

Crises in Syria, North Korea put Trump's 'America First' foreign policy to the test

The Syrian chemical weapons attack seemed to awaken the president's sense of moral responsibility as leader of the world's sole remaining superpower. A president who has often seemed indifferent to suffering in faraway countries — including the plight of Syrian refugees — reacted with a natural revulsion. Less clear was whether that would produce a significant shift in policy.

By Greg Jaffe • 3 hours ago

Hinting at action, Trump says chemical attack in Syria 'crossed a lot of lines for me'

The president acknowledged that he now bears responsibility for a war his predecessor could not end, but he offered no specifics on what he could do differently.

By Anne Gearan

- Video | Trump: Chemical attack was an 'affront to humanity'
- The Fix: Trump's handling of Syria has some Senate Republicans very concerned

'If the world wanted to stop this, they would have done so by now'

In Khan Sheikhoun, Syria, site of a chemical attack that killed scores of civilians, families spoke of grief and a sense of betrayal, as the United States and European allies at the U.N. Security Council demanded an investigation. "My son died yesterday," one woman said. "I have nothing left to say to the world."

By Louisa Lovelluck and Zakaria Zakaria

- GOP congressman questions whether Assad was responsible for attack



White House chief strategist Stephen K. Bannon, left, and national security adviser H.R. McMaster. (AP, AP/Getty)

Bannon's removal from NSC reflects growing influence of national security adviser H.R. McMaster

An Army three-star general who took over the post after Michael Flynn was ousted in February, McMaster is increasingly asserting himself over the flow of national security information in the White House. He has become a rising and blunt force who has made clear to several top officials and the president that he does not want the NSC to have any political elements.

By Robert Costa, Abby Phillip and Karen DeYoung

@PKCapitol Analysis

Mitch McConnell: 'Nuclear' option helps Senate. John McCain: 'Whoever says that is a stupid idiot.'

The Senate majority leader believes the GOP's unilateral response to confirm Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court on a simple majority vote will take senators "back to what was the tradition in the Senate" for confirming justices. McCain sees the move as the next step in the slide to crushing the chamber's bipartisan traditions.

By Paul Kane

- Democratic opposition to Gorsuch comes from inside and outside of Washington
- Analysis: Your guide to Gorsuch's confirmation to the Supreme Court
- The Fix: Gorsuch's 11th-hour plagiarism scare

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The institution will come full circle on transgender medicine as it resumes surgeries this summer after abruptly halting them in 1979 when its then-chief of psychiatry Paul McHugh declared transgender people needed psychological, not surgical, help.  
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Denver federal Judge Raymond Moore's ruling that a landlord's refusal to rent to a lesbian couple violated federal housing law marked the second legal victory for LGBT people in two days.  
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Three top GOP leaders each dialed back expectations for action before a two-week recess begins Thursday, as finger-pointing between conservatives and moderates overcame a spirited White House effort to revive the American Health Care Act.  
By Mike DeBonis and David Weigel • 2 hours ago

**Susan Rice may have committed a crime, Trump says without providing evidence**  
"I think it's going to be the biggest story," the president told the New York Times about his suggestion that Obama's former national security adviser requested the identities of Trump campaign associates contained in classified intelligence reports for political purposes.  
By Abby Phillip

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An agent on Vice President Pence's detail has been suspended after meeting with a prostitute while off duty, according to an agency spokesperson.  
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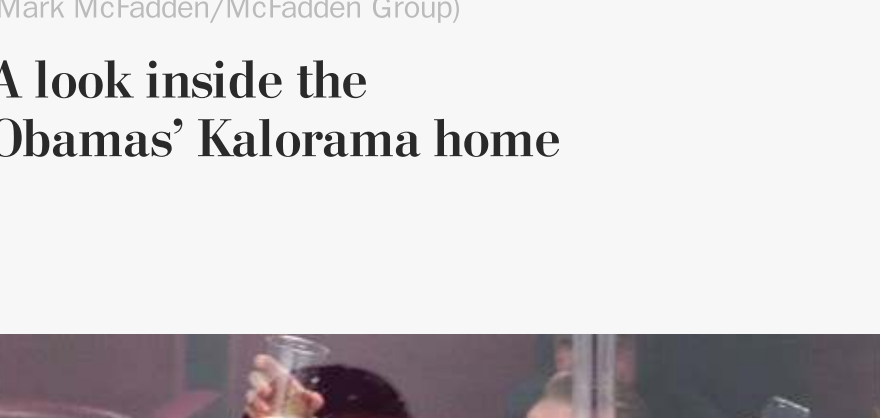
This GOP congressman still doesn't believe that Assad is behind the Syrian attack

Trump's First 100 Days: Trump acknowledges a test in Syria

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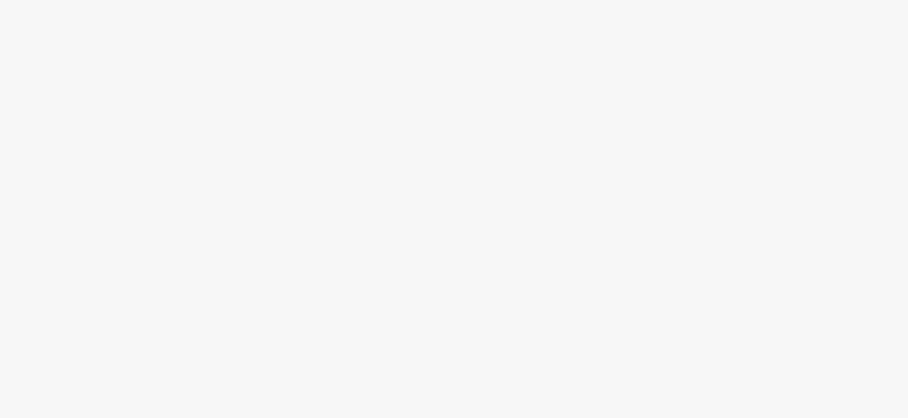
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Trump and his 'America First' philosophy face first moral quandary in Syria

Trump condemns Syria chemical attack and suggests he will act

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