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THE WEATHER
 Today, cloudy, warm, a couple of showers, high 62. Tonight, an early shower, partly cloudy, breezy, low 42. Tomorrow, windy, chillier, high 46. Weather map is on Page A22.

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



A flooded tent village near Gaza City on Tuesday. U.S. officials want to build compounds that would be more permanent than tents.

U.S. Envisions Gazans Living In Compounds

This article is by David M. Halbfinger, Adam Rasgon, Natan Odenheimer and Aaron Boxerman.

JERUSALEM — The Trump administration is pushing for the rapid construction of a number of residential compounds to provide housing for Palestinians in Israeli-controlled parts of the war-ravaged Gaza Strip, an effort that is fraught with risks and potential pitfalls.

The compounds, or "Alternative Safe Communities," as U.S. officials are calling them, will be concentrated in the eastern half of Gaza, currently controlled by Israel since a cease-fire took effect in October. Few of Gaza's two million Palestinians remain there. Most are crammed in the Hamas-controlled part of the enclave where the United States and Israel are not yet allowing any reconstruction.

U.S. officials hope Palestinians will feel encouraged to move to the new compounds, drawn to the prospect of greater security, freedom from Hamas, job opportunities and a chance to rebuild their lives.

The vision of American officials involves the creation of a string of model compounds — more permanent than tent villages, but still made up of structures meant to be temporary. Each could provide housing for as many as 20,000 or 25,000 people alongside medical clinics and schools. U.S. officials and European diplomats say.

"There's a practical issue: How do we get people into safe housing as soon as humanly possible?" Aryeh Lightstone, a senior Trump administration official who is leading the effort, said in an interview. "This is the easiest way to do that."

In the short term, the plan could offer relief for thousands of Palestinians who have endured two years of war. In the long term, the proposal has raised questions about whether it could entrench a de facto partition of Gaza into Israeli- and Hamas-controlled zones.

This article is based on interviews with 20 officials from the United States, Europe and Israel working on or briefed on the plans for postwar Gaza, including diplomats, military officers and aid workers. Nearly all insisted on an-

Continued on Page A8

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

Conscription Debate in Europe

With Russia looming, governments are racing to rebuild armed forces that shrank after the Cold War.

PAGE A6

Think Deadwood, in Berlin

The town looks straight out of the Wild West, but in this frontier-inspired patch, everyone speaks German.

PAGE A4



Continued on Page A8

Continued on Page A8