



Why the Pentagon has Nigeria in its sights

May 21, 2026 *The Spectator* reported: "For the Pentagon, Nigeria is firmly on the list of countries where terror has run amok. In 2025 and again in January and May this year, the US Air Force bombed rebel camps in the north in an effort to halt a spree of murders and abductions that has left thousands dead or missing.

US bombings earlier this week killed Islamic State's second in command, Abu Bakr al-Mainuki, but the insurgency shows no sign of slowing; 17 trainees died recently in an attack on the army's special forces academy and the conflict has spread to nearby Mali.

In Nigeria, keeping the peace is a challenge. Since independence from Britain in 1960, there have been six coups and a civil war. Divided by Islam and Christianity – which is split between Catholic and Protestant – and disparate ethnic groups, fracture is always a risk but rarely of concern to Washington. However, a jihad in the north that has run more than 16 years has seen churches burned, villages destroyed and the army routed as rebels fight to establish an independent caliphate..."



'You agents of satan': Vatican's own report contends homosexuality is 'emerging' in Catholic Church

May 20, 2017 *wnd.com* reported: "A hurricane has been stirred up for the Catholic Church, and other Christians, after a Vatican report purportedly about "controversial" issues within the church suddenly changed direction and described homosexuality as an "emerging" issue.

A story at the Federalist explains it was a 32-page report by Study Group No. 9 published by the Vatican's General Secretariat of the Synod that left a multitude of faithful concerned, even outraged..."

The group had been assigned to examine "controversial" issues in the church, but then decided to frame homosexuality as "emerging."

"That move, explained early on in the report, set the stage for suggesting a shift from sound Catholic doctrine about marriage and sexuality to what canon lawyer and pastor Father Gerald Murray called a 'full-fledged endorsement of the homosexual lifestyle,'" the report said..."

Cuban president says US military action would trigger 'bloodbath'

May 19, 2017 *newsnationnow.com* reported: "Cuban President Miguel Díaz-Canel warned that any United States military action against Cuba could spark what he called a "bloodbath," amid renewed tensions between Havana and Washington.

The warning follows an Axios report citing a U.S. official who said Cuba had secured more than 300 military drones from Russia and Iran. According to the report, the drones could be used to attack the U.S. Naval base in Guantanamo Bay as well as other American interests..."

Report: Pakistan Deploys Jets and Troops to Saudi Arabia for Iran War

May 18, 2017 *breitbart.com* reported: "Pakistan sent a squadron of jet fighters, an air-defense system, and about 8,000 troops to Saudi Arabia to honor a mutual defense pact between the two countries during the Iran war, according to a Reuters report on Monday.

"The deployment, the full scale of which is reported here for the first time, was confirmed by three security officials and two government sources, all of whom described it as a substantial, combat-capable force intended to support Saudi Arabia's military if the kingdom comes under further attack," Reuters wrote.

This seems like a delicate point, since Iran has attacked Saudi Arabia without any sign of an overwhelming response by Pakistani forces. The Saudis intercepted three more inbound Iranian drones on Monday, the day after Iran is believed to have used drones to bomb the Barakah nuclear plant in the United Arab Emirates.

As with past Iranian attacks, the Saudi Defense Ministry vowed to "take the necessary operation measures to respond to any attempt to violate its sovereignty and security," but did not take any dramatic action against Iran. There was no clear indication that Pakistani forces played any role in taking down the latest three Iranian drones.

Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a defense pact in September 2025, shortly after Israel conducted a surprise airstrike on Hamas terrorist leaders living in Doha, Qatar.

There was also some consternation in 2025 about the possibility that nuclear-armed Pakistan could extend its nuclear “umbrella” over Saudi Arabia, a possibility strongly hinted at by Saudi officials. In theory, Pakistan could have signed similar deals with many other Middle Eastern states to bring them under nuclear protection.

The full terms of the defense pact have yet to be made public, but both Saudi and Pakistani officials say it involves a mutual defense commitment...”

The Navy just quietly sent the USS Alaska — an Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine carrying 24 Tridents — into the Mediterranean off Gibraltar

May 17, 2017 msn.com reported: “On May 10, 2026, the U.S. Navy surfaced one of the most destructive weapons platforms ever built at one of the most watched chokepoints on Earth, and then said almost nothing about it.

A single Defense Department photograph, released without a press statement or named spokesperson, confirmed that the ballistic missile submarine USS Alaska had appeared near the Strait of Gibraltar, the narrow passage between Spain and Morocco that separates the Atlantic Ocean from the Mediterranean Sea. The image, cataloged under the Pentagon’s standardized VIRIN system as 260510-N-N0901-1001, is Navy-attributed and date-stamped, placing the submarine at Gibraltar with high confidence...”

That makes the Alaska’s appearance a deliberate act of visibility. The Navy has done this before. In 2020, the USS Tennessee, another Ohio-class SSBN, was photographed passing through the same strait in what was widely interpreted as a deterrence signal. In both cases, the Pentagon released imagery with minimal commentary, letting the submarine’s presence speak for itself...”

N.Y.U. Students Object to Speaker Who Calls Their Generation Coddled

May 13, 2026 nytimes.com reported: “Jonathan Haidt, a social psychologist and author, has been on the front lines of campus battles over free speech for more than a decade, warning that the American education system has poorly served a generation of young people by cocooning them from ideas they might find distressing. Now, he finds himself in a free-speech squall at his own university.



Jonathan Haidt
Author

Student government leaders at New York University are objecting to his selection as the graduation speaker at Yankee Stadium — calling it “deeply unsettling” — and in a letter, asked university officials to reconsider before the ceremony on Thursday...But for Dr. Haidt’s supporters, the symbolism is unmistakable. The controversy might even fit in one of his own books: A small group of students tries to cancel an outspoken critic of cancel culture, who says that American education has been woefully deficient when it comes to exposing young people to perspectives different from their own...

In his books and public appearances, Dr. Haidt has been highly critical of the culture in which many young adults today were raised. In his breakout book, “The Coddling of the American Mind,” he and his co-author, Greg Lukianoff, argued that schools cultivated a mentality of fragility, making personal safety paramount, while de-emphasizing problem-solving skills...”

Chick-fil-A franchisee sued by US government for religious discrimination

May 15, 2026 bbc.com reported: “The US government is suing a Chick-fil-A franchisee for allegedly denying an employee’s request to take Saturdays off work for religious reasons. The lawsuit claims that Hatch Trick Inc, the franchisee, violated federal law by denying an employee’s request to refrain from work on Saturdays for religious reasons.

The employee was a member of the United Church of God, which observes the Sabbath on that day, the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) said in a press release.

The federal agency is a workplace watchdog set up to fight workplace discrimination. According to the EEOC, the employee requested not to be scheduled for Saturday work during her initial August 2023 job interview.

Hatch Trick honored this request for a few months before eventually requiring her to work on Saturdays in February 2024, despite the employee requesting religious accommodation, the EEOC claims. The employee was responsible for managing the delivery drivers at one of Hatch Trick’s Chick-fil-A locations in Austin, Texas...

The Sabbath is the holy day of rest in the Christian faith, which most Christians observe on Sunday. Chick-fil-A allows its employees to observe the Sabbath by closing on Sunday, giving them time “to rest, enjoy time with their families and loved ones or worship if they choose”, according to the company’s website...”