warmer, high 62. Tonight, cloudy, a

few showers late, low 49. Tomorrow, cloudy, cool, a shower or two, high 56. Weather map is on Page B12.

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SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

Chinese E.V.s Face Increase In U.S. Tariffs

Biden Considers a Tax as High as 100%

By ALAN RAPPEPORT and JIM TANKERSLEY

The Biden administration is set to announce new tariffs as high as 100 percent on Chinese electric vehicles and additional import taxes on other Chinese goods, including semiconductors, as early as next week, according to people familiar with the matter.

The move comes amid growing concern within the administration that Mr. Biden's efforts to jumpstart domestic manufacturing of clean energy products could be undercut by China, which has been flooding global markets with cheap solar panels, batteries, electric vehicles and other products.

The long-awaited tariffs are the result of a four-year review of the levies that former President Donald J. Trump imposed on more than \$300 billion of Chinese imports in 2018. Most of the Trump tariffs are expected to remain in place, but Mr. Biden plans to go beyond those by raising levies in areas that the president showered with subsidies in the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act.

That includes Chinese electric vehicles, which currently face a 25 percent tariff. The administration is expected to raise that to as much as 100 percent in order to make it prohibitively expensive to buy a Chinese E.V.

Mr. Biden has previously raised concerns about Chinese electric vehicles, saying that internet-connected Chinese cars and trucks posed risks to national security because their operating systems could send sensitive information to Beijing. He took steps earlier this year to try and block those vehicles from entering the United

The president is looking to ratchet up pressure on China and demonstrate his willingness to protect American manufacturing ahead of his face-off against Mr. Trump in the November presiden-

The fate of the China tariffs has been the subject of intense debate within the White House since Mr. Biden took office, with economic and political advisers often clashing over how to proceed. But this year China has begun ramping up electric vehicles, lithium batteries and solar panels — that the Biden administration has been investing billions of dollars to start producing in the United States. Beijing's move has re-inflamed trade tensions between the two countries, compelling Mr. Biden to press ahead with more aggressive

Continued on Page A9

This article is by Marc Santora,

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine

rushed reinforcements to its

northern border on Friday after

Russian forces attempted to break

through Ukrainian lines along

several sections, applying new

pressure on forces already

stretched thin along a 600-mile

The Russian assaults began

around 5 a.m. Friday with massive

shelling and aerial bombard-

ments of Ukrainian positions fol-

lowed by armored columns trying

to punch through at several points

along the border, according to a

statement from Ukraine's Min-

"As of now, these attacks have

been repelled, and battles of vary-

ing intensity are ongoing," the ministry said. "To strengthen the

istry of Defense.

Varenikova and Eric

Maria

front.

Schmitt.

Russia Mounts Fresh Offensive,

Further Taxing Ukrainian Forces

ployed."

U.S. Builds Web of Arms, Ships and Bases to Deter China

The Biden administration has strengthened military cooperation with Japan, the Philippines and Australia to try to create a Pacific presence that intimidates Chinese commanders. Pages A12-13.



Sources: Congressional Research Service; United States Department of Defense

JIM SIMONS, 1938-2024

Mathematician Who Applied His Genius in Beating Wall St.

By JONATHAN KANDELL

Jim Simons, the prizewinning mathematician who abandoned a stellar academic career, then plunged into finance — a world he knew nothing about - and became one of the most successful Wall Street investors ever, died on Friday in his home in Manhattan. He was 86.

His death was confirmed by his spokesman, Jonathan Gasthalter, who did not specify a cause.

After publishing breakthrough studies in mathematics that would play a seminal role in quantum field theory, string theory and condensed matter physics, Mr. Simons decided to apply his genius to a more prosaic subject - making as much money as he could in as short a time as possible.

So at age 40 he opened a store-

front office in a Long Island strip mall and set about proving that trading commodities, currencies, stocks and bonds could be nearly as predictable as calculus and partial differential equations. Spurning financial analysts and business school graduates, he hired like-minded mathematicians and scientists.

Mr. Simons equipped his colleagues with advanced computers to process torrents of data filtered through mathematical models. and turned the four investment funds in his new firm, Renaissance Technologies, into virtual money printing machines.

Medallion, the largest of these funds, earned more than \$100 billion in trading profits in the 30

Continued on Page A21

WHITE HOUSE MEMO

Withholding U.S. Weapons Has Precedent

Reagan Used Arms to Influence Israeli Policy

By PETER BAKER

WASHINGTON — The president was livid. He had just been shown pictures of civilians killed by Israeli shelling, including a small baby with an arm blown off. He ordered aides to get the Israeli prime minister on the phone and then dressed him down sharply.

The president was Ronald Reagan, the year was 1982, and the battlefield was Lebanon, where Israelis were attacking Palestinian fighters. The conversation Mr. Reagan had with Prime Minister Menachem Begin that day, Aug. 12, would be one of the few times aides ever heard the usually mild-mannered president so exercised.

"It is a holocaust," Mr. Reagan told Mr. Begin angrily.

Mr. Begin, whose parents and brother were killed by the Nazis, snapped back, "Mr. President, I know all about a holocaust."

Nonetheless, Mr. Reagan retorted, it had to stop. Mr. Begin heeded the demand. Twenty minutes later, he called back and told the president that he had ordered a halt to the shelling. "I didn't know I had that kind of power," Mr. Reagan marveled to aides afterward.

It would not be the only time he would use it to rein in Israel. In fact, Mr. Reagan used the power of American arms several times to influence Israeli war policy, at different points ordering warplanes and cluster munitions to be delayed or withheld. His actions take on new meaning four decades later, as President Biden delays a shipment of bombs and threatens to withhold other offensive weapons from Israel if it attacks Rafah, in southern Gaza.

Even as Republicans rail against Mr. Biden, accusing him of abandoning an ally in the middle of a war, supporters of the president's decision pointed to the Reagan precedent. If it was reasonable for the Republican presidential icon to limit arms to impose his will on Israel, they the current Democratic president to do the same.

Continued on Page A11

U.S. FAULTS ISRAEL IN NOT SHIELDING GAZA'S CIVILIANS

SEES LIKELY VIOLATIONS

But State Dept. Finds No Hard Proof of Human **Rights Breaches**

By MICHAEL CROWLEY

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration believes that Israel has most likely violated international standards in failing to protect civilians in Gaza but has not found specific instances that would justify the withholding of military aid, the State Department told Congress on Friday.

In the administration's most detailed assessment of Israel's conduct in Gaza, the State Department said in a written report that Israel "has the knowledge, experience and tools to implement best practices for mitigating civilian harm in its military operations."

But it added that "the results on the ground, including high levels of civilian casualties, raise substantial questions" as to whether



President Biden ordered the

report on Israel's conduct. the Israel Defense Forces are

making sufficient use of those

Even so, the report — which seemed at odds with itself in places - said the U.S. had no hard proof of Israeli violations. It noted the difficulty of collecting reliable information from Gaza, Hamas's tactic of operating in civilian areas, and the fact that "Israel has not shared complete information to verify" whether U.S. weapons have been used in specific incidents alleged to have involved his

man rights law violations. The report, mandated by Presi-Continued on Page A9

NOT ENOUGH? As President Biden piles new pressure on Israel, some some Arab American leaders say it is too little, too late. PAGE A16

AID BLOCKED After Israel's incursion into Rafah this week, the flow of humanitarian relief into Gaza has come to a near-total stop. PAGE A10

Columbia's Protests Also Bring Pressure From a Private Donor

By ALAN BLINDER

On Jan. 19, Angelica Berrie sent an email to Nemat Shafik, the president of Columbia University. Ms. Berrie reported that the Russell Berrie Foundation, named for her late husband, had scheduled three grant payments to Colum-

But after months of campus protests around the Israel-Hamas war, Ms. Berrie also delivered a warning

As the foundation prepared to transfer almost \$613,000, Ms. Berrie told Dr. Shafik that future giving would partly hinge on "evidence that you and leaders across the university are taking appropriate steps to create a tolerant and secure environment for Jewish members of the Columbia community."

Months passed, and the foundation, which has donated about \$86 million to Columbia over the years, did not like what it saw. Frustrated and flummoxed by the sustained tumult at Columbia, the foundation suspended its giving to the university late last month.

Columbia has spent months under siege, bombarded by public demands from protesters, faculty members, alumni, members of Congress and religious groups since the Hamas attack on Oct. 7 that precipitated the war. But the foundation's admonition, included in correspondence that it shared with The New York Times, illustrates the pressures that Columbia administrators have also had to confront in private with donors, with longstanding relationships and enormous sums at stake.

The Berrie Foundation's pause threatens to cost Columbia tens of Continued on Page A18

SPORTS B7-10

Ranger Overcomes Injury

After a six-month layoff, Filip Chytil took the ice, absorbed a hit and a stick to the face, and felt at home. PAGE B9

Forever an Oregon Duck

Coach Dan Lanning plans to stay in Eugene and win a national title. He's got the ink to back it up. PAGE B7 NATIONAL A14-20

defense in this sector of the front. reserve units have been de-

The breadth and intent of the

Russian border incursions re-

mained unclear. Military analysts

have said Russia may be trying to

force Ukraine to expend valuable

resources in defending the region

just as Russian assaults in eastern

But a senior Ukrainian com-

mander, speaking on the condition

of anonymity to discuss the cur-

rent state of fighting, said on Fri-

day that the Russian attacks went

beyond probing or intelligence

gathering. The commander said

the Kremlin's immediate goal ap-

peared to be to create a buffer

Continued on Page A7

INVESTIGATION A Times analysis

shows Russia upgrading a Cold

War-era site in Belarus. PAGE A6

Ukraine are intensifying.

A Rebuke for Taunting Trump

The judge in Donald J. Trump's criminal case asked that Michael D. Cohen, a key witness expected to testify next week, tone it down.

Confederate Names Restored

A board in rural Virginia reversed a decision it made after George Floyd's murder to rename its schools. PAGE A19

INTERNATIONAL A4-13

Fighting Child Marriage

Memory Banda, who watched her sister marry at 11, has been a rights activist ever since. The Global Profile. PAGE A8



ARTS C1-6

Reclaiming a Voice of the '60s The singer Cass Elliot died in 1974. A

rumor about the cause of her death has only recently been dispelled. PAGE C1

On a Different Wavelength

Steve McQueen, the artist turned film director, reveals an immersive environment of color and sound.

BUSINESS B1-6

Siri Enters the A.I. Age With new technology leapfrogging over

the original virtual assistant, Apple says it will bring generative A.I. to iPhones as it tries to catch up with competitors like ChatGPT.

The Cocoa Speculators

After a production shortfall in West Africa, where about two-third's of the world's cocoa is produced, prices rose to \$4,000 a metric ton from \$2,500. Then they really went nuts.

OPINION A22-23

Bret Stephens





OBITUARIES A21, 24

Pioneer of Supergraphics

Barbara Stauffacher Solomon was at the forefront of a movement that upended design and architecture with bold graphics. She was 95.

