

Thursday 10/29/20

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Videos: Hurricane Zeta Leaves Over 2 Million Without Power in US Gulf Coast, Kills Four by [Gaby Arancibia](#)

Within moments of making landfall on Wednesday, Hurricane Zeta unleashed havoc along the US Gulf Coast by trashing homes, downing power lines, flooding roadways and killing at least four individuals.

Having initially made landfall as a Category 2 storm, Zeta has since been downgraded to a tropical storm. In a Thursday release, the [US National Hurricane Center indicated](#) that the storm still poses a danger to residents, as the cyclone has registered maximum sustained wind speeds of 50 mph, with tropical storm-force winds extending outward some 205 miles.

The center of the storm is near northwestern North Carolina, along the state's border with Virginia. Moving at a pace of 48 mph, Zeta is forecast to "emerge over the western Atlantic by this evening," according to the hurricane agency.

However, before Zeta makes its way to the Atlantic, the storm may spark "a tornado or two" in the Carolinas or southern Virginia, on top of the 1 to 3 inches of rain that are due to fall across the central Appalachians, Mid-Atlantic and parts of the Ohio Valley on Thursday.

Although the worst of the storm has passed, many living along the US Gulf Coast have been left with the familiar clean-up task that comes with a hurricane making landfall in the region.

— Brennan Matherne (@BrennanMatherne) [October 29, 2020](#)

At present, over 2 million people have been left without power as a result of Zeta downing electrical lines. The [latest figures released by tracker PowerOutage.US](#) indicate that Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and both North and South Carolina have been dealt the brunt of the outages.

At least four people have died in the storm, one of whom was electrocuted by low-hanging power lines in New Orleans, Louisiana. Another man is believed to have died after drowning in Mississippi while filming the storm, [according to Weather.com](#). The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported](#) that two others died in Georgia when a tree fell onto a home.

"Zeta has left hazards like flooded roads, downed power lines and displaced wildlife in our communities that no one should take lightly," Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards [tweeted early Thursday](#).

"Now is not the time to go sightseeing. Everyone needs to remain vigilant, continue to listen to local officials and be safe."

Much of the Gulf Coast was left inundated as Zeta swept through the region, leaving dozens of roadways flooded - in fact, coastal Mississippi was subjected to storm surges of up to 9 feet on top of the rain.

With 2020 having seen an overly active hurricane season, Zeta became the 11th named storm to make landfall in the US this year - the most in recorded history. The storm was also the [fifth cyclone to make landfall in Louisiana in 2020](#), following Cristobal, Marco, Laura and Delta.

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Watch: US Air Force Test-Fires 50-Year-Old Minuteman III ICBM
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

In its fourth scheduled test of 2020, the US Air Force launched an unarmed LGM-30 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) early Thursday morning to verify the half-century-old rocket's instruments still work. The Pentagon recently signed a deal for Northrop Grumman to build the Minuteman III's replacement.

As is typical of Minuteman III tests, the solid-fueled three-stage rocket was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base on the California coast and traveled 4,200 miles to splash down in a test range in Kwajalein Atoll, a massive coral atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands in the western Pacific Ocean. The test began at 12:27 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time, [according to a news release by the base](#).

The launch was scheduled for Wednesday, but [delayed because of poor weather conditions](#) in Kwajalein.

The purpose of such tests is essentially practice: Air Force Global Strike Command said the launches "validate and verify the effectiveness, readiness and accuracy of the weapon system as they are conducted to test the entire intercontinental ballistic missile system."

The Minuteman missiles were built in the early 1960s and pioneered the use of solid fuel in ICBMs, enabling them to be stored while ready to fire for long periods of time. The innovation also allowed the US to create "missile farms," where dozens of Minutemen were controlled by a relatively small crew. The missile's third iteration, the Minuteman III, was yet another innovation: it was the first ICBM to have multiple independent reentry vehicle (MIRV) capability; however, all 450 missiles deployed today have just one massive warhead.

Last month, defense contractor [Northrop Grumman was awarded a \\$13.3 billion contract](#) to design and build the Minuteman III's replacement under the Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent (GBSD) initiative. However, the Pentagon estimates the total cost of replacing [the entire ICBM fleet will top \\$95.8 billion](#). The Air Force hopes to begin introducing the new missiles by 2029. A separate project by the National Nuclear Security Administration, the division of the US Department of Energy responsible for the US nuclear arsenal, aims to modernize the W87 nuclear warhead on top of many of the Minuteman IIIs. [A recent Government Accountability Office report](#) estimates the cost of updating the 450-kiloton warhead will be at least \$14.8 billion. [According to the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory](#) in California, which is heading the effort, the new W87-1 warheads will continue to be used atop the new GBSD missiles, along with a new reentry vehicle.

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Photo: Taiwan Grounds Entire F-5E Tiger II Fleet After Fighter Jet Crashes, Pilot Dies
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

Taipei ordered all of its F-5E Tiger II fighter jets grounded on Thursday after a jet crashed shortly after takeoff and the pilot died in a parachuting mishap.

During a routine training mission early Thursday morning, a Taiwanese fighter jet suffered an engine failure and plunged into the sea shortly after takeoff, [the Taiwanese Ministry of National Defense announced](#). The F-5E Tiger II fighter jet was just two minutes out of Chihhang Air Base, on the island's eastern side.

The pilot, 29-year-old Chu Kuan Meng, safely ejected from the plane but became tangled in his parachute strings amid heavy winds and drowned after landing in the sea, [China's Global Times reported](#).

Taiwanese Air Force Chief of Staff Huang Chih Wei told reporters at a news conference the jet was engaged in "basic combat and defense training" and under normal circumstances would not have crashed due to the loss of just one of its two engines. However, such a loss does reduce maneuverability, he noted.

A UH-60M Black Hawk search helicopter located Chu's body roughly 45 minutes after his plane went down and transported him to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

"We are still investigating the exact cause of the crash," Huang said, noting the entire F-5E fleet was grounded until further notice.

The F-5 is a twin-engine light fighter jet introduced by Northrop in 1962, intended as a cheap, reliable fighter jet that US allies could purchase instead of advanced interceptors like the F-4 Phantom II. Northrop built close to 4,000 F-5s in various configurations, and the jet served as the starting point for designing what became the F/A-18 Hornet, now the US Navy's bread-and-butter fighter jet.

The F-5 was also notoriously featured in the 1986 film "Top Gun," in which it played the fictitious "MiG-28" interceptor.

In the 1990s, when Taiwan received more advanced F-16 Falcon fighter jets from the United States and Mirage 2000 jets from France, the F-5Es became second-line reserve aircraft that will be phased out in the coming years as [the new T-5 "Brave Eagle" trainer jet enters service](#). Retired Taiwanese Air Force Lt. Gen. Chang Ting Yen [told the South China Morning Post](#) the service has roughly 40 F-5Es. "They have been used for more than 40 years, and mechanical problems would be inevitable," he said.

The defense ministry noted the ill-fated aircraft had been manufactured in 1980 and flown for more than 6,260 cumulative hours over the course of its life.

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Researchers Suggest Flu Shots May Help Protect Against COVID-19
by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

A new medical study that has not yet been peer-reviewed suggests that getting your flu shot could help protect against getting COVID-19 as well.

According to the study, the phenomenon of cross-protection - when the body's immune response to one disease helps it fight off another as well - might extend to influenza and SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

The research was conducted by a team of scientists at Radboud University Medical Center in the Netherlands, [who published their work on MedRxiv, a pre-print server for papers](#). A disclaimer atop the report notes: "This article is a preprint and has not been peer-reviewed. It reports new medical research that has yet to be evaluated and so should not be used to guide clinical practice."

The report's abstract notes that while several epidemiological studies have suggested that there is "cross-protection between influenza vaccination and COVID-19 during the current pandemic ... the mechanism behind such an effect is unknown."

"Using an established in-vitro model of trained immunity, we demonstrate that the quadrivalent inactivated influenza vaccine used in the Netherlands in the 2019-2020 influenza season can induce a trained immunity response, including an improvement of cytokine responses after stimulation of human immune cells with SARS-CoV-2," the researchers write.

"In addition, we found that SARS-CoV-2 infection was less common among Dutch hospital employees who had received influenza vaccination during the 2019/2020 winter season."

The study reports that among some 10,600 Radboud hospital employees, 2.23% of those who did not get the flu shot during the previous winter contracted COVID-19, while only 1.33% of those who received a flu shot got the novel coronavirus.

Mihai Netea, an infectious disease immunologist at Radboud who co-authored the study, [told Scientific American that while the results](#) might be conflating correlation with causation, a true clinical trial would require randomly denying a control group their flu shots. "That's not ethical," he said.

However, other studies looking at how to enhance the body's response to COVID-19 have suggested it may not be as easy as initially believed. A study [published earlier this month in the British Medical Journal](#) found that administering convalescent plasma therapy to hospitalized patients with COVID-19 [had almost no effect on overall outcomes](#), including mortality.

[According to an editorial accompanying the study](#), while giving patients the blood of people who survived COVID-19, which is laced with the antibodies their bodies used to fight off the virus, seemed to have some effect on alleviating some symptoms of the virus, the method of plasma therapy itself likely amplifies the thrombotic effects of COVID-19, making the patient's blood even thicker and more prone to clotting.

Still, with the flu season rapidly approaching and COVID-19 cases rising rapidly in Europe and the United States, getting your flu shot could scarcely hurt. [The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have advised](#) that the temporary flu vaccine limits contraction of the disease by 40% to 60%. Further, [the flu caused nearly 500,000 hospitalizations](#) and 34,200 deaths in the US in 2019, though its overall mortality rate remains [perhaps one-tenth that of COVID-19](#).

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Pentagon Reportedly Warned Senior Officials Involved in Soleimani Assassination of Threat on US Soil

by [Morgan Artyukhina](#)

The US Department of Defense reportedly issued threat warnings last month to several senior staff members who were involved in the January 3 assassination of Iranian Quds Force commander Maj. Gen. Qasem Soleimani that they faced an active threat against them while on US soil, five senior officials told NBC News.

[According to the report, the threat remains active](#), but the officials did not note a definitive link between the threat and the January 3 drone strike outside Baghdad International Airport that killed the Iranian commander and several senior Iraqi military leaders.

According to NBC, the briefing at which the officials who spoke with the outlet gained the information followed a September 22 incident in which an Iranian national aggressively tailed a government-owned black SUV carrying a senior Pentagon official. The Pentagon and FBI reportedly disagree about whether or not it was a serious attempt to target that individual, though.

However, the driver of the vehicle has not been tracked down, as the incident ended after the government driver lost the tail with evasive driving.

Several days after Soleimani's killing, Iran launched dozens of ballistic missiles armed with conventional warheads at two US bases in Iraq [in what it called Operation Martyr Soleimani](#). No US service members were killed in that attack, but as a result of the military's high alert during the operation, a Ukrainian airliner was shot down by Iranian anti-air missiles after being mistaken for a US aircraft, killing all 176 aboard.

However, [on September 13, US media began reporting](#) that US intelligence reports pointed to an Iranian plot to assassinate Lana Marks, the US ambassador to South Africa, in revenge for Soleimani's death, remarking the threat had existed since the spring.

US President [Donald Trump tweeted out a warning the following day](#) in response to the story, writing, "Any attack by Iran, in any form, against the United States will be met with an attack on Iran that will be 1,000 times greater in magnitude!"

In response, Maj. Gen. Hossein Salami, commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), of which the Quds Force is an elite division, said on September 19: "Mr. Trump! Our revenge for martyrdom of our great general is obvious, serious and real," [according to Iran's Kayhan News](#).

"We will be targeting those who were directly or indirectly involved in the martyrdom of the great general Haj Qasem Soleimani," Salami added, clarifying that "a female ambassador to South Africa" was not worth "the blood of our martyr brother."

"We are an honorable people and fair, and we take revenge fairly and justly, which is why we did not target your soldiers at Ain al-Asad" air base, he noted.

However, even the prospect of killing a top US general would not be adequate revenge for Soleimani's loss, Brig. Gen. Yadollah Javani, the IRGC deputy commander for political affairs, mused in August.

"Given the intrinsic value of [Soleimani], it would be impossible to find anyone who is equally valuable [among US military officials]. He is of so much value to the Resistance [front] that we

cannot find anyone similar to retaliate against," [Javani said, according to Fars News Agency](#). He added the only true revenge would be for the US to be expelled from the Middle East. Trump regularly invokes Soleimani at his political rallies, touting the Iranian commander's death alongside that of Daesh leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi as successes of his presidency. Ironically, Soleimani achieved international recognition after leading Iran's and Iraq's fight against Daesh that successfully evicted the movement from Iraq in late 2017. Trump claimed Soleimani had masterminded attacks against US soldiers and was planning more, although his claim the Iranian general would have attempted to blow up four US embassies had he not been extrajudicially killed [was openly shot down by Defense Secretary Mark Esper](#) on national television.

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Over 80% of COVID-19 Patients at Spanish Hospital Had Vitamin D Deficiency - Study

A new study published in the Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism finds that more than 80% of over 200 COVID-19 patients in a hospital in Spain had vitamin D deficiency, suggesting that vitamin D may play a role in immune system function as it pertains to the novel coronavirus.

According to the [study](#), 80% of 216 COVID-19 patients at the Hospital Universitario Marqués de Valdecilla had vitamin D deficiency. Out of that group of patients, men had lower vitamin D levels than women.

The study also found that patients with lower vitamin D levels had raised serum levels of inflammatory markers like ferritin, a blood protein that contains iron, and troponin, a complex of proteins found in skeletal and heart muscles. Troponin tests measure cardiac-specific troponin in the blood to identify heart injuries.

The findings also reveal that vitamin D-deficient COVID-19 patients had a "greater prevalence" of hypertension and cardiovascular disease and also ended up having longer hospital stays than patients not deficient in the vitamin.

However, the study did not find any link between vitamin D deficiency and COVID-19 severity. "One approach is to identify and treat vitamin D deficiency, especially in high-risk individuals such as the elderly, patients with comorbidities and nursing home residents, who are the main target population for the COVID-19," study co-author José L. Hernández of the University of Cantabria in Santander, Spain, [said in a news release](#).

"Vitamin D treatment should be recommended in COVID-19 patients with low levels of vitamin D circulating in the blood since this approach might have beneficial effects in both the musculoskeletal and the immune system," Hernández added.

Several studies have pointed to the possible impact of vitamin D, which is produced by the body in response to sun exposure, in protecting against COVID-19.

A September [retrospective study](#) by the University of Chicago found a similar association after evaluating 489 patients whose vitamin D levels were measured a year before being tested for COVID-19.

The findings revealed that patients with untreated vitamin D deficiency were almost twice as likely to test positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, compared to patients who were not deficient in the vitamin.

Despite the promising studies, the [US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) has yet to make any declarative statement on the use of vitamin D for the prevention or treatment of COVID-19, stating that there is currently “insufficient data to recommend either for or against” the use of the vitamin.

“The role of vitamin D supplementation in the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 is not known. The rationale for using vitamin D is based largely on immunomodulatory effects that could potentially protect against COVID-19 infection or decrease the severity of illness. Ongoing observational studies are evaluating the role of vitamin D in preventing and treating COVID-19,” the CDC notes.

The CDC also warns on its website that “high levels of vitamin D may cause hypercalcemia and nephrocalcinosis.” Hypercalcemia occurs when calcium levels in the blood are above normal, weakening bones and causing kidney stones, while nephrocalcinosis refers to the deposition of calcium salts in the kidneys.

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US to Pay Hundreds of Millions for Questionable COVID-19 Antibody Treatment

The US Departments of Defense (DoD) and Health and Human Services (HHS) are buying 300,000 doses of a COVID-19 antibody treatment despite the fact that it does not seem to be effective in treating severe cases of COVID-19.

The questionable treatment at the center of the matter is bamlanivimab, a monoclonal antibody therapy developed by pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly, which noted in a Wednesday release that its deal with the government is worth \$375 million.

The DoD and HHS plan to distribute the intravenous treatment to states and local health departments for outpatient care once it is authorized by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the news release explains.

“The US is experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases and associated hospitalizations, and we believe bamlanivimab could be an important therapeutic option that can bring value to the overall health care system, as it has shown a potential benefit in clinical outcomes with a reduction in viral load and rates of symptoms and hospitalizations,” David A. Ricks, Eli Lilly's chairman and CEO, said in a statement accompanying the release.

The [Wednesday release](#) appears to be a shift in stance by Eli Lilly, which earlier this week indicated [in a separate statement](#) that there was “insufficient evidence that bamlanivimab improved clinical outcomes when added to other treatments in hospitalized patients with COVID-19.”

Additionally, the company noted that in a separate clinical trial run by the US' National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, researchers determined that “bamlanivimab is unlikely to help hospitalized COVID-19 patients recover from this advanced stage of their disease.”

The study of the drug was previously paused on October 13 out of caution due to a potential safety concern. However, researchers eventually ruled that the therapy did not pose any significant safety concerns, [Military.com explained](#).

However, some company officials have stressed that the therapy is still effective for milder cases of COVID-19 and "may prevent progression of disease for those earlier in the course of COVID-19," according to the earlier statement.

According to Eli Lilly's Wednesday release, it plans on manufacturing 1 million doses of bamlanivimab by the end of 2020, and plans to have 100,000 doses ready to ship within days of receiving an FDA authorization.

"The supply of Lilly's antibody therapy is expected to increase substantially beginning in Q1 2021, as additional manufacturing resources come online throughout the year," the company predicts.

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'Folks Are Not Showing Up': US COVID-19 Spikes Deterring Families From Routine Health Screenings

COVID-19 is deterring people from obtaining preventative treatment, which is likely to reverberate through the US public health and insurance systems, Dr. Yolandra Hancock, board-certified pediatrician and obesity medicine specialist, told Radio Sputnik's Political Misfits Thursday.

"My biggest concern is really in the area of prevention and screening. What we know from looking even at the pediatric population, parents did not bring their children in for their routine screens and their routine vaccines, and we're seeing similar manifestations play out in terms of cancer screening and heart disease screening," [Hancock told hosts Michelle Witte and Bob Schlehuber](#).

"Folks are not showing up and scheduling their appointments where they undergo their colonoscopies, their mammographies, etc."

According to a report by [Time](#), research has shown that the pandemic has resulted in a 80% decrease in routine cancer screening appointments.

"Not only that, folks are waiting a much longer time when they are manifesting symptoms, especially when it relates to heart disease. So, what we're likely seeing, based on the data that is now coming out, are decreased numbers of folks getting their routine preventative screens as well as people waiting much longer with increased severity of diseases like cancer and heart disease," she added.

With many people forgoing screenings due to the pandemic, health insurance companies are likely to be affected.

"It impacts us as health care professionals, because for health insurance companies to keep us on their panel, we are required to make sure a certain percentage of our patients are receiving these necessary screenings. And when that does not happen, that impacts really the bottom line of primary care providers who stand in the gap for patients to make sure that preventative

medicine is being practiced, so that the majority of our patients aren't progressing to full-blown disease when we can catch it much earlier," Dr. Hancock explained.

She also warned that despite the narrative that COVID-19 doesn't greatly impact young and healthy people, many young people are experiencing long-lasting effects from the novel coronavirus.

"What we know here in the US is that close to 65% of those with COVID-19 have 'recovered,' but we're still learning what does that mean exactly. And there's misinformed belief that simply because you've had a mild case of COVID, you're out of the woods, and that clearly is not the case, especially when you're looking at very young, healthy populations that are demonstrating long-term implications as it relates to heart health, lung health, etc.," Hancock explained.

"In terms of how well we manage patients with chronic diseases, I can tell you we do not manage them well, especially when they are these nondescript, hard-to-define lingering effects from COVID-19," she added.

"We're still learning what those effects are. We are only eight months into this pandemic, and data is just now coming out about the impact on the heart, impact on the lungs."

In addition, the pandemic has shed light on institutionalized racism in the US as [mostly Black communities living near chemical plants suffer more deaths from the virus](#).

"Of all the challenges that COVID has presented for us, one of the opportunities is the revelation of the institutionalized racism that has existed in this country since its inception. When we look at mapping of chemical plants, of refineries, factories, and then look at increased risk of cancer, increased risk of any chronic disease and/or infectious disease that preferentially attacks the lung, you're going to see significant overlap, and when you think about people who are placed near chemical plants, toxic areas, their lungs are already impacted and inflamed," Hancock explained.

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UK Judge Delays Privacy Lawsuit Trial of Prince Harry, Meghan to Fall 2021
by [Evan Craighead](#)

A British judge has granted a monthslong delay in court proceedings for Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, and Prince Harry's privacy lawsuit against a British newspaper publisher accused of violating the UK's Data Protection Act 2018.

Judge Mark Warby announced during a Thursday hearing in London that an appeal filed by Meghan's legal team was granted a nine-month delay, moving the trial from January 11, 2021, to October or November 2021, [according to the Associated Press](#).

"The primary basis for the application is a confidential ground, the merits of which have been examined in the course of a private hearing," he said, [as reported by Reuters](#).

"My conclusion is that the right decision in all the circumstances is to grant the application."

The privacy lawsuit against Associated Newspapers relates to five articles, published in February 2019 via the Daily Mail and MailOnline, that included portions of a handwritten letter addressed from Meghan to her father, Thomas Markle.

Associated Newspapers is the publisher of the Daily Mail, MailOnline, Metro, Metro.co.uk, The Mail on Sunday, i newspaper and inews.co.uk.

Court documents filed on Meghan's behalf cited "the misuse of private information, infringement of copyright and breach of the Data Protection Act 2018," [reported The Hill](#).

The alleged invasion of privacy took place months following the former actor's marriage to Harry. Their son Archie was born a few months after the articles were published.

"Though this action may not be the safe one, it is the right one," [Harry expressed in](#) an October 2019 statement about the lawsuit.

"Because my deepest fear is history repeating itself. I've seen what happens when someone I love is commoditized to the point that they are no longer treated or seen as a real person. I lost my mother and now I watch my wife falling victim to the same powerful forces."

Liz Hartley, legal director for the newspaper publisher, has argued that Associated Newspapers is contesting the decision because of the unnecessary stress a trial delay would put on Thomas Markle, who is 76 years old and is planning to take the witness stand in London.

"He continues to feel that he has been misrepresented and that the claimant should not be pursuing this claim," she said.

"He is anxious that he should have his day in court so that he can tell the truth in public, have his evidence tested under cross-examination and defend himself against the suggestion that he breached the claimant's privacy without any reasonable justification."

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Intercept Co-Founder Glenn Greenwald Resigns Over 'Censorship' of Anti-Biden Content by [Evan Craighead](#)

Journalist Glenn Greenwald, one of three co-founding editors of The Intercept, has announced his departure from the outlet he helped create, claiming his "contractual right of editorial freedom" was violated by editors who demanded he remove article contents critical of Democratic presidential nominee and former US Vice President Joe Biden.

"The censored article, based on recently revealed emails and witness testimony, raised critical questions about Biden's conduct," Greenwald, 53, [wrote in his resignation memo](#) published Thursday on Substack.

"Not content to simply prevent publication of this article at the media outlet I co-founded, these Intercept editors also demanded that I refrain from exercising a separate contractual right to publish this article with any other publication."

"But the pathologies, illiberalism and repressive mentality that led to the bizarre spectacle of my being censored by my own media outlet are ones that are not unique to The Intercept," Greenwald highlighted.

The native New Yorker [published the article in question](#) shortly after issuing his public statement.

Entitled "The Real Scandal: US Media Uses Falsehoods to Defend Joe Biden From Hunter's Emails," the piece slams Biden and his 2020 campaign's silence regarding allegations raised in

reports on “Vice President Joe Biden’s work in Ukraine” and his “family’s pursuit of business opportunities in China.”

Greenwald, Jeremy Scahill and Laura Poitras [founded The Intercept in 2013](#), the same year Greenwald left The Guardian.

The journalist rose to prominence for his reporting on classified documents leaked by American whistleblower and former National Security Agency subcontractor Edward Snowden.

Betsy Reed, editor-in-chief of The Intercept, issued a response to Greenwald’s public resignation, describing him as “a grown person throwing a tantrum” over editorial disagreements while framing himself as a “victim.”

“We have the greatest respect for the journalist Glenn Greenwald used to be, and we remain proud of much of the work we did with him over the past six years,” she wrote. “It is Glenn who has strayed from his original journalistic roots, not the Intercept.”

Later Thursday, Greenwald [honored his vow](#) to publish communications between Intercept editors and himself that pertain to the Biden article, “so you can see the censorship in action and, given the Intercept’s denials, decide for yourselves,” as he wrote in a statement at the beginning of his article about Biden.

“This is the first time in fifteen years of my writing about politics that I’ve been censored,” he said in response to senior editor Peter Maass’ proposed edits.

The editor also claimed he and Reed believed the “draft’s core problem is the connection it often asserts or assumes between the Hunter Biden emails and corruption by Joe Biden.”

“What’s happening here is obvious: you know that you can’t explicitly say you don’t want to publish the article because it raises questions about the candidate you and all other TI Editors want very much to win the election in 5 days,” Greenwald told Maass in a Wednesday morning email.

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US DoJ Confirms Active FBI Money Laundering Probe on Hunter Biden, Associates - Report by [Evan Craighead](#)

A new report cites a US Department of Justice official who confirmed Hunter Biden and a number of his associates have been the subjects of a Federal Bureau of Investigation probe regarding money laundering that has remained active since 2019.

An exclusive report [published Thursday](#) by Sinclair Broadcast Group said a DoJ official had provided confirmation of an ongoing FBI criminal probe into Hunter Biden, son of Democratic presidential nominee and former Vice President Joe Biden, and his associates.

This development comes on the heels of damning insider claims alluding to Biden accepting foreign kickbacks. Tony Bobulinski, a former business associate of Hunter Biden, has referenced emails, documents and additional forms of evidence [alongside claims of the vice president’s son accepting](#) large payments from companies in Ukraine and China. Bobulinski has also said that Joe Biden had some knowledge of his son’s business dealings.

As speculation persists concerning US President Donald Trump's [own alleged multi-million dollar debt](#) and the associated national security risk of such an obligation, Bobulinski appeared to make a similar allegation against the Bidens during his interview with Sinclair investigative reporter James Rosen.

"The compromise they have is that in documents that have been well provided to the Senate, to Congress, to the Department of Justice via the FBI that CEFC [China Energy] was effectively loaning money directly to the Biden family," he alleged.

"I can only imagine to the extent that the Chinese Communist Party has information on the Biden family and their business dealings. Other business dealings that occurred in Romania, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Monaco and the Middle East, and then obviously topping off in Russia." The former business partner of Hunter Biden claims to have first met the former US vice president in Beverly Hills, California, in May 2017 and chose to speak out last week - with days left before the conclusion of the [2020 presidential election](#) - because Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) and other Democratic lawmakers floated unsubstantiated theories tying the allegations to a so-called Russian disinformation campaign.

However, he also declared that he was initially driven to speak up by the US president's impeachment proceedings in January, which centered on Trump's attempt to pressure the Ukrainian government to open a probe into the Bidens.

"I didn't want to put my face out there, I didn't want to put my family at risk. I now have ex-Navy SEALs guarding my family and my extended family and I have now put myself in huge risk for the sake of the American people," argued Bobulinski, a veteran of the US Navy who once held top-secret security clearance.

"I have not taken a penny from any foreign source ever in my life," argued Biden during the final presidential debate on October 22, just hours after Bobulinski's live statement to White House reporters.

Bobulinski revealed that he participated in an FBI interview that lasted several hours, shortly after claiming he had proof on three cellphones to counter the presidential hopeful's claims that he was not involved with his family's business dealings in China.

"My impression was everyone in that room was aware of the sensitivity of the parties involved and potential multiple impacts to this country and every citizen living in it," he said.

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Snail Mail Fail - Political Cartoon

Fox News television host Tucker Carlson recently claimed that bombshell documents had been uncovered regarding the alleged Hunter Biden scandal that would damage Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden, but there was a problem: they got lost in the mail.

Carlson claimed during his show on Wednesday that the new and "damning" Hunter Biden paperwork mysteriously vanished after a producer for the show in New York attempted to ship it to the anchor in Los Angeles overnight on Monday. Oops!

Carlson did not name the courier in his on-air monologue about the disappearance; however, [UPS later confirmed](#) to Business Insider that it was the company in question.

Matthew O'Connor, UPS' senior public relations manager, told Business Insider that the documents had been found and were on their way back to Carlson.

"After an extensive search, we have found the contents of the package and are arranging for its return," he said on Thursday.

It remains unclear what happened to the shipment, as O'Connor declined to provide further details when prompted.

How funny that in 2020, with so many ways to transmit documents, it seems that nobody thought to make copies!