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NORTH DAKOTA AND REGIONAL

(U) North Dakota Wildlife Officials Worry About Deer Disease
(U) State wildlife officials are working to determine the severity of disease in white-tailed deer in southwestern North Dakota. A large-scale outbreak could impact hunting in the region this fall. The state Game and Fish Department since August has documented deer deaths due to epizootic hemorrhagic disease — commonly called EHD — in Morton, Emmons, Grant, Dunn, Billings, Stark, Hettinger and Adams counties. Source: (U) https://www.washingtontimes.com/north-dakota-wildlife-officials-worry-about-deer/

(U) Cass County Moving To “High” Risk Level Triggering New Capacity Limits
(U) Cass County is being moved from “moderate” to “high” risk as COVID-19 cases continue to surge in North Dakota. Gov. Doug Burgum says we are in the middle of a “regional COVID storm” and the guidelines are being changed to reflect that. The move to “high” risk means restaurants and bars in Cass County will be limited to 25% capacity up to 50 people. Source: (U) https://www.kvrr.com/cass-county-moving-to-high-risk-level-triggering-new-capacity-limits/

(U) New Radio Infrastructure for Public Safety and Emergency Services
(U) North Dakota public safety and emergency services are getting a long overdue radio upgrade as part of a new program called SIRN20/20. SIRN stands for Statewide Interoperable Radio Network. “Interoperable” means all the agencies involved (law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, emergency management, the public utilities, transportation, and others) will be able to communicate with each other, on demand, and in real-time. It is a joint effort by state, county, and municipal public safety agencies to build and maintain a statewide interoperable radio communication system for first responders and the public safety community. Source: (U) https://www.cavaliercountyextra.com/new-radio-infrastructure-for-public-safety-emergency-service

(U) North Dakota AG: Republicans Could Replace Dead Candidate
(U) North Dakota’s attorney general says that if a Republican state House candidate who died earlier this month wins one of two seats up for election, the GOP would choose his replacement unless enough district voters call for a special election. Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem’s opinion says that if Andahl is elected to the post, the office would be deemed vacant. Under state law, a committee representing the party of the previous officeholder would fill the opening by appointment. Voters within the district can petition for a special election. Source: (U) https://www.usnews.com/north-dakota-ag-republicans-could-replace-dead-candidate

(U) Dakota Access Gets Illinois Approval for Expansion
(U) Energy Transfer has the final approval it needed for a proposed expansion of the Dakota Access pipeline, which already takes up to 570,000 barrels of oil per day from the Bakken to market. In its order on October 14th, the Illinois Commerce Commission said allowing the expansion would promote both security and convenience for the general public. Dakota Access in its most recent earnings call told investors it plans to have the expanded capacity online in late 2021. Source: (U) https://www.willistonherald.com/dakota-access-gets-illinois-approval-for-expansion
NATIONAL

(U) Trump Administration Unveils Plan to Protect U.S. Critical & Emerging Technologies
(U) President Donald Trump released a plan October 15th to address government promotion and protection of key critical and emergency technologies against competitors like China and Russia. The National Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technologies outlines plans to secure a U.S. advantage in fields like artificial intelligence, energy, quantum information science, communications and networking technologies, semiconductors, military and space technologies.

(U) Microsoft Takes Down a Risk to the Election, and Finds the U.S. Doing the Same
(U) Microsoft and a team of companies and law enforcement groups have disabled — at least temporarily — one of the world’s largest hacking operations, an effort run by Russian-speaking cybercriminals that officials feared could disrupt the presidential election in three weeks. In a separate but parallel effort — which was apparently not coordinated with Microsoft — United States Cyber Command, the military cousin to the National Security Agency, had already started hacking TrickBot’s command and control servers around the world late last month, according to two government officials.

(U) CISA & FBI Warn of APT Groups Targeting Critical Infrastructure & Election Systems
(U) CISA and the FBI have released a joint cybersecurity advisory regarding APT actors chaining vulnerabilities—a commonly used tactic exploiting multiple vulnerabilities during a single intrusion—in an attempt to compromise federal and SLTT government networks, critical infrastructure, and elections organizations. CISA is aware of some instances where this activity resulted in unauthorized access to elections support systems; however, CISA has no evidence to date that integrity of elections data has been compromised. The joint cybersecurity advisory contains information on exploited vulnerabilities and recommended mitigation actions for affected organizations to pursue.

(U) SpaceX Connects Rural Washington Communities Via Satellite
(U) Rural areas of Washington have received much-needed high-speed Internet through Starlink, the satellite broadband service of Elon Musk’s aerospace company SpaceX. Seven terminals are enabling broadband in the rural town of Malden, which saw most of its buildings and houses burned down by a wildfire in September. The connectivity has benefitted both Malden residents and firefighters, who have utilized “the terminals in their incident command vehicles to request resources, organize daily activities and make decisions, such as ordering helicopters for wildfire fighting activities,” according to CNN.

(U) Zuckerberg Donates $100 Million More to U.S. Election Infrastructure
(U) Facebook Inc. CEO Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, said on Tuesday that they will donate an additional $100 million to support election officials and fund infrastructure for the U.S. election in November. The pair previously donated $300 million to help the U.S. election process deal with challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, for example, by funding voting equipment and protective equipment for poll workers.
Source: (U) https://money.usnews.com/zuckerberg-donate-100-million-more-to-us-election-infrastructure
**INTERNATIONAL**

(U) China Won’t Take Part in U.S.-led Trilateral Arms Control Negotiation

(U) Geng Shuang, head of the Chinese delegation and deputy permanent representative of China to the United Nations, rejected the so-called “trilateral arms control negotiation” recently hyped up by the United States, in his statement delivered at the general debate of the First Committee of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). “This is just a trick to shift the focus of the international community. The U.S. intention is to find an excuse to shirk its own special and primary responsibility for nuclear disarmament and seek a pretext to free its hands and gain absolute military supremacy,” he said.


(U) Fortem Tech & Mikuni Corp. to Provide Security Solutions Against Drone Incursions

(U) Fortem Technologies, Inc., a leader in airspace security and defense for detecting and defeating dangerous drones, announced today that it has partnered with Mikuni Corporation, the experts in providing technology trade to Japan. The goal of this partnership is to provide enhanced security for civilian events as well as for critical infrastructure across Asia. Fortem’s SkyDome® System is an end to end counter UAS solution that detects and classifies threats and can then mitigate them autonomously with its interceptor drone, the DroneHunter®. The heart of the Fortem SkyDome System is TrueView® radar, a compact, AI-enabled, networkable radar designed to perform in urban environments as well as the complex terrain throughout Japan.

Source: (U) [https://www.globenewswire.com/Foratem-Technologies-Mikuni-Corporation](https://www.globenewswire.com/Foratem-Technologies-Mikuni-Corporation)

(U) North Korea Shows Off New ICBM

(U) North Korea’s communist regime on October 10th, 2020 unveiled yet another intercontinental-range ballistic missile capable landing warheads in the United States, according to state media reports. The new road-mobile ICBM had not been seen before and was displayed during a parade in North Korea on a transporter-erector launcher with 11 axles, two more than the KN-22 ICBM that was test fired in 2017. The new missile is the fourth ICBM for the North Koreans, after the Taepodong, KN-20 and KN-22.


(U) Scientists Discover a Room-Temperature Superconductor

(U) For the first time ever, physicists achieved superconducting at “room temperature,” meaning without supercooling the conductive material. In this case, the room temperature is set at 60 degrees Fahrenheit. The implications for electrical engineering and physics could be staggering, but there’s still a catch: the pressure on the conductors must be at almost 300 gigapascals, which represents roughly 3 million times the ambient air pressure on Earth.

Source: (U) [https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/a34385926/superconductivity-at-room-temperatur](https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/a34385926/superconductivity-at-room-temperatur)