

results of routine inspections at nuclear weapons bases, such as a 'pass-fail' grade, had previously been publicly available. They are now off-limits. The change goes beyond the standard practice of withholding detailed information on the inspections. The stated reason for the change is to prevent adversaries from learning too much about U.S. nuclear weapons vulnerabilities. Navy Capt. Greg Hicks, spokesman for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the added layer of secrecy was deemed necessary."

<http://bit.ly/2tMB6uW>

**-- "Pentagon Considers Canceling Program That Recruits Immigrant Soldiers,"** by NPR's Richard Gonzales and Tom Bowman: "The Pentagon is considering pulling out of a deal it made with thousands of noncitizen recruits with specialized skills: Join the military and we'll put you on the fast track to citizenship. The proposal to dismantle the program would cancel enlistment contracts for many of the foreign-born recruits, leaving about 1,000 of them without legal protection from deportation. ... [In a DoD] memo, obtained by NPR, high-level personnel and intelligence officials cite security concerns and inadequate vetting of recruits under a program called Military Accessions Vital to the National Interest, or MAVNI. ... The founder of the MAVNI program, retired Lt. Col. Margaret Stock, said the security concerns are overblown. 'If you were a bad guy who wanted to infiltrate the Army, you wouldn't risk the many levels of vetting required in this program,' she said." <http://n.pr/2tHZJbH>

**THROWING SHADE -- ISAAC DOVERE** talks with **FRENCH AMBASSADOR GERARD ARAUD** for **OFF MESSAGE**: "French Ambassador Gérard Araud tells Dovere that Donald Trump isn't the leader of the free world -- no one is anymore. 'We have to define what is the free world, and today, there is no -- the expression of 'leader,' I think, doesn't really doesn't fit the question,' Araud said.

**"Ahead of the trip to the G-20** Trump leaves for on Wednesday and his return to Paris to watch the Bastille Day parade with Emanuel Macron, Araud acknowledged how much has been thrown into question: "This world order, the traditional liberal world order, is more or less undermined, really, or looks injured. Where [is] the United States? And that's a question which is on the table,' Araud said. 'I think it's impossible to move on without America, and I think also that the United States really can't let the world move on.'

**"But it's not all about Trump to Araud,** who pointed out that he wasn't the president who delegated the response to Ukraine to Angela Merkel or took a hands-off approach to Syria. "America First,' in a sense, was raised in a discrete way, also under President

Obama,' Araud said." **Listen to the full podcast** <http://apple.co/2e2dLvm>

-- **"Europeans Can't Think of Building a Future Without the Americans,"** by Isaac Dove: <http://politi.co/2sBpaw8>

**PLAYBOOK METRO SECTION -- "It's summer, and Washington smells like weed. Everywhere, all the time,"** by Maia Silber in WaPo: "[M]ore than two years after the District legalized marijuana possession, it seems that everywhere you go in the nation's capital, you catch a whiff of weed. And it's often in the places where you least expect it. On H Street downtown, as you wind your way between office workers rushing back from lunch. At 10th and E streets NW, in the shadow of the FBI headquarters. In the hallway of your apartment building. In the foyer of your gym. In Aisle 9 of the Walmart, wafting in through the beach towels. (Wait, Walmart?)"  
<http://wapo.st/2sIcrTs>

**BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- "Sikh Community Saves Town's Independence Day Fireworks Display,"** by NBC News' Alex Seitz-Wald: "When the mayor of Visalia, located in California's agricultural Central Valley, mentioned to a local Sikh businessman that the city of 120,000 might have to forego a July Fourth fireworks display due to financial concerns, the religious community jumped. The Sikhs chipped in \$10,000 for the festivities ... The donation is part of a new nationwide campaign to educate Americans about Sikhs that launched earlier this year with \$1 million in TV advertising featuring Sikh families playing football, discussing their love of 'Game of Thrones,' and explaining that 'Sikh values are American values.'" <http://nbcnews.to/2tI15D1>

**SPORTS BLINK -- THE QUESTION ALL NATS FANS ARE ASKING -- BARRY SVRLUGA** in WaPo: "The Nationals may have the most star power in baseball. Will the bullpen waste it?" <http://wapo.st/2uFOzBd>

**PLAYBOOKER TRAVEL PICS** - American Airlines' Stephen Johnson sends in his annual contribution of a sunset pic, from Laguna Beach last night, taken from "The Deck," a favorite gathering spot. <http://bit.ly/2sBCPmO>

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