



Written by [John F. McManus](#) on December 21, 2015

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Quick Quotes

Cubans Learning English After Decades of Having Russian Forced on Them



Jacqueline Loss

uconn.edu

“There’s a joke that the only place where the Soviet Union still exists is in Cuba.”

*A language instructor at the University of Connecticut, **Jacqueline Loss** commented wryly about the new rush in Castro’s domain to learn English and discard Russian.*

Arizona Sheriff Fears Entry of Terrorists From Mexico

“My fear — and what should be the fear of all Americans — is that terrorists are using well-established smuggling routes through Central America, through Mexico, and positioning themselves to come across the border.”

*In Arizona, Pinal County Sheriff **Paul Babeu**, whose jurisdiction includes a portion of the border with Mexico, pointed to the mid-November apprehension by U.S. Border Patrol of five Pakistanis and one Afghani.*

Democrat Leader Vows to Block House Restrictions on Syrian Entry

“Don’t worry. [The House bill] won’t get passed in the Senate.”

*The White House has vowed to veto an already passed House bill if it gets to the president’s desk. But Senate Minority Leader **Harry Reid** (D-Nev.) made clear that he will lead the Senate to reject the measure and keep President Obama from having to use his veto.*



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A Boost for Nuclear Power

“Nuclear power is the world’s most abundant and scalable carbon-free energy source. In today’s world, every nuclear plant that is not built is a fossil-fuel plant that does get built, which in most of the world means coal.”

*Professors **Joshua S. Goldstein** and **Steven Pinker** included such thoughts in their Boston Globe article entitled “Inconvenient truths for the environmental movement.”*

Terror Attack in France Spurs Many to Enlist in the Military

“I’ve never seen anything like it. People are coming in and contacting us in droves through social media, using words like liberty, defense and the fight against terror.”

*A spokesman for the French Army’s recruiting service, Colonel **Eric de Laprisie** announced that the number seeking enlistment has quintupled to 1,500 a day since the murder in Paris of 130 by Islamist militants.*

No Ammunition Leads to Failed Mission

“The desire was to destroy every single truck there.”

*U.S. Army Colonel **Steven Warren** explained that our nation’s planes had run out of ammunition during their foray against ISIS and could not destroy the fuel tankers used by the militant Islamists.*

Beauty Queen Denied Entry to China



Anastasia Lin

AP Images

“I have every right to be at that event. It’s kind of sad. I mean I’m just an acting student and a beauty queen. What could they possibly be so afraid of?”

*Canada’s entrant into the Miss World contest, **Anastasia Lin**, won the right to be her country’s representative in the pageant. Born in China but a Canadian since 2003, she is a practitioner of Falun Gong, a Buddhism-inspired opponent of communism that is considered a threat by the Beijing regime.*



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