

Bloomberg Businessweek

November 13, 2017 • ASIA EDITION

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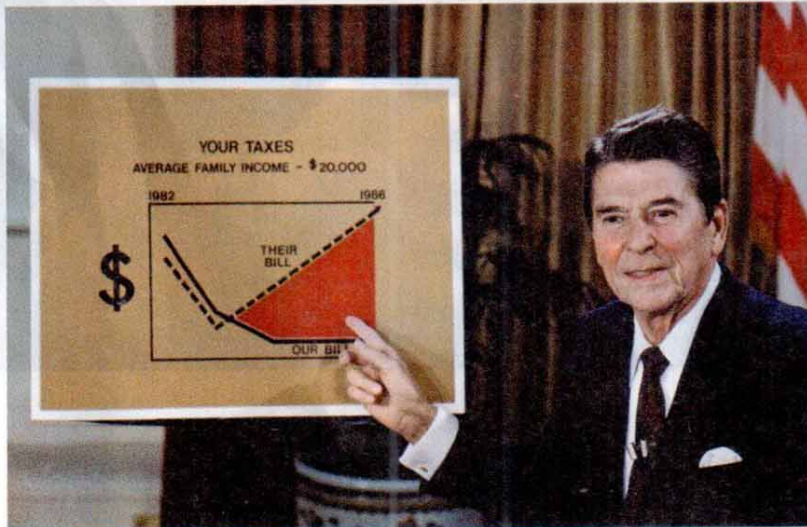
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Correction: The table accompanying “The Japan That Can’t Keep Up” (Business, Oct. 23, 2017) erroneously listed U.S. Steel among top Kobe Steel customers.

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International Cover:
Metzel Mikhail/TASS/
ZUMA Press



Bloomberg Businessweek (USPS 080 900) November 13, 2017 (ISSN 0007-7135) A Issue no. 4546 Published weekly, except one week in January, February, April, July, and August, by Bloomberg L.P. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Executive, Editorial, Circulation, and Advertising Offices: Bloomberg Businessweek, 731 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Bloomberg Businessweek, P.O. Box 7238, Domestic Airport Post Office, Passy City, 1300 Metro Manila, Philippines. Businessweekasia.subs@quadrantsubs.com QST#1008327064. Registered for GST as Bloomberg L.P. GST #12829 9898 RT0001. Copyright 2017 Bloomberg L.P. All rights reserved. Title registered in the U.S. Patent Office. Single Copy Sales: Call 800 298-9867 or e-mail: busweek@nrsinc.com. Educational Permissions: Copyright Clearance Center at info@copyright.com. Printed at Times Printers Singapore. CPPAP NUMBER 0414N68830, MCI (P) 083/01/2017, KDN Number: PPS1893/04/2017(025631)

GIFTS: PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN LEWIS FOR BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK; PROP. STYLING BY SONIA RENTSCH; REAGAN: DAVID HUME KENNERLY/GETTY IMAGES; SINGH: SANJEEV VERMA/GETTY IMAGES; HIDALGO: CHESNOTY/GETTY IMAGES; MERCERS: PATRICK MCILLAN/GETTY IMAGES; MADONSELA: ANTONIO MICHAVE/SOWETAN/GALLO IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

Asia

● Syria announced it would join the Paris climate agreement, leaving the U.S. as the only United Nations member outside the accord.

● Donald Trump sent mixed messages on North Korea during his Asian trip, saying it would make sense for Kim Jong Un to come to the negotiating table but also attacking his regime for turning the country into "a hell no one deserves."



● Schools were closed in New Delhi as air pollution reached levels 10 times those in notoriously smoggy Beijing.

Europe

● Lebanon Prime Minister Saad Hariri resigned on Nov. 4, citing an alleged assassination plot against him.



● Tencent Holdings acquired a 12 percent stake in Snap.

The announcement came hours after Snap's shares plunged 22 percent in reaction to disappointing third-quarter earnings. ▷ 20

● Iran rejected accusations from Saudi Arabia that it had supplied Yemen with a missile "for the purpose of attacking" the country. The Saudi military intercepted a missile fired by Yemen on Nov. 4. ▷ 8

● NATO updated its command structure for the first time since the Cold War, putting cyberdefense on the same footing as land, air, and sea defense.

● The Paradise Papers leak showed that Apple sought to preserve its low tax rate after a change in Irish law closed a loophole the company had previously exploited. The tech giant ultimately transferred two subsidiaries to the island of Jersey, which does not tax foreign companies.

● Silvio Berlusconi helped orchestrate a win for his center-right coalition in Sicily.



The four-time Italian prime minister will attempt to lead the government again after general elections next year.

Americas

● British retail had its worst October since 2008. Household spending for the month slowed to its lowest rate in more than a year.

U.K. year-over-year spending growth



DATA: BARCLAYCARD

● Republican Senator John Cornyn of Texas said he'd work with Democrats to close loopholes in background-check legislation after a Nov. 5 shooting in his home state left 26 dead.

● “Unfortunately, I am the biggest embarrassment surrounding the campaign.”

Trump campaign adviser Carter Page, in early November testimony on his 2016 contacts with Russia that was unsealed by the House Intelligence Committee

● Total agreed to acquire Engie's assets in liquefied natural gas, making the French energy company the industry's second-largest player.

● The *New York Times* reported that the U.S. Department of Justice will require Time Warner to sell its Turner Broadcasting System division, which includes CNN, HBO, and other networks, before it approves the company's planned sale to AT&T for

\$85.4b

● Tiffany was widely pilloried for its Everyday Objects collection, which includes a tin can made of sterling silver and vermeil on sale for \$1,000.



● Democrats put up a strong showing in state and local elections on Nov. 7, especially in Virginia, where the party won a hotly contested race for governor.

● Priti Patel, the U.K.'s secretary for international development, resigned after disclosing that she'd held unauthorized meetings with Israeli officials in September. *Haaretz* reports that Patel also traveled to the disputed Golan Heights, a violation of diplomatic protocol.

● About 2,500 Nicaraguans will lose protected immigration status in the U.S. The Department of Homeland Security extended protections for Hondurans, however, and is reviewing the status of those from Haiti and El Salvador.

Africa

● South Africa's FirstRand agreed to buy London-based bank Aldermore for

\$1.4b



● Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe ousted his vice president in an apparent move to make room for his wife, widely seen as his intended successor.

