

US Stock Express

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Christmas Present

Donald Trump shot 12 Tomahawk Cruise missiles to ISIS as Christmas Present to Nigeria.

Manufacturer:
General Dynamics Corporation (GD), *S&P 500 component*
See page 5-7

[Why bomb Sokoto? Trump's strikes baffle Nigerians](#)

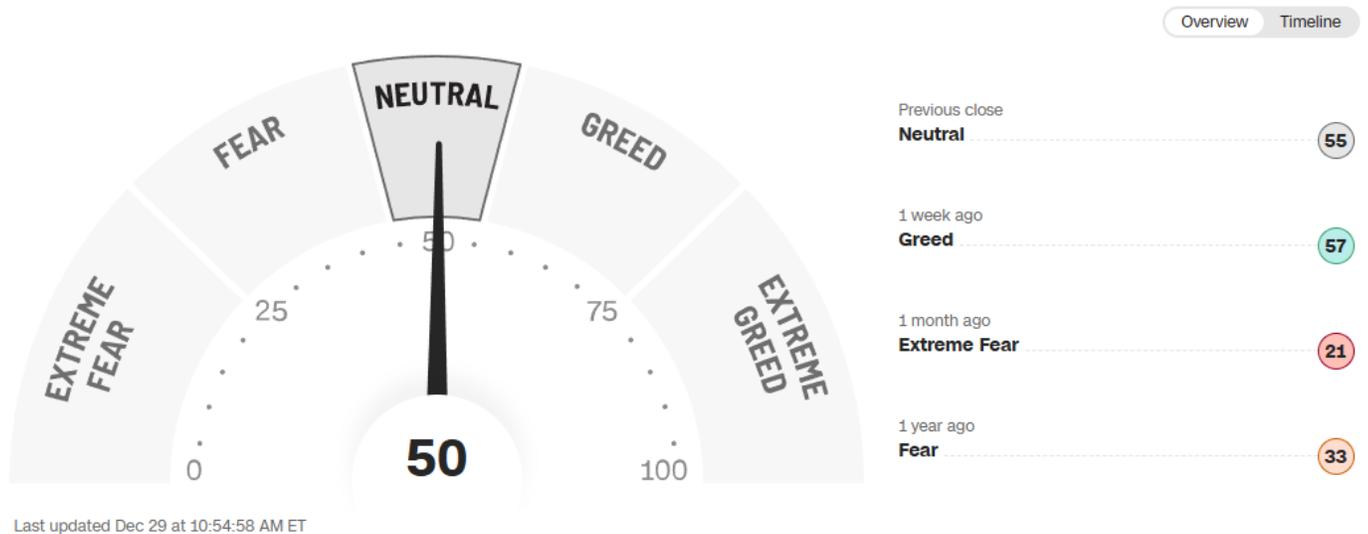


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 Never trade with money that has a deadline for withdrawal.
 All suggestions are for reference only, even AI cannot be 100% reliable, final decision still lies upon investors.
 Copy trading cannot replicate another trader's background or psychological state.*

Fear & Greed Index

What emotion is driving the market now?

[Learn more about the index](#)



North East West South is NEWS

In mainland China, people are not allowed to celebrate Christmas this year, anyone who turns up to be Santa Claus will be arrested. But one shopping mall made a cosplay of a Qing Dynasty official in white beard but mandarin dress and mandarin hat to dispatch gifts and much welcomed.

US Department of War released a 100-page report saying that China will have power to attack Taiwan by the end of 2027, and nuclear warhead will turn from 600 to 1000, still the third in the world.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with US President Donald Trump at the Mar-a-Lago Club in Palm Beach, Florida, to discuss the next phase of the Gaza ceasefire.

US President Trump congratulated Thailand and Cambodia on reaching a ceasefire agreement yesterday after weeks of border conflict that killed dozens.

The New York Times points out that against the backdrop of the US-China artificial intelligence (AI) race and the Russia-Ukraine war reshaping modern warfare, a long-underestimated structural risk is gradually emerging: both US AI data centers and the Department of Defense's future weapons systems are highly dependent on Chinese-made batteries.



World Observation

Day 1406
Russia/Ukraine Conflict

Mars Landing 2030

(11) Why US can surpass Soviet Union?

In early stage of Space Race, it was Soviet Union leads and give unexpected surprise to US. But why US can overtake? There are two major concentrations, that is concentration of capital and concentration of talented manpower.

Just after World War II, there is a global recovery. Other countries are in labour intensive development but US in capital intensive development. In Chicago, the State and Madison Streets Corner once known as the busiest intersection in the world (From Congress Library)

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/95/Corner_Madison_and_State_streets%2C_Chicago_-_webm

Later surpassed by Times Square of New York. That means the first and second financial centres of the world are in US. Nowadays there are two famous Labor Day, the May Day (May 1st) is commonly celebrated the communist countries like Russia and China, the Labor Day of US is on the first Monday of September. But actually, two labour days are all generated from Chicago. Why? Because Chicago is the home for skyscrapers, therefore it needs large amount of labour workers, and thus labour problem is more important that any other cities. Building skyscrapers also needs to be capital and labour intensive. Therefore, both labour and capital are concentrated in US. Now New York and Chicago are still the two most important financial centres of US. CME already purchased Nymex and the headquarter of CME is in Chicago. The most important future trading is still in Chicago. Practically, the faculty of Economics in Chicago University always ranks number 1 in the world.

The concentration of talented manpower is also decisive. The idea of atomic bomb at first was generated in Germany, but The Chicago University recruited a number

of refugee scientists from Europe who worked on the production of the world's first human-caused self-sustaining nuclear reaction.

[en:Image:ChicagoPileTeam.png](#)

Later contributed to the Manhattan Project. The two atomic bombs of US ended World War II. All other countries follow the Manhattan Project to develop nuclear power. Why US is US? In Finance they have Wall Street, in technology they have Silicon Valley, in Space Race they have Houston Space Center. They are irreplaceable after all because all talented people are concentrated hoping to have a better development.

Nowadays the US are always having complain that China uses the Thousand People Project to transfer their intellectual property. That is, they send students to US to study technology from undergrad to postgrad and doctorate degree, and when gained the confidence of US they are allowed to enter into core research lab and transfer the intellectual property back to China. So, they banned all Chinese students to learn technology in US now. In the tariff war, Donald Trump even said he would ban all Chinese students including those from non-technology sector like commerce or arts, but never carried out. Why? For nowadays, the Ivy League and other famous university, Chinese students occupy an important part of their income. And in Wall Street, Silicon Valley and Houston Space Center, a lot of the core members are 2nd or 3rd generation of immigrants, including ethnic Chinese who are quite loyal to US. It is hard to filter out who is loyal to US among numerous foreign students and immigrants and hard to cut all immigrant because of transfer of intellectual property. Ideally, the lock should be on property and not on immigrants or students.

To sum up, the success of US is on centration of talented people, no matter which country in the world, those talented people wish to go to US to have better development in their sector. The concentration of capital provides chances for them to absorb talented people and in turn absorb more capital to make a prosperity cycle. Therefore, US is a place where ugly ducklings can change to swan, mountain chicken can turn to phoenix. The concentration of money and talented people in turn bring about concentration of chances where everyone wants to meet with the promising chances.



What happened in Nigeria on Christmas

U.S. forces launched strikes against ISIS-linked militants in northwest Nigeria on Christmas Day, with the Trump administration saying the operation was conducted in coordination with Nigerian authorities. Nigeria's federal government publicly acknowledged the action, stating it respected the country's sovereignty and international law as part of ongoing security cooperation. Reports indicate more than a dozen Tomahawk cruise missiles were fired from a U.S. Navy platform during the operation. [1](#) [2](#) [3](#)

Why Christmas and why northwest Nigeria (including Sokoto)

- **Timing:** President Trump framed the strike as a response to what he described as mass killings of Christians, following prior warnings in November that the U.S. would intervene if such violence continued. Launching on Christmas Day underscored that framing and delivered a high-visibility signal of resolve. [4](#)
- **Location:** The administration and AFRICOM referenced "northwest Nigeria," where ISIS-linked groups have had a presence; Sokoto sits within this region. The choice suggests targets associated with ISIS networks rather than Nigeria's oil-producing south or other conflict zones. [4](#)

How this fits with Venezuela, and broader China–Japan and Russia–Ukraine tensions

- **Venezuela:** Separate from Nigeria, Trump escalated pressure on Venezuela with a blockade of sanctioned oil tankers and maritime operations; while he has hinted at broader actions, reporting suggests the U.S. lacks support and logistics for a ground invasion. The Nigeria strikes are distinct and were coordinated with a host nation, whereas Venezuela actions risk legal and regional escalation debates. [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#)
- **China–Japan:** Tensions have risen markedly, including Japanese defense budget increases and significant holiday flight cancellations between China and Japan. These developments are independent of the Nigeria strikes but contribute to an overall more brittle geopolitical backdrop. [9](#) [10](#) [11](#)
- **Russia–Ukraine:** The war continues with active fronts and ongoing diplomatic maneuvering; peace talks and battlefield shifts remain fluid. The Nigeria operation does not materially change the Ukraine conflict dynamic but adds to global risk stacking. [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#)

How many Tomahawks were used

Open-source reporting cites "more than a dozen" Tomahawk cruise missiles launched from a U.S. Navy ship, indicating a limited, precision strike package rather than a large-scale bombardment. Exact counts beyond "more than a dozen" have not been officially detailed. [3](#)



Why act if he seeks a peace prize

Trump's stated rationale centered on counter-terrorism and the protection of Christians in Nigeria, positioning the strikes as targeted action against ISIS rather than a conventional interstate war. Leaders can pursue force in one theater under a "counter-terrorism/atrocity prevention" frame while simultaneously seeking diplomatic wins elsewhere; the two tracks often coexist in contemporary policy, though they invite criticism and political risk. [4](#)

Impact on global markets and Nigeria's financial assets

- **Nigeria-focused impact:** Prior to the strikes, Trump's threats and rhetoric already pressured Nigerian dollar bonds, with yields rising and assets sliding on heightened risk perception. The actual strike likely reinforced short-term caution and risk premia for Nigerian sovereign and credit markets, though the localized, coordinated nature may limit sustained damage if escalation remains contained. [16](#) [17](#)
- **Global markets:** Given the strike's limited scope and Nigeria's northwest location (away from core energy infrastructure), immediate global oil market disruption is likely minimal. Broader markets may react more to cumulative geopolitical signals (Venezuela maritime actions, China–Japan tension, Ukraine war) than to the Nigeria strike alone. Risk assets could see episodic volatility; defensives and energy may get a small bid if investors price a higher tail risk. [5](#) [9](#) [10](#) [12](#)

Will it become a war?

This operation was a discrete counter-terror strike coordinated with Nigeria, not the opening of a U.S.–Nigeria war. Absent sustained follow-on strikes, civilian harm, or sovereignty disputes, the probability of a broader interstate war stemming from this action is low. The more acute near-term war risks reside elsewhere (e.g., Russia–Ukraine, potential maritime confrontations in the Caribbean over Venezuela, or miscalculation in the Western Pacific), not from this single Nigeria strike. [1](#) [2](#) [5](#) [12](#)

What to watch next

- **Follow-on operations:** Signals from the Pentagon/AFRICOM and Nigerian authorities about additional strikes or joint operations in the northwest. [1](#) [2](#)
- **Escalation triggers:** Civilian casualty claims, sovereignty disputes, or militant retaliation that could expand the scope. [4](#)
- **Cross-theater linkage:** Any resource draw that affects Caribbean posture around Venezuela or Indo–Pacific signaling amid China–Japan tensions. [5](#) [9](#) [10](#)

If you want, I can lay out scenario paths with probabilities and expected market reactions for Q1 2026.

The US military, under orders from President Donald Trump, fired over a dozen Tomahawk missiles as part of airstrikes targeting Islamic State (ISIS) militants in Sokoto State, northwestern Nigeria, on December 25, 2025. These strikes also involved MQ-9 Reaper drones and were conducted in collaboration with the Nigerian government, resulting in multiple militant deaths and minimal reported civilian casualties (five wounded, some property damage). It's important to clarify that this was not an attack "on Nigeria" but a joint operation against terrorist groups operating within the country, including ISIS offshoots like Islamic State – West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Lakurawa, amid the ongoing Boko Haram insurgency. en.wikipedia.org bbc.com

Trump reportedly delayed the strikes to coincide with Christmas Day to "deliver a message" about alleged persecution of Christians by these groups, framing it as a symbolic "Christmas present" in his statements—though Nigerian officials emphasized it was part of routine security cooperation rather than religiously motivated timing. Sokoto was targeted because it's a hotspot for these jihadist camps, particularly in areas like the Bauni forest in Tangaza, where militants have been linked to recent attacks, including kidnappings and killings. pbs.org [+4 more](#)

This action occurred alongside other US involvements and global tensions:

- In Venezuela, the US has been enforcing a naval "quarantine" and blockade on oil tankers since earlier in December 2025, including seizing vessels, as part of sanctions against the Maduro regime. military.com reuters.com
- China-Japan relations are in a diplomatic crisis as of late 2025, escalated by Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's statements on Taiwan, leading to Chinese economic coercion like travel bans. dw.com
- The Russia-Ukraine war remains active into December 2025, with ongoing Russian offensives, high casualties (e.g., thousands reported killed on both sides this year), and tentative peace talks involving Trump and Ukrainian President Zelenskyy. russiamatters.org [+2 more](#)
- Other conflicts, such as those in the Middle East and Sahel region, continue without resolution.

Trump has indeed expressed strong interest in the Nobel Peace Prize, with formal nominations submitted on his behalf in 2025 for efforts like Venezuela-related diplomacy. However, the 2025 Nobel went to Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, which some analysts interpreted as an indirect nod to Trump's policies. He later received the inaugural FIFA Peace Prize instead. The Nigeria strikes align with his "America First" approach to counterterrorism, positioning them as protective of US interests (e.g., global stability, Christian communities abroad) rather than warmongering—though critics argue it contradicts peace efforts by risking escalation in unstable regions. luna.house.gov [+5 more](#)

Globally, the strikes have reinforced US commitment to the war on terror, potentially strengthening ties with Nigeria while drawing criticism for not addressing root causes like governance issues in the region.

They haven't sparked major international backlash, as they were Nigeria-approved and limited in scope. On financial markets, there's no evidence of significant direct impact—US stocks had a volatile year-end due to tariffs, Fed disputes, and broader geopolitical risks, but the Nigeria strikes (a minor, targeted event) aren't cited as a factor in recent reports. Oil prices or African markets might see minor ripples from regional instability, but nothing systemic has been reported as of December 28.

This is unlikely to evolve into a broader war, as it's a collaborative, precision operation against non-state actors, not an invasion or state-on-state conflict. Analysts note it could worsen local polarization if militants retaliate, but it's framed as a one-off escalation in an existing counterterrorism campaign.