



Clockwise from top left: rehearsing for a military parade to commemorate the end of the Vietnam War; getting ready for the Bach Hoa Bo Hanh festival; apartment buildings in Ho Chi Minh City; and the Vietnamese artist Ngo Dinh Bao Chau in her studio.

Vietnam Moves Out of War’s Shadow

In a Resilient Nation, the Next Generation Has Something to Prove

By DAMIEN CAVE and TUNG NGO
HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam — On April 30, 1975, Vu Dang Toan commanded the first tank to smash through the main gate of Saigon’s Independence Palace. After seeing so many die — after grinding away his youth battling the Americans and the forces of South Vietnam — he was there, alive and surprised, for the war’s weary end.
It was a full surrender. At the United States Embassy nearby, helicopters had already carried away the last Americans as the South’s fighters disappeared, ditching their uniforms and boots in the streets.
“I’m proud,” Mr. Toan said, “that as a sol-

dier, I completed the mission.”
Fifty years later, he was a long way from that moment, sitting in his comfortable home north of Hanoi, encircled by rice fields, not far from factories pumping out Apple Watches.
Photos on the wall showed his tank on the palace lawn. Wearing his military uniform, he sipped tea in a dark wood chair beside his grandson Dang Hoang Anh, 14, a bright-eyed soccer fan wearing a school uniform in Chelsea blue.
The boy pictured his life in different terms. His goal? “To study in Canada.” His mission? “To make money.”
“My grandparents’ generation, they had to

go to war and people died,” he said. “Now we don’t worry about that. We worry about school and jobs.”
The Vietnam War was many things: a nationalist uprising against colonization, a killing machine that took the lives of at least one million Vietnamese and 58,000 American servicemen, and a civil war in Asia that tore America apart. But it was also a bloody conflict over economic systems and cultures — the North’s revolutionary socialism versus the South’s freewheeling market scramble.
A half-century later, ideology is mostly dead and pragmatism is thriving. Vietnam has moved in a single lifetime from war to

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A Border Town Finds a Payday In Migrant Bail

By JACK HERRERA
BRACKETTVILLE, Texas — Juan Antonio Gomez Torres was earning barely \$80 a week shaping mud into bricks in the dusty hills above San Felipe, Mexico. When his wife became pregnant with their fourth child, he decided to try his luck crossing into the United States to look for better-paying work.
Weeks later, Mr. Gomez called his cousin from jail, desperate for money. After swimming across the Rio Grande, Mr. Gomez had been arrested by armed state police officers in Kinney County, Texas, on a trespassing charge. Bail was set at \$1,000 — more than a quarter of his yearly income.
Mr. Gomez promised to repay his cousin after he appeared in court on the trespassing case, when under normal circumstances his bail money would be returned to him. But that never happened. No sooner had Mr. Gomez been released than officials handed him directly over to Immigration and Customs Enforcement authorities, who promptly deported him back to Mexico. Unable to show up in court, he was told his bail would be forfeited and the \$1,000 deposited into Kinney County’s accounts.
He was not the only one. Since Gov. Greg Abbott stepped up the state’s own immigration operations during a surge in unauthorized border crossings in 2021, Kinney County has forfeited bail from

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PETER PRATO

Tim Friede in Two Rivers, Wis., where he experimented with a fancy for fangs over nearly 18 years.

Man of 200 Snake Bites May Be the Antivenom

By APOORVA MANDAVILLI
The video is just under two and a half minutes long. A slim man with close-cropped hair walks into a room, pulls a long black mamba — whose venom can kill within an hour — from a crate and allows it to bite his left arm. Immediately after, he lets a taipan from Papua New Guinea bite his right arm. “Thanks for watching,” he calmly tells the camera, his left arm bleeding, and then exits.
Over nearly 18 years, the man,

Blood Can Help Nullify 19 Deadly Species

Tim Friede, 57, injected himself with more than 650 carefully calibrated, escalating doses of venom to build his immunity to 16 deadly snake species. He also allowed the snakes — mostly one at a time, but sometimes two, as in the video — to sink their sharp fangs into him about 200 times.

This bit of daredevilry (one name for it) may now help to solve a dire global health problem. More than 600 species of venomous snakes roam the earth, biting as many as 2.7 million people, killing about 120,000 people and maiming 400,000 others — numbers thought to be vast underestimates.
In Mr. Friede’s blood, scientists say they have identified antibodies that are capable of neutralizing the venom of multiple snake

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More on the White House

HIRING A picture of a steady job market, even if backward looking, reassured investors. PAGE B1
WIELDING I.R.S. The president said he is “taking away” Harvard’s tax-exempt status. PAGE A15

SECURITY A photo raised new questions about Michael Waltz’s use of an encrypted app. PAGE A16
IN DEMAND Marco Rubio has become President Trump’s reliable foot soldier. PAGE A16

Attention, Shoppers in All Aisles: Tariffs Are Increasing Our Prices

By MADELEINE NGO
WASHINGTON — More companies are starting to warn that they will have to pass on higher costs to American consumers, raising prices for products like strollers, mattresses, power tools and cast-iron cookware as President Trump’s tariffs take hold.
Some company officials said they had been left with no choice but to raise prices as they pay more to import goods and materials into the United States. Other firms have said they will soon run out of inventory for certain products because they have paused orders from China.
Mr. Trump has upended the global trading system, hitting foreign countries with punishing levies in an attempt to bring manufacturing jobs back to the United States and take aim at what he calls “unfair” trade practices. But economic studies have found that the burden of higher tariffs typically falls on domestic consumers and companies.
Although Mr. Trump has scaled back some tariffs and paused others as he pursues trade deals with foreign nations, the impacts of his policies are already starting to eat

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Activists blamed a drone attack for the explosions, which caused a fire while the vessel was near Malta. PAGE A10

Danger Increases in Ukraine
Russian strikes on cities and along the front line have killed many more civilians than this time last year. PAGE A12



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53 Years in Boy’s Killing
An Illinois man was convicted in the 2023 fatal stabbing of a Palestinian American 6-year-old. PAGE A21

Big Trump Legal Loss in Texas
A Trump judicial nominee rules that White House claims about a Venezuelan gang “invasion” go too far. PAGE A23

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Gregg Popovich, who won an N.B.A.-record 1,422 regular-season games, will become team president. PAGE B8



Getting Back on Track
Michael McCarthy, trainer of the Kentucky Derby favorite Journalism, was forced to flee the L.A. fires. PAGE B10

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For Apple, China Is Essential
The world’s most valuable company has become so reliant on its Chinese suppliers and sales that if they are forced to cut ties, it would be worth half as much or less without them. PAGE B1

A Tariff Loophole Closes
Supporters of the change say it is important to stop cheap Chinese goods from entering the United States, but the decision will drive up prices for goods Americans buy online. PAGE B1

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A Biodiverse Paradise in Peril
Albania’s Adriatic Coast is facing the challenge of luxury tourism by developers, including two major proposals led by Jared Kushner. PAGE C9

