

JUSTICES DOUBT
FEDERAL STANCE
ON JAN. 6 RIOTERS

A LAW ON OBSTRUCTION

Court’s Questions Weigh
Gravity of Attack and
Intent of Statute

By ADAM LIPTAK

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court seemed wary on Tuesday of letting prosecutors use a federal obstruction law to charge hundreds of rioters involved in the Capitol attack on Jan. 6, 2021.

A decision rejecting the government’s interpretation of the law could not only disrupt those prosecutions but also eliminate half of the charges against former President Donald J. Trump in the federal case accusing him of plotting to subvert the 2020 election.

Mr. Trump’s case did not come up at the argument, which was largely focused on trying to make sense of a statute, enacted to address white-collar crime, that all concerned agreed was not a model of clarity. But the justices’ questions also considered the gravity of the assault and whether prosecutors have been stretching the law to reach members of the mob responsible for the attack, which interrupted certification of Joseph R. Biden Jr.’s electoral victory.

Justice Clarence Thomas, who returned to the bench after an unexplained absence on Monday, asked whether the government was engaging in a kind of selective prosecution. “There have been many violent protests that have interfered with proceedings,” he said. “Has the government applied this provision to other protests?”

Justice Sonia Sotomayor took a different view of what happened on Jan. 6. “We’ve never had a situation before where there’s been a situation like this with people attempting to stop a proceeding violently,” she said.

The question for the justices was whether one of the laws used

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As E.V.s Surge,
Warning Signs
Grow for Tesla

By DAVID GELLES

Tesla is in a bad spot.

The world’s largest electric carmaker on Monday told employees it would lay off more than 10 percent of its work force, and two senior executives said they were leaving.

Earlier this month Tesla announced a stunning drop in sales, delivering 387,000 cars worldwide in the first quarter, down 8.5 percent from the same time last year. The company’s stock has fallen more than 35 percent this year, including a 5.5 percent drop on Monday. Elon Musk, Tesla’s chief executive, appears strangely disengaged with the company’s stumbles and preoccupied with other pursuits.

Tesla is still the biggest electric vehicle manufacturer, credited with almost single-handedly creating the E.V. sector. As Tesla went, so went the industry.

But in a remarkably short period of time, the electric vehicle business appears to have untethered itself from Tesla.

American, Korean, Chinese and European carmakers all have big, durable E.V. product lines with growing sales. Ford sold 20,223 electric vehicles in the first quarter of the year, an increase of 86 percent from the previous year,

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INTERNATIONAL A4-9

Expecting the Worst in Paris

As technology plays a growing role in the Olympics, organizers view cyberattacks as a rising danger. PAGE A6

Blaze in Danish Landmark

The 17th-century former stock exchange building in downtown Copenhagen partially collapsed in the fire. PAGE A7



NATIONAL A10-19

What’s Killing the Sawfish?

First, fish off the Florida Keys started swimming upside down. Then, endangered fish started dying. Scientists are racing to figure out why. PAGE A10

Limits on Deadly Mining Dust

Federal regulators have issued new protections for miners as black lung disease makes a resurgence. PAGE A11

OBITUARIES B10-11

Hall of Fame St. Louis Manager

Whitey Herzog preached speed, defense and pitching as he molded the Cardinals into champions. He was 92. PAGE B11

BUSINESS B1-5

A.I. Set to Shake Up Wall St.

Artificial intelligence can replace much of the entry-level white-collar work in finance, raising tough questions about the future of young analysts. PAGE B1

High Rates Likely to Linger

Citing recent data, Federal Reserve leaders suggest a longer wait is likely for interest rate cuts. PAGE B1

SPORTS B6-9, 12

Sumo, With American Twist

New Yorkers got a look at an ancient Japanese sport, cheering and booing as if it were a Yankees game. PAGE B6

ARTS C1-6

Gaza Protest in Venice

An Israeli artist at the Biennale refused to open her show over the lack of a cease-fire and hostage deal. PAGE C1

Going With the Flow

The singer FKA twigs joins forces with the Martha Graham Dance Company. For her, it’s holy grail territory. PAGE C1



THE WEATHER

Today, increasing clouds, afternoon showers, high 60. Tonight, occasional rain, cloudy, low 48. Tomorrow, cooler, intermittent rain, high 50. Weather map is on Page B12.

ISRAEL RESPONSE
IS COMPLICATED
BY MIXED GOALS

A 3RD DAY OF MEETINGS

Broad Iranian Air Attack
Altered Tacit Rules of
the Shadow War

This article is by Ronen Bergman, Isabel Kershner, Julian E. Barnes and Russell Goldman.

TEL AVIV — Israeli leaders on Tuesday were debating how best to respond to Iran’s unprecedented weekend airstrike, officials said, weighing a set of options calibrated to achieve different strategic outcomes: deterring a similar attack in the future, placating their American allies and avoiding all-out war.

Iran’s attack on Israel, an immense barrage that included hundreds of ballistic missiles and exploding drones, changed the unspoken rules in the archrivals’ long-running shadow war. In that conflict, major airstrikes from one country’s territory directly against the other had been avoided.

Given that change in precedent, the calculus by which Israel decides its next move has also changed, said the Israeli officials who requested anonymity to discuss Iran.

“We cannot stand still from this kind of aggression,” Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, the spokesman for Israel’s military, said on Tuesday. Iran, he added, would not get off “scot-free with this aggression.”

As Israel’s war cabinet met to consider a military response, other countries were applying diplomatic pressure to both Israel and Iran in the hopes of de-escalating the conflict.

Almost all of the missiles and drones fired in Iran’s attack early on Sunday were intercepted by Israel and its allies, including the United States and Britain.

The attack, Iran said, was a response to an Israeli airstrike earlier this month, in which several

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A ballistic missile by the Dead Sea after Iran’s air attack.

A Republican
Who Is Making
Harvard Sweat

She Grills Universities
on Antisemitism

By ANEMONA HARTOCOLLIS

BANNER ELK, N.C. — Virginia Foxx, the Republican congresswoman from North Carolina, has spent the last few months giving elite schools a hard time.

As the chairwoman of the House committee on education, she oversaw a tense hearing in December that spurred the resignations of the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard. She has led an investigation of a half-dozen institutions for their handling of antisemitism claims. She has subpoenaed internal documents, and called Jewish students to testify.

On Wednesday, she will preside over another hearing, this time with officials at Columbia University.

The drubbing is part of a campaign by Republicans against what they view as double standards within elite education establishments — practices that they say favor some groups over others, and equity over meritocracy. Others see it as a partisan attack.

Representative Foxx, 80, does not like the term “elite” and questions whether these schools even deserve the title.

“I call them the most expensive universities in the country,” she said the other day, while traveling around her district, ending at her home in Banner Elk in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

She is known for her conservative views and blunt manner. But her current work, she said, is rooted in personal experience. Over her years in office, she has repeatedly told her life story, of growing up in a sparsely populated rural area, in a house without running water or electricity. She and her brother, Butch, carried drinking water from a spring. There was no outhouse, so “we went to the woods,” she recalled.

She went on to junior college, state college and graduate school, eventually earning a doctorate from the University of North Carolina, leveraging her way into intertwined careers in politics and education, becoming president of a community college.

But it is her religious beliefs and identification with the underdog, she said, that inform how she is dealing with the bitter campus protests over the Israel-Hamas war.

“The people here believe that the Jews are God’s chosen people, and I grew up in the Baptist Church believing that,” she said.

After reading news accounts last fall of rising antisemitism on prominent campuses, she said that she resolved to investigate

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Bleak View of War’s Third Year
As Ukraine Strains to Fire Back

By MARC SANTORA

Ukraine’s top military commander has issued a bleak assessment of the army’s positions on the eastern front, saying they have “worsened significantly in recent days.”

Russian forces were pushing hard to exploit their growing advantage in personnel and ammunition to break through Ukrainian lines, the commander, Gen. Oleksandr Syrsky, said in a statement over the weekend.

“Despite significant losses, the enemy is increasing his efforts by using new units on armored vehicles, thanks to which he periodically achieves tactical gains,” the general said.

At the same time, Ukraine’s energy ministry told millions of civilians to charge their power banks,

get their generators out of storage and “be ready for any scenario” as Ukrainian power plants are damaged or destroyed in devastating Russian airstrikes.

With few critical military supplies flowing into Ukraine from the United States for months, commanders are being forced to make difficult choices over where to deploy limited resources as the toll on civilians grows daily.

Even before the disappearance of American assistance — a bill to provide \$60 billion in military and other aid may come to a vote in the House of Representatives this week — there was a consensus among Ukrainian commanders and military analysts that the third year of war was going to be

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Ben Franklin Bridge, Pennsylvania/N.J.



Memphis-Arkansas Bridge



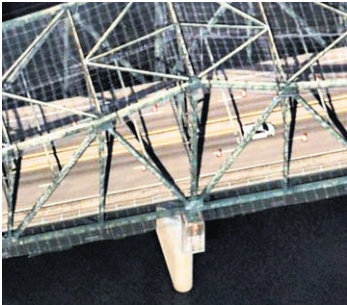
Mid-Hudson Bridge, New York



ABOVE, GRANT HINDSLEY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES; AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS BY NEARMAP AND VEXCEL IMAGING
Lewis and Clark Bridge, Washington/Oregon



Newburgh-Beacon Bridge, New York



Robert C. Byrd Bridge, West Virginia/Ohio



Sherman Minton Bridge, Kentucky/Indiana

Dozens of Bridges Face Risk From Wayward Ships

The collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore has prompted a reassessment of critical bridges around the country that may be similarly vulnerable to a ship strike. Page A12.

Work Permits for New Arrivals Divide Laborers

By MIRIAM JORDAN and LYDIA DEPILLIS

Sam Sanchez, a Chicago restaurateur, was incensed when President Biden announced last September that his administration would extend work eligibility to nearly half a million Venezuelans, many of them migrants who had recently crossed the border illegally.

What about his undocumented employees like Ruben, a Mexican father of two U.S.-born children who has been in the United States since 1987, and Juan, another Mexican worker, who has trained dozens of new hires at Moe’s Cantina?

“It’s offensive that my employ-

Immigrants Who Have
Long Been in U.S.
Object to Policy

ees and other immigrants are being leapfrogged by new arrivals,” said Mr. Sanchez, who is on the board of the National Restaurant Association.

Having built lives and families since entering the country unlawfully many years ago, they have been waiting for Congress to give them a path to work legally. “For those of us here a long time trying to do everything right, it’s just not fair that we are forgotten,” said

Juan, 53, whose last name was withheld out of concern about his immigration status.

Confronted with an influx of migrants making their way to Chicago, New York and other big cities, Mr. Biden has used executive power to allow several hundred thousand of them to live and work temporarily in the United States in an effort to make them less reliant on shelters and other assistance.

Now groups representing undocumented immigrants and their U.S.-citizen children — as well as their employers — are urging the president to deploy the same broad power to open channels for the more than eight mil-

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A member of Ukraine’s 17th Tank Brigade near the front line in the Donetsk region in January.

FOOD D1-8

Boston’s Best Restaurants

There’s more than just seafood and Italian. There’s also great Vietnamese, Peruvian and even bagels. PAGE D4

Fast Food, Hollywood Style

In Los Angeles, the restaurant Chain taps into a nostalgia for burgers and pizza from the 20th century. PAGE D7

OPINION A20-21

Michelle Cottle PAGE A20

