such amazing results in developing their country.”

Tensions have been rising recently over Russian actions in Syria. Putin's government has sent troops, weapons and supplies to the Syrian coast in what some American officials see as the beginnings of a Russian air base. Russia says it is only interested in protecting its ally Syria. Moscow reciprocated the sanctions and has repeatedly vowed that the outside pressure would never make it change its course. Putin has also stepped up warnings about ISIS, of which over 2,000 Russians are estimated to be fighting in recent weeks, and has called for a new coalition against the terrorist group, in a move that experts suggest could give Russia a global leadership role and distract attention from the Ukraine crisis. Russia has long backed the Syrian government of Bashar Assad, which is opposed by the U.S. that says Assad is responsible for tens of thousands of civilian deaths. A civil war which is said to have claimed 250,000 lives erupted in Syria in 2011, which triggered the rise of the Islamic State as an uprising of “moderate rebels.”

Vladimir Putin's outlook is still bright amid the rising threats and potential for armed conflict with the United States, saying: “It's not important how I'm called, whether these are well-wishers, friends or political opponents. It's important what you think about you, what you must do for the interest of the country which has entrusted you with the position as the head of the Russian state.”

Catalonia votes for independence

Polls suggest seceding from Spain could be a split decision

“We have won,” Catalan regional President Artur Mas told his cheering supporters late on Sunday.

Pro-independence parties in Spain's Catalonia region have won an absolute majority in regional elections. The main separatist alliance and a smaller party won 72 seats in the 135-seat regional parliament. A majority would allow them to declare independence from Spain unilaterally within 18 months, but the central government in Madrid has pledged to block such moves in court. The smaller CUP party insisted that it would only join an independence bid if secessionist parties won more than 50 percent of the popular vote.

The pro-independence parties argue that the Spanish government has consistently refused to allow a legally recognized referendum to occur, ignoring an unofficial vote that backed Catalonia's independence back in November 2014.

Opinion polls suggest that a majority of Catalans favor a referendum on independence, but they are evenly divided over whether they want to secede from Spain. Many Catalans who favor secession from Spain say that their region, which accounts for nearly a fifth of Spain's economic output, pays too much in taxes and receives less than its fair share of government investment.



Catalonia (in red)

Proposed state constitutional amendments on the 2015 ballot



Four proposed constitutional amendments will be on the Oct. 24 ballot, half of them efforts to infuse more money into addressing Louisiana's mounting transportation and infrastructure needs.

- Proposition 1 would revamp Louisiana's Rainy Day Fund would be split into two accounts. Up to \$500 million could flow into the account that handles emergencies. However, additional revenue would go into a new fund for transportation projects.

"Budget stabilization is taken care of first," said Derrel Cohoon, a consultant for the Associated General Contractors. "Then

you start looking at some of the needs that aren't being met in the state." Backers concede it would take years for road and bridge projects to realize big gains from the proposed change.

- Proposition 2 would allow the state treasurer to invest dollars in the Louisiana State Transportation Bank, which the Legislature authorized earlier this year.

State Treasurer John Kennedy said he backs Amendments 1 and 2. "We have to do something about infrastructure," Kennedy said. "The advantage of both of these amendments is that it would generate additional money for roads without raising taxes."

- Proposition 3 deals with what types of legislation the Legislature can consider during "fiscal sessions," which are held in odd-numbered years.

The change would allow legislators to "legislate with regard to the dedication of revenue" and "with regard to taxes," eliminating all the specific types of legislation in today's Constitution.

The proposition sponsor, state Rep. Julie Stokes, said the change is designed to eliminate differing House and Senate interpretations of what can be considered in a fiscal session. The current provisions "create confusion," said Stokes, R-Kenner.

- Proposition 4 would allow local governments to tax property within their jurisdictions owned by local or state governments outside Louisiana.

The proposed amendment comes in response to a recent appeals court ruling that found local and state governments are exempt from paying the tax. Under the constitution, state, parish or city governments in Louisiana are exempt from paying property taxes on "public lands" and "other public property used for public purposes."

Proponents argue that the constitution never intended the property tax exemption to apply to out-of-state governmental entities, as the Louisiana Supreme Court stated in the past.

Gun Control: Who does it really harm?

Gun control is largely a state issue because attitudes and actions with regards to firearms differ greatly between rural and urban communities. Nevertheless, there are situations where the federal government should intervene. Americans in rural areas have a very different view towards guns as do those who live in densely populated urban environments.

The gun show loophole should be closed to prevent private sellers from selling firearms without background checks. Federal law currently stipulates that only licensed firearms dealers are required to

conduct background checks. Currently, only ten states require background checks for purchases at gun shows. Moreover, according to the Firearm Owners Protection Act of 1986, a private seller is classified as any seller who doesn't rely on gun sales as the principal way of making their living. Because of this, it is easy to imagine that many individuals who have a regular source of income outside of selling firearms can claim that they are private sellers. This allows these individuals to exploit the gun show loophole and sell guns without requiring background checks.

Given that 23 percent of the perpetrators of mass shootings have been found to suffer from mental health issues, expanding access to mental health care can address some of the root causes of gun-related violent crime.

Manufacturers and sellers of firearms should not be held accountable for the misuse of their products. In other words, the instrument itself cannot be held responsible for the being misused by the individual.

University Health vs. Willis-Knighton



A lawsuit was filed on September 16th, 2015 against Willis-Knighton Health System, claiming that Willis-Knighton intends to transfer commercially insured patients from the University Health clinics to Willis-Knighton clinics. The lawsuit from University Health also claims up to \$20 million in damages - costs that will now be evaluated in a trial.

Willis-Knighton said that they did not intend to transfer University Health's commercially insured patients, but claimed that it only intended to operate within LSU clinics to serve Medicare and Medicaid patients. "They would substantially increase health care costs, reduce health care quality, and seriously harm insurers, employers, and consumers", according to plaintiff Vantage, with whom Willis-Knighton has effectively refused to deal.

Willis-Knighton has also been criticized as holding a "monopoly-level share in the relevant Shreveport-Bossier City hospital market 'and has exploited that position to harm the public,'" as reported by KSLA News 12. Nevertheless, Willis-Knighton is now trying to accomplish indirectly what it has admitted it could not lawfully achieve directly, the suit alleges.

In Willis-Knighton's own words, "Willis-Knighton is unlike any health care provider in

Louisiana by virtue of our share of the health care services market." Willis-Knighton is said to have exploited its monopoly power in order to obtain reimbursement rates from insurance companies such as Blue Cross, that can some times end up costing as much as 2 or 3 times the rates of other health care providers like UH-Shreveport.

Willis-Knighton has also effectively refused to deal with other health plans such as Vantage in order to limit their market acceptance and maintain Willis-Knighton's monopoly power. Willis-Knighton is now seeking to acquire the commercially insured practice of University Health Sciences Center through a series of agreements, under which LSU Shreveport-employed faculty members would work in clinics on the Willis-Knighton hospital campuses, having their services billed (and prices set) by Willis-Knighton.

Willis-Knighton intends under this plan to ultimately have all of the LSU Shreveport faculty physicians' commercially insured patients treated at Willis-Knighton facilities instead of at UH-Shreveport. But Willis-Knighton is lauding a federal court's decision not to prevent it from "opening clinics that had been designed to serve the needs of patients in Shreveport and Bossier City with support from academic faculty physicians at LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport." Willis-Knighton was trying to get the court to dismiss the claims leveled against it by the Biomedical Research Foundation in Shreveport. LSU recently cut ties with the foundation as operator of University Health hospitals in Shreveport and Monroe. In July, LSU outlined grievances about management of the hospitals, alleging that the foundation failed to live up to its contract responsibilities.

Which areas of Shreveport are the safest?

The Shreveport Police Department patrols all 13 districts of the city, but which of them are actually the safest – in terms of crime rate? Some communities face abnormally high numbers of heinous crimes such as homicide and rape, while others are more concerned about burglaries and other forms of theft. Overall, the crime rate has decreased over the past two years, but total crime rate for each district remain relatively consistent spanning the last five years.

The most dangerous districts, in terms of crime rate, are District 5 (1,513), District 12 (1,308), and District 11 (1,095). SPD spokesman Cpl. Break Scott says that "A lot of these crimes are crimes of opportunity. The high concentration of residences and businesses in District 5 allow more opportunities for crimes like theft and burglary." The safest districts, in terms of crime rate, are District 3 (413), District 2 (433) and District 1 (698). "As far as violent crimes go, it's always random acts," Scott said. "There's no specific place we can go patrol knowing that's where the shootings are going to be. It's all over the city."

The SPD holds meetings that happen every other Tuesday and use real-time data collected over weeks prior. Scott said there are also grants used to hire part-time, off-duty officers that put extra enforcement and visibility in areas that show rising crime numbers. The safest districts, based on average violent crimes over the past five years, are: District 2 (56), District 9 (92), and District 5 (95).

Shreveport's 2016 budget package announced



Mayor Ollie Tyler's proposed budget for Shreveport in 2016 is 6% higher than the budget for 2015. The City Council will be presented the full details of the budget package on October 13th, with an opportunity for the public to discuss and provide input during a public hearing on November 10th. The Shreveport City Council has until December 15th to pass the completed budget package for 2016, but the panel is expected to hold hearings

from each department to review where expenses can be cut or eliminated. Mayor Ollie Tyler claims that she built the budget to focus on public safety, the city's infrastructure and quality of life improvements. Purchased in the budget are 90 new police cruisers, 15 garbage collection trucks and a slight minimum wage increase for city workers. **Find the full budget package available on www.theinformer.la**

Louisiana voter demographics are changing

Louisiana was once a “blue” state. As recently as 1987, Democrats made up 90% of Louisiana voters. By 2011, the republicans had swayed the state, and became the majority. White males have usually been the majority of voters in the past, but the trends that were present in previous elections are starting to change.

The biggest change is that women now represent 55% of registered voters. This is reflected in the way the candidates have been campaigning. The Republican candidates are frequently setting up special groups. Women for (enter Republican Candidate’s name) has become very common in politics. The Democratic candidates often campaign to this new majority by emphasizing equal pay for women and reproductive rights.

African Americans are also registering to vote in higher numbers. This election season, their numbers have increased by 5%, which accounts for a lot of votes. White registration remains about the same. Hopefully, this is a sign that black voters are realizing that when they don’t vote, things tend to get even worse for their communities. African Americans

turned out in record numbers for the 2008 Presidential election. President Obama’s time in office has left many still waiting for “hope and change.” This might be the reason for the newest trend in voter registration: third-party or independent registration.

Many people, especially young people, are not registering as Republicans or Democrats. Democratic registration has suffered more than Republican registration. This shows that voters might be fed up with the similarities between the two biggest parties. This season 26% of voters have registered outside of the two-party system, many as independents (no affiliation), and many as a third party member (such as Libertarian or Green Party). It will be interesting to watch how the candidates respond to these trends in this election and elections to come. Early voting is happening now, and the next election is on October 24. Make sure you are registered to vote, and early voting is going on right now, until the 17th. The general election is on the 24th. See you at the polls!

The Waltons campaign for school privatization in Louisiana



The Walton family (of Wal-Mart fame), along with California Billionaire, Eli Broad have contributed \$650,000 to the Baton Rouge based Empower Louisiana PAC. This political action committee has donated this money to candidates who can ensure that the majority of Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education members are pro-privatization. Those who are pro-privatization are usually anti-union, and favor charter schools and voucher programs.

WANTED: Volunteers needed!

If you have time on your hands, we have a volunteer opportunity for you! The Salvation Army Shreveport-Bossier needs your help with our needs. Volunteers are needed for Red Kettle Bell Ringing, Angel Tree Locations, The Family Thrift Store, The Food Pantry, Home-Bound Meal Delivery and The Boys and Girls Club. To volunteer call Jennifer Stephens at 318-424-3200 Extension 23 or email her at Jennifer_Stephens@uss.salvationarmy.org.



The Salvation Army in Shreveport-Bossier needs your help!

Critics of school privatization say that private and charter schools lack the government oversight that is required of public schools. Opponents also claim that diverting government resources to these schools takes those resources away from our public schools, which desperately need them. They boil the argument down a simple question. Would you rather have your child’s education run as a business or a state service?

So, why would the Waltons be interested in moving educational services into the private sector? Are they thinking about getting into the education game? The Wal-Mart Center For Kids Who Can’t Read Good And Wanna Learn To Do Other Stuff Good Too does have

DEA agents fail drug tests - often

Documents recently released by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration have shown that a number of federal employees with the DEA have failed drug tests over the past five years with almost no consequences, or very minor reprimands. There have been at least 16 reported instances of employees failing random drug tests since 2010, and while a number of these incidents were handled internally, with a few people choosing to resign or retire during the proceedings, none of these cases were resolved by firing the employee who broke the law they enforce on a daily basis.



Drug Enforcement Agency

The DEA's drug policy states that applicants who "experimented with or used narcotics or dangerous drugs, except those medically prescribed for you, will not be considered for employment," though it makes exceptions for "limited youthful and experimental use of marijuana." The agency conducts random drug testing throughout an employee's career. Carl Pike, a former DEA internal affairs investigator, explained that "If we conducted an investigation, and an employee actually got terminated, I was surprised," he said. "I was truly, truly surprised. Like, wow, the system actually got this guy."

Reporters Brad Heath and Meghan Hoyer found that, from 2010 through 2015, DEA employees have avoided getting fired despite serious violations of agency policy, including distribution of drugs, falsifying official records and having an "improper association with a criminal element." And in the few cases in which administrators did recommend termination, the DEA's Board of Professional Conduct often reduced sanctions to suspensions or lower forms of discipline and even required the agency to rehire problem employees.

Jade Helm military exercise ends



Jade Helm's military operation logo

Jade Helm 15 officially ended last Tuesday, ending an eight-week long military training exercise in Texas along with six other states. Army officials said that the drill was conducted to provide Army Green Berets, Navy SEAL team members, and other Special Operations forces with a realistic war-game experience that included military personnel playing the roles of "good guys and bad guys."

The Army's Special Operations Command, who organized the strategic exercise, called the operation "a success" and said there were "no altercations between military personnel and civilians." In a statement, the command said that it would "study the associated data to determine what is working and what may need to be optimized" in the training, equipping, and organizing of the troops.

Indiana recognizes right to defend against police

Is it ever legal to shoot cops? A growing number of states are passing laws that say that yes, in fact, sometimes it is well within a citizen's rights to shoot a police officer in self defense in your own home. Other states have already ruled in favor of citizens shooting police officers in self-defense, (even hip-hop legend Tupac was acquitted after shooting two cops in self-defense) but now, in the state of Indiana, if a police officer initiates aggression without cause in someone's home, violence can be used against them in self-defense — including using lethal force.

The military has routinely held training exercises like Jade Helm in the past. But this one took on a life of its own before it even began. An informational meeting attended by citizens and local government officials in Bastrop, Tex., in April generated national attention after several people accused the federal government of preparing for a takeover. The main concern was that the military was laying the groundwork for martial law — if not now, then sometime in the future.

The military exercise generated enough conspiracy theories this year that it was even mocked on late-night television, received commentary from presidential candidates and reaction from the Texas governor. Texas Governor Greg Abbott, who was criticized after he ordered the Texas State Guard to monitor Jade Helm, received his final daily briefing on it Tuesday morning from his deputy chief of staff. "The exercise operated on schedule and proceeded as planned," said John Wittman, a spokesman for Governor Abbott.

"At this time, we do not have any lessons learned to share since we have not yet conducted an after-action review of the exercise, but we do believe the exercise overall was a success," Suzanne Nagl, a spokeswoman for Army Special Operations Command, which oversaw it, said in an e-mail.

The new law was drafted in order to "recognize the unique character of a citizen's home and to ensure that a citizen feels secure in his or her own home against unlawful intrusion by another individual or a public servant." The Bill of Rights does not grant rights to the citizenry of the United States, it recognizes natural rights. One of those rights — a veritable law of Nature — is the right to resist. The new amendment in Indiana recognizes this. It makes it clear that badges do not grant special rights to break into someone's house and commit acts of violent aggression. If they do, residents have the right to resist those illegal actions, as well as defend themselves.