



Date and Time: Friday, June 8, 2018 11:13:00 AM EDT

Job Number: 68064919

Document (1)

1. [U.S.-North Korea Summit; Jobs, Jobs, Jobs; Trading Punches; The Enemy of my Enemy; 2020 Vision; LGBT Treatment; Media Double Standard; President Trump Criticizes Samantha Bee for Controversial Remark about Ivanka; New Flying Vehicle May Increase Rescue of Military and Civilian Injured; President Trump Receives Letter from Kim Jong-un; May Jobs Report Touted by President Trump](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: Special Report with Bret Baier

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: News Transcripts

U.S.-North Korea Summit; Jobs, Jobs, Jobs; Trading Punches; The Enemy of my Enemy; 2020 Vision; LGBT Treatment; Media Double Standard; President Trump Criticizes Samantha Bee for Controversial Remark about Ivanka; New Flying Vehicle May Increase Rescue of Military and Civilian Injured; President Trump Receives Letter from Kim Jong-un; May Jobs Report Touted by President Trump

Fox News Network FOX SPECIAL REPORT WITH BRET BAIER 6:00 PM EST

June 1, 2018 Friday

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Section: NEWS; International

Length: 7700 words

Byline: **Bret Baier**, John Roberts, Deidre Bolton, Benjamin Hall, Rich Edson, Peter Doocy, Doug McKelway, Adam Housley, , Jonathan Hunt

Guests: Tom Bevan, Leslie Marshall, Mollie Hemingway

Body

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS HOST: I'm not glad. Thanks -- Dana.

The summit is back on and the Korean War may soon be off. The President touts what he calls a historic milestone in unemployment.

And whatever happened to the fight over the treatment of LGBT people?

This is **SPECIAL REPORT**.

BAIER: Good evening. Welcome to Washington. I'm **Bret Baier**.

We begin tonight with the resurrection of the summit officially. A little more than a week after the meeting between President Trump and Kim Jong-un was declared, it sprang back to life this afternoon at the White House. The President making the announcement following a meeting with a top North Korean official who carried a letter from his country's reclusive leader. It will happen as of now, June 12 in Singapore as originally scheduled three weeks ago.

Chief White House correspondent John Roberts has specifics. Good evening - - John.

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHIEF WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: **Bret** -- good evening to you.

It was the first time that President Trump has met an official from North Korea. The former head of Pyongyang's spy agency, Kim Yong-chol, a man who's actually been sanctioned by the United States, came calling at the White House today and after 75 minutes together in the Oval Office the two produced a breakthrough.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We'll be meeting on June 12 in Singapore. It went very well. It's really a get-to-know-you kind of a situation.

U.S.-North Korea Summit; Jobs, Jobs, Jobs; Trading Punches; The Enemy of my Enemy; 2020 Vision; LGBT Treatment; Media Double Standard; President Trump Criticize....

ROBERTS: In one historic moment President Trump and the highest ranking North Korean official to visit the White House in 18 years put the summit back on track. President Trump today optimistic that Kim Jong-un is committed to denuclearization.

TRUMP: I think they want to do that. I know they want to do that. They want other things along the line. They want to develop as a country.

ROBERTS: A week ago President Trump shocked North Korea and the world sending a letter to Kim Jong-un cancelling the summit. It was a high wire diplomatic move but one the President insists paid off.

TRUMP: I canceled it in response to a very tough statement. And I think we are over that.

ROBERTS: Kim Yong Chol came to the White House today with a letter, this one from Kim Jong-un which he hand-delivered to President Trump. At first the President seemed to indicate he had read it.

TRUMP: It was a very interesting letter. At some point I may be -- it may be appropriate and maybe I'll be able to give it to you. Maybe you'll be able to see it and maybe fairly soon.

TRUMP: But later said he hadn't.

TRUMP: I haven't seen the letter yet. I purposely didn't open the letter. I haven't opened it. I didn't open it in front of the director. I said would you want me to open it? He said you can read it later. I may be in for a big surprise, folks.

ROBERTS: The meeting was supposed to be brief. White House officials said Kim would arrive, walk down the colonnades to the Oval Office, deliver the letter, then leave. But the meeting went a full hour and 15 minutes the President and the vice chairman seeming to enjoy a very courteous relationship.

The President lowered expectations for his meeting with Kim Jong-un saying it would likely be just the start of a long negotiation.

TRUMP: We'll see where it leads. We're going to be, June 12 we'll be in Singapore. It will be a beginning. I don't say and I've never said it happens in one meeting. You're talking about years of hostility, years of problems, years of really hatred between so many different nations.

ROBERTS: But the President added, well just maybe the United States and North Korea would sign an agreement on June 12 to finally end the Korean War.

TRUMP: We talked about ending the war. And you know, this war has been going on -- it's got to be the longest war -- almost 70 years.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Has that document been prepared.

TRUMP: That is something that could come out of the meeting.

ROBERTS: One possible hiccup in all of this -- the meeting yesterday between Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov and Kim Jong-un. President Trump's initial reaction to that, he didn't like it one bit.

TRUMP: I didn't like the Russian meeting yesterday. I said what is the purpose of that? But it could be a positive meeting. If it is a positive meeting, I love it. If it is a negative meeting, I am not happy.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ROBERTS: President Trump also revealed today that he had an entirely new package of sanctions ready to go against North Korea in the case that the summit fell apart. These are on hold for now but the President is keeping them in his back pocket just in case things goes off the rails before June 12th -- **Bret**.

U.S.-North Korea Summit; Jobs, Jobs, Jobs; Trading Punches; The Enemy of my Enemy; 2020 Vision; LGBT Treatment; Media Double Standard; President Trump Criticize....

BAIER: You never know. John Roberts, live on the north lawn. John -- thanks.

The President says the Singapore trip is on. And **SPECIAL REPORT** will be there on the ground. Sunday, June 10th, we'll have a weekend edition of the show at 6:00 p.m. Eastern time, 6:00 a.m. local if you are keeping track there. The following Monday and Tuesday we'll be covering all the breaking news from that trip.

SPECIAL REPORT live from Singapore in two week's time -- maybe.

President Trump is touting new unemployment numbers tonight. The unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low of 3.8 percent in May; the economy adding 223,000 new jobs.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TRUMP: We have reached yet one more historic milestone with 3.8 percent unemployment just announced and another all-time record low -- African- American unemployment, Hispanic unemployment at an all-time low in history. We are very honored by that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Let's get reaction and analysis now from Deirdre Bolton of Fox Business Network, who joins us from New York. Good evening -- Deirdre.

DEIRDRE BOLTON, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK HOST: Good evening -- **Bret**.

This is a stand out **report**. The U.S. economy hit a record. So May's data marking the 92nd straight month of job growth -- so that's a record streak. American employers hiring the most workers in health care. That was by a clear margin. But then that's followed by retail, professional service, then construction, and leisure and hospitality round out the top five categories.

So unemployment for African-Americans fell to a new low of 5.9 percent; female job seekers, a low as well, 3.4 percent. The data points indicating easier starts for recent graduates too. Job openings are at a two-decade high.

Anecdotally some company leaders say it's difficult to find highly-killed worker positions. Some even complain that once they find talent, they have to pay more to keep valuable employees on board. Those comments fit with the increase in wage growth that we saw in May. For about a decade economists were wondering how is the economy growing without wages going higher? And it was this really stubborn statistics.

But as of today that is changing. So month on month, year on year figures of both show that wage growth is up 0.1 percent better than forecast.

It's pretty tough to find fault with this **report**. It signals the right balance for investors, too, which is why you saw the stock market react as it did. The Dow closed up by more than 200 points, S&P 500 and the Nasdaq each by one percent. This **report** is solid enough to indicate that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates as forecast at the next meeting June 12 and 13. Economists say the economy in the U.S. is strong enough to take the raise.

Bret -- back to you.

BAIER: Deirdre -- thank you. Have a great weekend.

As Deirdre said the markets were positive today. Results mixed for the four-day trading week. The Dow lost about half a percentage point. The S&P 500 gained about a half. The Nasdaq jumped one-and-two-thirds.

President Trump is calling on Canada and the European Union to do more to bring down their trade surpluses with the U.S. The comment coming as American allies are complaining loudly about the President's decision to impose tariffs on imported steel and aluminum.

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Correspondent Benjamin Hall reports tonight from London on what's being said and done.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BENJAMIN HALL, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: The steel wars are heating up after countries across the world reacted angrily to President Trump's new tariffs. Now, Canada, Mexico, and the European Union are fighting back imposing counter tariffs amid growing fears of a trade war.

Today the European Union issued a list of tariffs on \$1.6 billion of U.S. goods ranging from Harley Davidsons to bourbon and food products. Their trade commissioner said President Trump's announcement had weakened transatlantic relations.

CECILIA MALMSTORM, EUROPEAN UNION TRADE COMMISSIONER: It is pure protectionism. European steel and aluminum exports to the United States cannot be seen as a threat to their internal security.

HALL: Meanwhile, Mexico complained that the tariffs will distort international trade. And said it will penalize U.S. imports including pork, apples, grapes and cheeses. While Canada has announced plans to slap counter tariffs on \$12.8 billion of U.S. products ranging for steel to yogurt and even toilet paper.

Today President Trump defended his move.

TRUMP: I want fair trade. I like free trade but I want fair trade. At a minimum, I want fair trade. And we are going to have it for our workers and for our companies.

HALL: While his chief economic adviser brushed off concerns over the dispute.

LARRY KUDLOW, WHITE HOUSE CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISOR: A family quarrel. There's trade disputes and it's a family quarrel. And if you keep the lines of communication open which everybody wants to do, this thing can work out.

HALL: Europe's largest automaker Volkswagen said there are now fears that this marks the start of a negative spiral of measures and counter measures which is already causing concern among markets.

GABRIEL FELBERMAYR, INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPERT: We don't want this to escalate. But maybe we need to adopt strategies like in the Cold War, right when it was important to engage in deterrence and to say if you do now attack the car industry, we will go after let's say the American digital economy.

HALL: Now the E.U. plans to bring its case to the World Trade Organization claiming the U.S. actions are illegal, something President Macron of France told President Trump today during a phone call. He also warned that economic nationalism like this leads to war.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HALL: Economic nationalism is what President Trump campaigned on, putting America first and renegotiating fairer trade deals. But around the world this move is being as an attack on close allies -- Bret.

BAIER: Benjamin Hall in London. Benjamin -- thank you.

There are concerns tonight that the President's trade policy could end up pushing many of America's neighbors into a closer economic relationship with Russia.

Correspondent Rich Edson looks at the prospects of that tonight from the State Department.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

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RICH EDSON, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Critics charge President Trump is needlessly antagonizing European allies with tariffs on their aluminum and steel. The United States and Europe also disagree on climate change, the Iran nuclear agreement and defense spending.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker says that each time he thinks of President Trump he's lost. And he also says quote, "I do think we have to reconnect with Russia. I am not very happy with the state of our relations."

Diplomats and analysts have complained of the deterioration of the U.S.- European alliance warning of a diminished counter weight to Russia and even providing cover European firms to expand their business there.

ALINA POLYAKOVA, BROOKINGS INSTITUTION: We're seeing I think France especially but also Germany trying to play both sides, trying to play the United States and Russia at the same time. That realization that Russia is not a reliable economic partner but it is a security threat to Europe much more than to the United States has not quite sunk in unfortunately.

EDSON: Russia mostly sells Europe natural resources and energy. Work is beginning on a massive controversial gas pipeline between Russia and Germany. Russia's Nord Stream 2 would double Russia's gas export capacity across the Baltic Sea.

The United States' ambassador to Germany tells Fox news, the administration pushes European firms and governments to pass on business with Russia.

RICHARD GRENNELL, U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GERMANY: The strategy for the United States here in Germany and throughout Europe is really to remind European businesses just what they are dealing with when they deal with Russia.

EDSON: Ambassador Grenell points to European Union figures showing Russian trade with the E.U. is down since Russia invaded Ukraine and seized Crimea from nearly \$380 billion in bilateral trade in 2014 to around \$233 billion in 2017, almost \$212 billion in 2016 and more than \$260 billion last year.

GRENNELL: The Russian offense and the activities speak for themselves. And many businesses throughout Europe are very uncomfortable with that.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

EDSON: The European Commission president says that while Europe will never forget Russia's invasion of Ukraine and annexation of Crimea it must work with Russia where it can adding that the Russia bashing must end -- **Bret**.

BAIER: Rich Edson at the State Department. Rich -- thanks.

Flight line employees at Boeing's South Carolina plant have voted to unionize. It's a rare victory for organized labor in the south. The aerospace giant campaigned against the move. The company says the vote is illegal and will appeal. The lead union organizer commended the workers for standing up to Goliath amid a quote, "nasty campaign".

Up next will Democrats go progressive or stick with the Obama strategy in 2020? We'll take a look.

First here's what some of our Fox affiliates around the country are covering tonight.

Fox 5 in Las Vegas with what appears to be a tentative labor agreement that would cover about a quarter of the 50,000 hotel and casino workers threatening to strike. The Culinary Workers Union says the new five-year deal covers about 12,000 workers at nine casino resorts on the Las Vegas strip.

Fox 2 in Detroit as lawmakers could vote early next week to legalize recreational marijuana there. That would take the issue out of the hands of Michigan voters in November. A pro pot coalition, including Democrats there, want

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voters to decide the matter this fall. But for the first time the GOP senate leader reports he has the votes to legalize pot without the vote of the people in a referendum.

And this is a live look at the Missouri capital of Jefferson City where a new governor will be sworn in there momentarily. This is from Fox 2 in St. Louis. The big story there tonight, Missouri gets that new governor. A prayer service for Lieutenant Governor Mike Parson who assumes the top spot after the resignation of fellow Republican Eric Greitens has just ended in Jefferson City. Greitens was facing possible impeachment over a series of scandals. Now the new governor will be sworn in.

That's tonight's live look outside the Beltway from SPECIAL REPORT.

We'll be right back.

BAIER: President Trump is blasting the cost of the Russia collusion investigation. He tweeted today "AP has just reported that the Russian hoax investigation has now cost our government over \$17 million and going up fast. No collusion except by the Democrats." That figure was released in a report by the Justice Department. It says it is dedicatee to ensuring the funds are being used in a responsible and transparent manner.

We are still five months from the midterm elections. But it's apparently never too early to talk about the Presidential race. One Democrat who is admittedly thinking about running has already shown up in New Hampshire.

Tonight, correspondent Peter Doocy looks at whether Eric Holder's early push tells us anything about which direction the Democrats are headed.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: The first in the nation primary state just got its first visit from an Obama administration alum who may want to challenge Trump.

ERIC HOLDER, FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL: There are some assumptions about why I'm here in New Hampshire.

DOOCY: Eric Holder told a crowd of business leaders and activists on the campus of St. Anselm University in New Hampshire today that his announcement about 2020 will come in the early part of 2019.

HOLDERN: What I said about the presidency is that it is something that I am considering.

DOOCY: Holder was the first African-American attorney general and also the first attorney general to be held in contempt of Congress when he didn't cooperate with their Fast and Furious investigation. He would also be a first-time candidate.

HOLDER: I'm not a career politician. I never run for elected office.

DOOCY: The recently released Comey memos featured the former FBI director's criticism of both Holder and Obama for becoming too friendly with each other. That's something President Trump who says he regrets hiring the current attorney general actually admired in December when he told the "New York Times" quote, "Holder protected President Obama, totally protected him. When you look at the things that they did and Holder protected the President. And I have great respect for that. I'll be honest -- that appearance of closeness will be critical."

JOSH KRAUSHAAR, NATIONAL JOURNAL: He's not a household name to a lot of Democratic voters across the country. So that's one of his biggest challenges. But, you know, he's going to try to ride this Obama wave. There is it a lot of nostalgia for former President Obama. That's the play that Holder's capitalizing on.

DOOCY: But Holder says he only wants to make that play if he could win.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Can you beat Donald Trump?

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HOLDER: Two guys from Queens -- that would be interesting. That would be interesting, you know. New Yorkers know how to talk to other New Yorkers.

DOOCY: Democratic primary voters in New Hampshire overwhelmingly went for Bernie Sanders in 2016. and now Eric Holder is on their radar. But he is just one of about two dozen Democrats, including Sanders, who are believed to want to at least research a run in 2020 -- Bret.

DOOCY: Peter -- thank you.

A judge in Iowa has temporarily blocked the most restrictive abortion law in the country from taking effect next month. The ruling came after an agreement between lawyers for the state and abortion rights group. The law bans most abortions if a fetal heart beat can be detected. Pro-choice groups argue it is unconstitutional. An attorney representing the state says goal now is to quickly get the case before a judge so a decision can be made.

In tonight's "Whatever Happened To" segment: the treatment of LGBT individuals. That issue is part of the changing cultural landscape in the United States, of course. But is it going backward, excuse me, under a conservative administration?

Correspondent Doug McKelway looks at that question tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JACK PHILLIPS, MASTERPIECE CAKESHOP OWNER: I'm a follower of Jesus Christ and I believe that the bible clearly teaches that marriage is between a man and a woman.

DOUG MCKELWAY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: That in a nutshell that is why Jack Phillips refused to bake a wedding cake for a gay couple -- Charlie Craig and David Mullen's. They sued, Phillips appealed and case Masterpiece Cake Shop versus the Colorado Civil Rights Commission is expected to be decided by the Supreme Court any day.

At stake is whether anti-discrimination laws can force a business to express speech with which it disagrees.

SARAH WARBELOW, HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: Shop owners can absolutely decide what they serve. They can make determinations on whether or not they make wedding cakes at all or what kinds of and designs that they place on to a product. But when a business is open, they really should be open to all.

MCKELWAY: The decision will occur as U.S. cultural standards over sexuality and gender are rapidly evolving. North Carolina, often considered Bible Belt country found that out the hard way two years ago when it passed a bill restricting transgender people's bathroom access. The back lash was severe.

The NCAA and the NBA pulled games from the state. That and the threatened loss of other businesses forced state law makers to roll back the restrictions.

The Trump administration has filed an amicus brief in support of the Masterpiece Cake Shop but it too is moderating its position in this broader culture war. The planned ban on transgenders in the military has been narrowed. They may serve in their biological sex if there has been no history of gender dysphoria.

The image of socially-conservative Vice President Mike Pence swearing in the first openly gay ambassador to Germany Richard Grenell with his husband holding the bible spoke volumes about how much standards have changed.

MCKELWAY: To comply with Colorado's Civil Rights Commission Jack Phillips no longer bakes any wedding cakes.

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PHILLIPS: That cost us 40 percent of our income at the time. The emotional toll on my family and just my life in general has been pretty dramatic. I had death threats, hateful e-mail, hateful phone calls protests, a lot of things just for trying to live according to my faith shouldn't happen.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

MCKELWAY: The high court decision on Masterpiece Cake Shop may again hinge on the swing vote of Justice Anthony Kennedy who in 2015 wrote the five to four majority opinion which legalized gay marriage-- **Bret**.

BAIER: Doug -- thank you.

Up next, comedian Samantha Bee still has her job; Roseanne Barr does not. Is that a double standard? We'll take a look.

First beyond our borders tonight.

Italy's president swore in Western Europe's first populist government today. It features a mix of anti-establishment and right wing ministers who have promise an Italy first agenda and that has alarmed Europe's political establishment.

The leader of Spain's Socialist Party will become the new Prime Minister. This follows a no confidence vote today in Parliament in Spain for the existing conservative government there. Pedro Sanchez is promising to address what he calls the social emergencies of the country's citizens after years of austerity measures.

And independent World Health Organization panel is backing away from the U.N. health agency's own call two years ago to tax sugary drinks. A new **report** on diseases such as cancer, obesity and diabetes recommends taxes on tobacco and alcohol but it drops any recommendation to tax sugary beverages.

Just some of the other stories beyond our borders tonight.

We'll be right back.

BAIER: President Trump is asking why comedian Samantha Bee still has her job. Bee is still employed by TBS after comments she made that the White House called vile and vicious about Ivanka Trump. This comes, of course, on the heels of Roseanne Barr's offensive tweet resulted in the cancellation of her TV show.

Senior correspondent Adam Housley tonight on charges that there is a double standard at work.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ADAM HOUSLEY, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: A no-show on the red carpet even though her program was being honored at the Television Academy with the social change award, controversial comedienne Samantha Bee continues to deal with the aftershock of this.

SAMANTHA BEE, COMEDIENNE: Let me just say, one mother to another do something about your dad's immigration practices, you feckless (EXPLETIVE DELETED).

HOUSLEY: While TV cameras weren't allowed inside, Bee accepted the award and then again accepted responsibility saying in part quote "Every week I strive to show the world as I see it, unfiltered. Sometimes I should probably have a filter. I accept that. I take it seriously when I get it right and I do take responsibility when I get it wrong."

Back on the carpet stars seem to support Bee and her apology saying her harsh words for first daughter Ivanka Trump were different than Roseanne Barr's racial tweet about former Obama advisor Valerie Jarrett.

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DANA DELANY, ACTRESS: I don't even try comparing the two. I think it was a matter of intense situation, one was a TV show that's about comedy and pushing it to the edge of political satire and the other one was a tweet -- those things she's been saying.

HOUSLEY: Actress Sally Field also weighed in tweeting, quote, "I like Samantha Bee a lot but she is flat wrong to call Ivanka an (EXPLETIVE DELETED). (EXPLETIVE DELETED) are powerful, beautiful, nurturing and honest.

The controversy did not elude President Trump who via Twitter attacked network TBS and Hollywood hypocrisy. "Why aren't they firing no-talent Samantha Bee for the horrible language used on her low-rating show? A total double standard but and that is ok, we are winning. And we'll be doing so for a long time to come."

KAYLEIGH MCENANY, REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE: Hollywood, TBS, Time Warner, they've sent a message that you are allowed to attack a conservative woman in the most vile of terms and they are OK with that.

HOUSLEY: As for Roseanne Barr, she says she begged ABC executives to keep her show for people's jobs and to let her redeem herself.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HOUSLEY: While Samantha Bee hasn't lost her show, she is losing sponsors. So far Autotrader State Farm have suspended their advertising. **Bref?**

BAIER: Adam, thank you.

So what do you think? Do you think Samantha Bee will lose her job? Let me know on Twitter +AEA-BretBaier. You can use the hash-tag **Special Report**, or Facebook at Facebook/BretBaierSR.

Military researchers are right now testing a new unmanned aerial vehicle that could go where helicopters cannot and give injured warriors a fighting chance at survival. It looks like something straight out of science fiction movie. Here is chief correspondent Johnathon Hunt.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

PHILIP WERTHMAN, URBAN AERONAUTICS: It is real, it is flying, and we are going to have it here in the United States in the next few years.

JONATHAN HUNT, FOX NEWS CHIEF CORRESPONDENT: This is it, the Cormorant, a flying vehicle that could not only save American lives on battlefields a world away, but also on highways right here at home.

WERTHMAN: There's the concept of the golden hour that in order to maximize survivability in an accident, you need to get to that victim and get that victim evacuated and to medical attention within an hour.

HUNT: The idea for a vehicle that can go where helicopters can't was born out of the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war where it took on average five-and-a-half hours to evacuate wounded Israeli soldiers.

RAFI YOELI, URBAN AERONAUTICS: One is the ground to air fire. The other is that because of the physical limitations of the helicopter's rotor it cannot land in a mountainous or obstacle rich area.

HUNT: The Cormorant is currently being designed and tested in Israel with keen interest and support from the Israeli military. But the long term plan is for production to move to the United States and for both pilotless and piloted models to be available for military and civilian emergencies.

YOELI: Disaster response, nuclear, biological, chemical decontamination, a dirty bomb in the city, butting against the wall of a building and rescuing people and so on, this aircraft can do all of that because it doesn't have the overhead rotors.

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(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUNT: Urban Aeronautics says it hopes to be producing the Cormorant here in the U.S. by 2022. The company call it a win-win for everyone, Israeli technology, U.S. production, and potentially countless lives saved. **Bref?**

BAIER: Jonathan, thank you.

Former President George H. W. Bush is tweeting out an update on his condition and says he's reading his granddaughter's new book about his life with first lady Barbara Bush. Mr. Bush was hospitalized earlier this week for the second time since his wife's death in April. Today's message, "Enjoying a great book and a wonderful walk down memory lane this morning. Yet another reminder of just how lucky I have been in life. Very proud of the author and co-author, too. More at GreatAmericanlovestory.com."

This is a FOX News alert. We are just getting word of an appointment that the president is making on a homeland security adviser. Rear Admiral Fears is going to be the new homeland security advisor. Douglas Fears has selected to be the president's homeland security adviser. He takes the position once occupied by Tom Bossert. That position was reorganized to **report** to the national security adviser, John Bolton. But he is the new homeland security adviser **reporting** to the NS.

There you have it. Back in business, President Trump says his summit with Kim Jong-un will go on as previously scheduled. We'll get reaction from the panel when we return.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We'll be meeting on June 12th in Singapore. It went very well. I think it's a getting to know you meeting plus.

I never said it goes in one meeting. I think it is going to be a process. But the relationships are building and that is very positive. They want to develop as a country. That's going to happen.

I told them today, take your time. We can go fast, we can go slowly.

We have very significant sanctions on the, but we have hundreds that are ready to go. But why I do that when we are talking so nicely?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: It's on again. June 12th, Singapore, the summit, and today a top North Korean official delivering a letter that was eventually read, we're told, by President Trump, as he headed out to Camp David. But the summit is back on, and where do we go from here? Let's bring in our panel, Tom Bevan, Real Clear Politics co-founder and president, Leslie Marshall, syndicated talk radio host, and Mollie Hemingway, senior editor at "The Federalist." Tom, significant? We've talked about how the terminology is kind of changed and how the president is saying it might be one, it might be two, it might be a number of summits.

TOM BEVAN, REAL CLEAR POLITICS CO-FOUNDER: Walking back expectations a little bit. But it seems that the president still believes that denuclearization is on the table. Not sure that is where the North Koreans are. But yes, look, the summit is back on track and by all accounts is going to happen in less than two weeks. And we were told by everybody and not too long ago that it would be impossible for this to happen, and yet here we are.

BAIER: Leslie?

LESLIE MARSHALL, RADIO TALK SHOW HOST: I was wrong. Do you remember last time I was on your show?

BAIER: Can we tape that?

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MARSHALL: We were in Los Angeles. I said it would be on, I was correct there, but I said it wouldn't happen on the 12th. Then again it still may not. I think that Kim Jong-un and the president, North Korea and the United States have very different ideas of what denuclearization mean, and I don't think Kim Jong-un is going to budge with regarding to the troops being on the peninsula in South Korea. I don't think there will be any kind of a deal unless all troops are gone.

We're not going to remove all the troops so I don't think we're going to be able to get the kind of deal we want, and I think that's why we are hearing the posturing that we're hearing right now from both the president and Pompeo with regard to, it's going to take a little time, we're going to have more than one meaning. And I think that's why, because I think there are two different definitions here and ideas of what they hope to achieve.

BAIER: I know a little bit about summits, wrote a little book about Reagan and Gorbachev. And sometimes it's an evolution. Sometimes it does take more than one. They took Geneva, Reykjavik, Washington and Moscow.

MOLLIE HEMINGWAY, SENIOR EDITOR, "THE FEDERALIST": In this case if you just think back to when the Trump administration started, there were no lines of communication open, even there were no backchannel lines of communication open. And here you have visiting the White House today a top North Korean official, really actually a pretty bad guy who was visiting the White House.

BAIER: Spy chief.

HEMINGWAY: It's really interesting just how far things have gotten. I think it is good that people are resetting expectations about what can be accomplished at this first summit, but just the fact that people are meeting is really significant.

It's also worth remembering that when Barack Obama said that he would be willing to sit down with bad guys, a lot of people on the right thought that was a really bad idea when he said I am willing to sit down with people without agreements beforehand. And I think this shows that sometimes that is a good idea. Sometimes you do have to work with people who might be pretty evil people but just to get things going and that there might be something good about that.

BAIER: It's not really known or talked about much, but President Bill Clinton considered going to sit down with Kim Jong-un and instead sent Madeleine Albright -- Kim Jong-il, I should say, the father, had that meeting. And that's the picture you have of Madeleine Albright toasting champagne with him. There was another meeting that concerned the president today. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I didn't like the Russian meeting yesterday. I said, what is the purpose of that? But it could be a positive meeting. If it is a positive meeting I love it. If it's a negative meeting I am not happy. And it could very well be a positive meeting.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: You just hear what's on his mind. You can't say he's not transparent. He didn't like the Russian meeting, but he doesn't know what the meeting was about.

BEVAN: That's what's fascinating to me about this is Trump is very transparent and honest which typically diplomatic speak is much more cagey and sophisticated than that. And he's willing to say, hey, we might get something done, we might not. We'll wait and see. It really does have the appearance of a guy who is on a high wire without a net, which is a spectacle to watch but also a little bit frightening, we'll see.

BAIER: But the Russian thing did upset some in the foreign policy realm in that Russia going to meet Kim Jong-un, Leslie, saying essentially remember us, and what are you doing, and maybe sticking their nose in it.

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MARSHALL: Not only that. I think Russia is sticking their nose in almost everything we do, especially our elections. Maybe there were helping with that letter the president read or didn't read. But with regard to Kim Jong-un, maybe Kim Jong-un and the North Koreans don't have the -- maybe we don't have the upper hand with them or as much as an upper hand with them as we think, and I think that with that meeting, the president has to remain on his toes even more so.

BAIER: Let me play this one last sound bite and that is about the tariffs and the implication of that from the president's point of view.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: All of these countries including the European Union, they charge five times the tariff. We don't charge tariffs, essentially. They charge five times what we charge for tariffs. And I believe in the word reciprocal. If you're going to charge five time, we're going to charge five times. I like free trade, but I want fair trade. At a minimum I want fair trade.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: There's all this pushback, Republicans, Democrats saying what are we doing with allies? You know what, Larry Kudlow said this is a family squabble and we're going to keep the lines of communication open and we're going to see where this goes.

HEMINGWAY: And free trade is it preferable. It's also true that our allies have had really good trade arrangements for us for a very long time, and there were good foreign policy reasons for that as we were trying to help strengthen these countries during a long cold war. But the point remains that they charge much higher tariffs than we do. That's not necessarily a great idea. It's not necessarily in our best interests. And it's not like we are breaking up a perfectly free trade environment here. We are talking about renegotiating some arrangements.

BAIER: I mentioned the politics of this, Tom, and as you look at different places that could be affected, it doesn't line up to help Republicans and president's party in the midterms on this particular issue. More Democrats like Sherrod Brown and Heidi Heitkamp and others whom maybe benefit from this?

BEVAN: I think it remains to be seen. Again, this is going to be an election that is a base. It is all about turning out votes. And so this is something that Trump's voters have, this is one of his campaign promises. This is one of the things that animated the base to turn out for him in 2016.

BAIER: Even if it knocks down the GPD by a percentage, by one point? You have a great jobs number today. And if it takes its down one percent, as Wilbur Ross says it might, and he says that's not a big deal in the big picture when you have tax cuts that you are supposedly paying for by increasing growth, does that affect people and how they look at this?

BEVAN: It will if it affects their pocketbooks. If they are paying more for goods and services that they would not have otherwise paid in October, a few weeks before the election, it will have a material impact. If the economy keeps humming along and things are fine, it won't affect them. So we'll have to wait and see.

BAIER: Leslie, you'll be first up after the break. Next up, the Friday lightning round. As I mentioned, those new jobs numbers. Is there a Samantha Bee, Roseanne Barr double standard? Plus winners and losers, all of them.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We have reached yet one more historic milestone with 3.8 percent unemployment just announced. African- American American unemployment, Hispanic unemployment at an all- time low in history.

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LARRY KUDLOW, NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL DIRECTOR: This stuff is working. We were told it wouldn't work. I know it is early in the game, I accept that. But right now, a year plus into it, it is working.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: The White House, the president touting those new numbers, and as you take a look at them, it is a good jobs report in May, 223,000 jobs added up from 159,000 in April. As mentioned the unemployment rate down to 3.8 down from 3.9 last month, the lowest since early 2000. And you look at the economy changes, you can see the real GDP growth, unemployment rate, consumer confidence going up, average hourly earnings going up, ticking up, and then the Dow responding really as you look past 11/16, the election, a bumpy ride in the past few months. But look at it now.

Back with the panel. Leslie, that is a pretty good story to tell for the White House.

MARSHALL: I, a Democrat, are saying these are good numbers. These are good numbers. Everybody left or right wants to have a really good economy. But there is a question for me about wage growth. There is a fear of inflation. There is a fear of the Feds becoming a bit too hawkish and then going into the midterms, it is not, to your point earlier, it's not just what is on paper, but what do Americans feel. It is not just the economy, stupid, but if on paper, if they feel like, OK, I have more opportunity and I have more money in my paycheck.

BAIER: Which is that consumer confidence number. It's ticking up. The question I guess for some on Capitol Hill is why now with the tariff battle if you are winning.

HEMINGWAY: Right. It really is good news. The "New York Times" headlines was something like we have run out of words to describe how good this is. And it is an affirmation of the Trump policies and also a reminder of how sluggish things were during the Obama era.

But it's also true, and to your point, this is not something that is going to last forever, and it could become something difficult for President Trump. They think they can keep this sustained and there are good reasons to think that, but we do live in a cycle economy and things could turn, and so it needs to be managed well.

BEVAN: So there are five more job reports before the November election. Trump's approval rating in our Real Clear Politics average right now is 44 percent, on the economy it's 49 percent. And the other number that doesn't get talked about a lot is the right direction number which two weeks in May hit 40 percent. That's the highest it has been in five-and-a-half years. So we focus a lot on the day-to-day shiny objects, but I think the fundamentals of the numbers show that people are giving Trump credit for this economy and they're feeling pretty good about it.

BAIER: Speaking of the president tweeting out, why aren't they firing "No talent Samantha Bee for the horrible language used on her low rating show? Total double standard but that's OK. We are winning and will be doing so for a long time to come." Obviously Samantha Bee and Roseanne Barr, it's a big topic today, Leslie?

MARSHALL: I don't think these are the same, and the reason I don't -- I think they're both terrible. The reason I don't think these are the same is Roseanne Barr was specifically making unequivocally a racist attack toward a minority individual. Samantha Bee was using a word, the c-word, which is, especially as a woman, it is just horrific. It's horrific to have somebody call you that. It is really bad when it comes from a man and I think even worse when it comes from a woman. But I do think they're different because one is racist.

BAIER: We are doing the segment, not linking the two, we're not saying definitely they are the two, just the talk in the president's tweet that brought up this discussion.

HEMINGWAY: It is not just the word that she used. She also alleged incest between Ivanka Trump and her father and was very sexually demeaning. I don't think it is a contest between the two. It is inappropriate to fire off a mean and racist tweet. It's also inappropriate to have an entire corporation work on a pre-scripted show where this was a planned line of attack.

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And I think the big problem for people is that they see that if you are outside of the elite liberal consensus you can lose your entire show for one random horrible tweet whereas you can have all this preplanned effort, and the punishment apparently was that Samantha Bee won an award last night. She had an apology that she quickly walked back, and there don't seem to be any actual repercussions.

BAIER: She is losing some sponsors we're told. Winner and losers, here we go, Tom. Winner then loser?

BEVAN: My winner is eight-year-old Jordan McLinn, the boy who stole the show at the right to try signing ceremony, trying to give Trump a hug. That was a big moment for him and for that bill and all those folks. He suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, by the way.

My loser is Michael Avenatti. Rough week for Stormy Daniels' lawyer. He was rebuked by a judge early in the week, and then just today a **report** in the "New York Times" showing that he lied about the fact that he never solicited funds. He went to some Democrats to try and get them to fund his legal effort to battle against Trump.

BAIER: Winner and loser?

MARSHALL: The winner is Benji, the 13-year-old reporter, when he asked about gun control brought the press secretary nearly to tears. She was choked up, and I as a mom, I just thought he stole the show, and I think he reminded us as Americans what is important to our kids and their future. Loser, Denmark banning the burka. And the reason I say this is as a woman I do not want any government and certainly any man to tell me what I can or cannot wear, nor should anyone tell any woman what they can or cannot wear.

BAIER: Quick, winner and loser?

HEMINGWAY: Kevin Smith and Steve Scalise. A few months ago you thought the Republicans would definitely not keep hold of the House. Things appear to be changing. They have a good shot, and either of these guys could make the next speaker. My loser is J.R. Smith. He was the guy last night who got a rebound with four and half seconds left. All he had to do was put the ball up and he would have either made the shot or gotten fouled and the Cleveland Cavaliers would have won. Instead he dribbled it and left the court, and they ended up being so disturbed they lost the game.

BAIER: They were all losers. Panel, thank you.

When we come back, "Notable Quotables."

BAIER: It's Friday. Finally tonight, "Notable Quotables."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Hopefully we'll have a meeting on the 12th.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, COUNSELOR TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: Doesn't happen June 12th, it could happen thereafter.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The summit is on track. Maybe not for June 12th.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It's probably likely to be delayed.

TRUMP: The process will begin on June 12th in Singapore.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You'll see plenty of aluminum steel around. It will just made by American hands.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Not really the great vacation I was looking for, but we're still together.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I would like to apologize to my wife for the hell she has had to go through the past two days.

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UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Can you tell me what the administration has done and will do to prevent these senseless tragedies?

SARAH SANDERS, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: There is nothing that can be more terrifying for a kid to go to school and not feel safe.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They gave up two lives for their country. The one they were living and the one they would have lived.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm fine. I'm worried about all the people out there who don't have a circle of friends.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I cannot allow those forces to continue to cause pain and difficulty to the people that I love.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Every time it rains hard, you say a Hail Mary and hope it's not the time. Here we are. It was time.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There's just nothing to fool with.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There's lots of really lawyers in country. He could have picked someone else.

RUDY GIULIANI, PRESIDENT TRUMP'S ATTORNEY: Say impeachment, sweetheart. Just say it.

TRUMP: If I had that face, that head of hair, I would have been president so long ago.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: President really? I never quite saw this.

TRUMP: Do I have social skills? I don't know. I have social media, that's for sure.

We talked about almost everything. We talked about a lot.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: One week.

That's it for this **SPECIAL REPORT**, fair, balanced, and unafraid. THE STORY hosted by my friend Martha starts right now. Martha?

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Document-Type: SHOW

Publication-Type: Transcript

Transcript: 060101cb.254

Subject: TALKS & MEETINGS (90%); US PRESIDENTS (90%); KOREAN WAR (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2016 (77%); World Affairs; Meetings; Employment and Unemployment; Economy; Trade; Policies; Politics; Elections; Homosexuality; Business; Television and Radio; Entertainment; Technology; Military

U.S.-North Korea Summit; Jobs, Jobs, Jobs; Trading Punches; The Enemy of my Enemy; 2020 Vision; LGBT Treatment; Media Double Standard; President Trump Criticize....

Company: FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (93%)

Person: KIM JONG UN (89%); DONALD TRUMP (89%)

Geographic: PYONGYANG, KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF (79%); KOREA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF (94%); UNITED STATES (93%); SINGAPORE (92%)

Load-Date: June 2, 2018

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