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**Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.**

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## **EXECUTIVE INSIGHT BRIEF – AUGUST 11, 2017**

### **TOP STORIES**

**TRUMP WARNS N KOREA THAT U.S. MILITARY IS ‘LOCKED AND LOADED.’** President Donald Trump says the U.S. military is "locked and loaded" to deal with North Korea, ramping up the rhetorical brinkmanship.

[Read More.](#)

**WHAT CAN NORTH KOREA REACH WITH ITS MISSILES?** Here's a look at how the country's missile program has expanded beyond its neighbors to now having much of the world within reach. [Read More.](#)

**TRUMP'S TWITTER FURY AT McCONNELL RISKS ALIENATING KEY ALLY.** Upset at the failed health care repeal, President Trump has turned his Twitter fire and fury on Mr. McConnell, the one person he may most need to execute a stalled Republican legislative agenda. [Read More.](#)

## FROM THE CAPITAL

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION STILL RIDDLED WITH KEY VACANCIES.** The Senate ended its health care debate last week with little-noticed harmony on confirmations, as more than five dozen picks by President Donald Trump were cleared for senior posts. But that spree of approvals still leaves the president with 147 nominees awaiting Senate action. [Read More.](#)

**MUELLER TURNS UP THE HEAT WITH UNUSUAL SEARCH WARRANT IN RUSSIA PROBE.** Federal prosecutors have lots of ways to intensify pressure on the people they're investigating, from early morning FBI raids to leaning on relatives of those under government scrutiny. [Read More.](#)

**TRUMP TO MEET WITH TILLERSON, McMASTER AMID NORTH KOREA CRISIS.** The huddle at Trump's golf club in Bedminster, N.J., comes on top of a previously scheduled meeting between the president and U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley. [Read More.](#)

**TRUMP THANKS PUTIN FOR EXPELLING U.S. DIPLOMATS, INFURIATING STATE DEPARTMENT.** President Donald Trump on Thursday thanked Russian President Vladimir Putin for expelling American diplomats from Russia on the grounds that "we're going to save a lot of money." [Read More.](#)

## DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

**CHINA WARNS NORTH KOREA: YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN IF YOU GO AFTER THE UNITED STATES.** China won't come to North Korea's help if it launches missiles threatening U.S. soil and there is retaliation, a state-owned newspaper warned Friday, but it would intervene if Washington strikes first. [Read More.](#)

**LOCKHEED DEBUTS NEXT-GEN MISSILE DEFENSE RADAR AHEAD OF ARMY COMPETITION.** Lockheed Martin brought a new next-generation air-and-missile defense radar to the Space and Missile Defense Symposium this week that it hopes will help the U.S. Army finalize its requirements for a new 360-degree radar for the service's future Integrated Air and Missile Defense

system. [Read More.](#)

**ITALY'S AUDIT COURT GIVES F-35 CAUTIOUS APPROVAL.** Italy's audit court has given measured approval to the F-35 program, claiming in a detailed new report that Italy needs to be on board despite price hikes, delays and the country's currently low workshare. [Read More.](#)

**KENYA ELECTION TENSIONS RISE AS OPPOSITION CLAIMS FRAUD.** Tensions built on Thursday after the opposition leader accused election officials of falsifying the results and handing victory to President Uhuru Kenyatta, the incumbent. [Read More.](#)

## ECONOMY AND FINANCE

**U.S. STOCKS REBOUND, DOLLAR DOWN ON INFLATION DATA: MARKETS WRAP.** U.S. stocks halted a three-day slide, volatility eased and Treasuries slipped as markets began to stabilize after a week of verbal sparring between the U.S. and North Korea. [Read More.](#)

**U.S. RAN NEARLY \$43 BILLION BUDGET DEFICIT IN JULY.** Federal-government outlays last month totaled \$274.98 billion, exceeding its \$232.04 billion in total receipts, the Treasury Department said Thursday. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office had predicted a \$45 billion deficit for July. [Read More.](#)

## ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

**2016 WAS HOTTEST YEAR ON RECORD, INTERNATIONAL REPORT CONFIRMS.** The State of the Climate in 2016 report, led by the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) with the help of scientists from 60 nations, found that "the major indicators reflect trends consistent with a warming planet." [Read More.](#)

**SENATORS FIGHT PROPOSED TRADE PENALTIES FOR SOLAR PANELS.** The Friday letter spearheaded by Sens. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Thom Tillis (R-N.C.), who both hail from states with growing solar power capacity, tells the International Trade Commission (ITC) that the penalties could severely hurt the solar industry. [Read More.](#)

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**GOOGLE CANCELS ALL-STAFF DIVERSITY MEETING.** It is reported that some staff members were concerned about being singled out online if they were identified while they spoke out during the meeting. [Read More.](#)

**DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES MATTIS ENVIES SILICON VALLEY'S AI ASCENT.** When asked if the U.S. had ambitions to harness recent progress in AI for military purposes, Secretary Mattis said his department needed to do more with the technology. [Read More.](#)

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