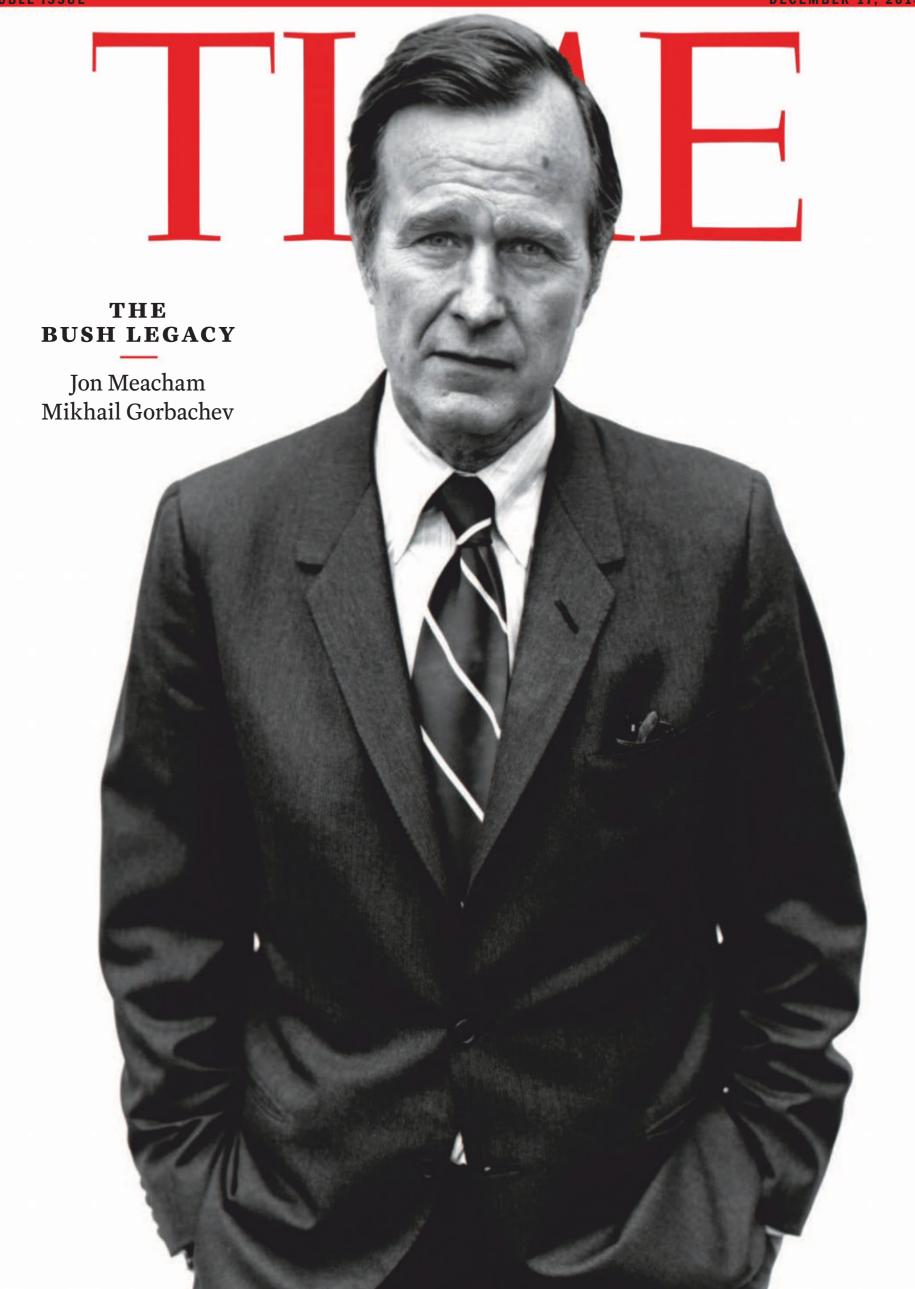
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Vice President
George H.W. Bush
and Barbara
Bush lounge
in bed at their
Kennebunkport,
Maine, summer
home on Aug. 22,
1987, with
grandchildren and
daughter-in-law
Margaret

Photograph by David Valdez— White House/ The LIFE Picture Collection/Getty Images

ON THE COVER: George Bush, CIA director. Langley, Va., March 2, 1976.

Photograph by Richard Avedon— © The Richard Avedon Foundation

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Conversation



WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT...

UNITED BY GRIEF The Dec. 10 cover story on the bond among parents of children who died in mass shootings, by Haley Sweetland Edwards and Belinda Luscombe, drew emotional reactions from readers who had also

lost children. "As a mother who has lost a son, I know the feeling of being outside 'normal' life, forever," wrote Lynette S. Danylchuk of San Mateo, Calif. And Tim Teague of Waterford, Va., wrote of how "strange" it was "to be anywhere and feel like

'There's no cover large enough to photograph the devastation and heartbreak.'

@THEMAINEPAIN, Twitter

the world is moving on, but I am stuck." But Gary Vogel of Sanford, Fla., worried that the story blurred a line between the issue of "the unique grief that parents who have lost a child endure" and the issue of how those particular children died. "Both these topics are important," he wrote, "but they are separate."

SECRET'S OUT Many female readers agreed with Amy Odell's analysis in the same issue of how Victoria's Secret is struggling to stay relevant. "Comfortable is the new sexy," tweeted @_mia_lia; Rebecca Watkins of Eastern Sierra, Calif., echoed that idea in describing the lingerie company's discontinu-

Female
autonomy &
diversity
= the new
sexy. Not
everyone
can keep up.

WEDNESDAY MARTIN, author of *Primates* of *Park Avenue*, on Twitter

ing her favorite style.
"I got the message
that big is not sexy
and old is not worthy,"
she wrote, "[and] forget it if you want comfort." Jeannine Schafer of Redwood City,
Calif., tweeted,
"Women revolting
against being sold an
unattainable ideal at
this scale makes my
brain tingle."

SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

In addition to this week's cover story, TIME is examining the life and legacy of the 41st U.S. President, George H.W. Bush, with a new Time Inc. Books anthology. Starting with an introduction by Pulitzer Prize winner and Bush biographer Jon Meacham, the book features iconic photography, excerpts from the President's private letters and political analysis from a wide range of contributors. The commemorative book is available now at retailers and on Amazon.



GIFT GUIDE TIME editors and correspondents have ideas for everyone on your list, from cameras and curling irons (Leica's M10-D or the Dyson Airwrap, bottom) to essentials and entertainment (the Quip toothbrush or Nintendo Switch, top). More at time.com/2018-gifts





Subscribe to
TIME's free health
newsletter and
get a weekly
email full of news
and advice to help
keep you well.
For more, visit
time.com/email

HISTORY Forty years after the Jonestown massacre resulted in the deaths of more than 900 people, TIME.com presents an in-depth look at how the U.S. military dealt with the mission of cleaning up what was left behind—and how that experience affected the crew members in the long run. See **time.com/jonestown**

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'Don't you like it here with me?'

CIMON,

an artificial-intelligence device designed to assist aboard the International Space Station, chastising German astronaut Alexander Gerst after their communications turned glitchy while recording a demo video

\$266.1 million

Domestic grosses earned by Taylor Swift's Reputation stadium concert tour, the highest for any U.S. tour since Billboard Boxscore started keeping track in 1990; Swift sold more than 2 million tickets during the tour, which ended in November

'Mr.
Ratelband is
at liberty to
feel 20 years
younger
than his
real age
and to act
accordingly.'

ARNHEM DISTRICT COURT.

ruling that Dutch
TV personality Emile
Ratelband, 69, can't legally
change his date of birth just
because he feels more like
a 49-year-old

'IT'S NOT ALWAYS ENOUGHTO LEAN IN'

MICHELLE OBAMA.

former U.S. First Lady, speaking at a book-tour event on Dec. 1 about problems with the idea that women can "have it all"

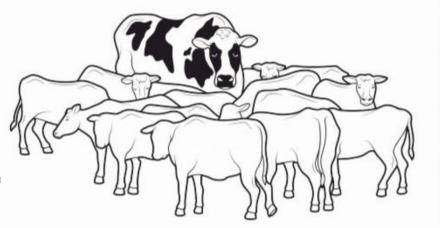
'The collapse of our civilizations and the extinction of much of the natural world is on the horizon.'

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH,

Planet Earth narrator, in a speech kicking off the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Katowice, Poland

6 ft. 4 in.

Height of a steer named Knickers, deemed too large to go to the slaughterhouse, who gained viral fame from a photo of him standing among much shorter cattle in Western Australia



'I take marijuana to stay awake.'

RODRIGO DUTERTE,

Philippine President, joking that he uses drugs to cope with his busy schedule; his war on drugs has included the sanctioned killing of thousands of accused drug dealers and users



47

Percentage of New Jersey residents ages 18 to 34 who live with a parent, the highest such rate in the U.S., according to the North Jersey Record's analysis of 2017 Census data

Coral reefs

Report says current efforts to save them are not working



The color coral Living Coral is the 2019 Pantone Color of the Year



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PICTURED: MEMBERS OF MARVEL STUDIOS' AVENGERS ALONG WITH CANCER FIGHTERS DR. PHIL SHARP AND AMERICAN AIRLINES TEAM MEMBER, SHANDRA FITZPATRICK.









ALASKA RUSHES TO FIX ITS ROADS AFTER DAMAGE FROM A 7.0 QUAKE WHAT PUBLIC-HEALTH EXPERTS THINK ABOUT CHINA'S FENTANYL PLEDGE REMEMBERING A CHEF WHO CHAMPIONED MEXICO'S CUISINE AROUND THE WORLD

TheBrief Opener

WORLD

France's Yellow Vests straitjacket Macron

By Vivienne Walt/Paris

N NOVEMBER, FRENCH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL Macron stood under the Arc de Triomphe in Paris and told world leaders on the centennial of World War I that they needed to work together to solve global problems.

Less than a month later, the French leader is trying to find the right phrase to unite his own citizens amid perhaps the worst street violence in Paris in 50 years. The *gilet jaune* or Yellow Vest protests that erupted in the French capital and across the country in November and December risk torpedoing Macron's young presidency and threatening his reform efforts, leaving him open to challenges by far-right and far-left rivals.

Named for the high-visibility vests they wear to demonstrations, the Yellow Vests took to the streets for a third consecutive weekend on Dec. 1–2. Although Macron activated an additional 4,600 security personnel and had tall barriers erected along the Avenue des Champs-Élysées, demonstrators managed to reach the Arc de Triomphe, partly vandalizing the war memorial under the arch.

The protests began in mid-November over an almost banal grievance: Macron's decision to raise the tax on fuel in order to finance renewable-energy proposals. The tax would increase the price of diesel by 30¢ per gallon and regular gasoline by 17¢ per gallon, after a year in which prices have already risen by 16%. The tax is especially resented in small-town and rural areas, where more people depend on their cars and jobs are not as plentiful or well paid as in the capital.

But the protest has mushroomed into a much wider rejection of Macron and his policies, which the Yellow Vests say favor the rich. "Macron came out of the banks and finance, and that goes down very badly for many people," says Thierry Paul Valette, a protest coordinator in Paris. The President attended an elite university and was an investment banker before being appointed Economy Minister in 2014. "We do not like rich people in France," Valette says.

VOTERS SEEMED TO LIKE MACRON enough when he won the presidency in May 2017 with 66% of the vote in a runoff against the far-right candidate Marine Le Pen. But Eddy Fougier, a political analyst at the Paris-based Institute for International and Strategic Affairs, says his support was driven by disappointment at the two parties that have led France for

'Macron came out of the banks and finance, and that goes down very badly for many people.'

THIERRY PAUL VALETTE, a protest coordinator, on why the French President isn't popular



decades and fear of the far right. "He was elected largely by default."

Since then Macron has done little to win over those beyond his base of middle-class professionals, 38% of whom still approve of him, according to a Dec. 4 survey by pollster IFOP. Soon after taking office he scrapped the so-called wealth tax, which had been imposed on taxpayers with assets worth more than €1.3 million (\$1.47 million). At the same time, he hiked taxes on retirees.

Macron's often blunt communication style has made matters worse, fueling the perception that he doesn't understand life on the breadline. Numerous protesters interviewed by TIME cited Macron's recent off-the-cuff remark to an unemployed man that he could "cross the street and find a job" at a local café. Only 11% of those polled by IFOP think he understands the concerns of the French people, while other polls suggest 7 in 10 support the protests.

On the streets, protesters' frustrations have spilled into destructive violence. Hundreds have been injured

and four people have died, according to police. Some attribute this to the right-wing fringe groups and anarchist factions that have come to the fore as turnout for the demonstrations has diminished. One group's slogan is ACAB, for All Cops Are Bastards, according to reporters at the scene.

While the Yellow Vests are led by no political party, both Le Pen and far-left leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon have called for the National Assembly to be dissolved and fresh elections called. That was the solution in May 1968, when widespread strikes and protests by workers and students brought the French economy to a halt for over a month. Macron's government has ruled out such a move.

In fact, there is no easy political solution for Macron against a movement that has no leader, no set list of demands and no geographic base. On Dec. 5 his government said it would scrap the fuel-tax increase at least through 2019. But hours before, some of the self-proclaimed Yellow Vest leaders issued far broader demands, including boosting pensions and minimum wages.

For now Macron will hope that the tax cancellation and the violence begin to dampen public support for the protests and that the holidays sap turnout. But the damage to his broader ambitions may be harder to repair. Since being elected, Macron has attempted to cast himself as the successor to Europe's de facto leader, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who plans to step down in 2021 after 16 years in power.

But with his approval ratings flatlining at 23%, Fougier doubts Macron will be re-elected in 2022. "His only route to a second term is if the economic situation gets better, unemployment goes down and salaries go up and no other party produces an attractive leader in the next three years," he says. "It's a tall order." —With reporting by CIARA NUGENT/LONDON

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