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Ukrainian forces in Donbas. As the United States sought a deal and Russia a victory, Washington factions bled Kyiv's war effort.

THE SEPARATION

Inside the Unraveling of the Partnership Between the U.S. and Ukraine

By ADAM ENTOUS

The train left the U.S. Army depot in the west of Germany and made for Poland and the Ukrainian border. These were the final 800 miles of a trans-Atlantic supply chain that had sustained Ukraine across more than three long years of war.

The freight on this last day in June was 155-millimeter artillery shells, 18,000 of them packed into crates, their fuses separated out to prevent detonation in transit. Their ultimate destination was the eastern front, where Vladimir V. Putin's generals were massing forces and firepower against the city of Pokrovsk. The battle was for territory and strategic advantage, but also for bragging rights: Mr. Putin wanted to show the American president, Donald J. Trump, that Russia was indeed winning.

Advertising their war plan, the Russians had told Mr. Trump's advisers. "We're going to slam them harder there. We have the munitions to do that." In Washington, the defense secretary, Pete Hegseth, had been talking about munitions, too, testifying to a Senate Appropriations subcommittee that those earmarked for Ukraine by former President Joseph R. Biden Jr. were "still flowing."

Three months earlier, in fact, Mr. Hegseth had, unannounced, decided to hold back one crucial class of munitions — American-made 155s. The U.S. military's stocks were running low, his advisers had warned; withholding them would force the Europeans to step up, to take greater responsibility for the war in their backyard.

Day after day, then, thousands upon

thousands of 155s earmarked for Ukraine had lain waiting on pallets at the ammunition depot. The American commander in Europe, Gen. Christopher G. Cavoli, had fired off email after email, pleading with the Pentagon to free them. The jam had been broken only after intervention from Jack Keane, a retired Army general and Fox News contributor who was friendly with the president.

But on July 2, as the train approached the Ukrainian border, a new order came in to the U.S. military's European Command: "Divert everything. Immediately."

Exactly why the liberated shells had been taken captive again was never explained. In the end, they waited for just 10

Continued on Page 12

Early Comments Cast Doubts Over ICE Inquiry

By GLENN THRUSH

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration blocked Minnesota officials from investigating the death of the woman shot on Wednesday by a federal agent, then quietly offered this explanation: Local investigators simply could not be trusted to conduct a fair inquiry.

The investigation into the killing of Renee Nicole Good, 37, federal officials said, would be the exclusive province of the F.B.I., which is overseen by a director, Kash Patel, who has described President Trump as an unerring boss, and even a king.

Mr. Trump had already declared the shooting justified. Vice President JD Vance has asserted that federal agents had "absolute immunity" from prosecution. The homeland security secretary, Kristi Noem, has spoken about the incident as if it were a closed case: Ms. Good had "weaponized" her S.U.V. to kill agents, she said, even though video analysis by The New York Times suggested it was more likely that she was turning her car away from officers.

The extraordinary volley of public statements stood in striking contrast to the far more restrained approach to high-profile incidents taken by other



DAVID GUTTENFELDER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

PROTESTS Demonstrations continued in Minneapolis and in other cities after the killing of Renee Nicole Good. Page 23.

presidents, who have typically called for calm pending the results of investigations. The all-hands effort to define Ms. Good as the only person who did anything wrong has cast serious doubt on the F.B.I.'s willingness to scrutinize the actions of the agent who killed the unarmed activist, according to former law

enforcement officials who were once responsible for investigating comparable tragedies.

"It's hard to have any trust in the federal investigation given the White House's immediate public effort to drive an outcome," said Vanita Gupta, a former top Justice Department

Continued on Page 23

On Immigration, Trump Is Mixing His Messages

By ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS

WASHINGTON — President Trump threatened in an interview last week to strip some naturalized immigrants of their citizenship, defended an ICE agent who killed a woman in Minneapolis and offered no regrets over officers' aggressive tactics against immigrants, protesters and American citizens.

But the president at times sought to soften his harsh, anti-immigrant image, as he has done at times. When asked if he would support a plan that includes a

Calls the Issue 'a Very Ticklish Subject'

pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants, Mr. Trump said, "Possibly, possibly." He said so-called Dreamers, who were brought to the United States as children, should feel "safe" in the country and he would "love to be able to do something for them."

"I'd love to have a comprehensive immigration policy. Something that really worked. It's

about time for the country," Mr. Trump said, a remarkable statement for a president whose administration has spent the past year demonizing, threatening and rounding up immigrants in raids across the country.

Asked for details of any plan he might have, Mr. Trump seemed to acknowledge the messy politics surrounding an issue that has motivated a large number of his staunchest supporters: "I don't want to go into that because it's a very ticklish subject."

Many of Mr. Trump's assertions

Continued on Page 22

Dogs Can Develop Vocabularies Like Toddlers

By EMILY ANTHERS

Basket the Border collie seems to have a way with words. The 7-year-old dog, who resides on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, knows the names of at least 150 toys — "froggy," "crayon box" and "Pop-Tart," among them — and can retrieve them on command.

Basket built her vocabulary thanks to the dedicated efforts of one of her owners, Elle Baumgartel-Austin. She began the language lessons when Basket was a puppy. "I would play with her, say

the name of the toy — say the name of the toy a lot of times," Ms. Baumgartel-Austin said. She started with 10 toys, adding more as Basket mastered them.

"There never seemed to be a limit," she said. "It's basically like, how many toys could I feasibly store in my tiny apartment?"

Now, in a new study, scientists have found that Basket, and other dogs that share her advanced word-learning ability, have a skill that puts them functionally on par with 18-month-old children: They can learn the names of new toys

Continued on Page 21



ELLE BAUMGARTEL-AUSTIN

Basket, a Border collie, knows the names of at least 150 toys.

INTERNATIONAL 4-19

Ex-Revolutionary in Venezuela
Delcy Rodríguez, a guerrilla's daughter and a Maduro loyalist, revived a ravaged economy and is a key to President Trump's plans for her country. PAGE 8

Jurists as Pariahs
Trump administration sanctions against judges of the International Criminal Court have torturous effects. PAGE 6

METROPOLITAN

A Year of Congestion Pricing
With about 73,000 fewer vehicles entering Manhattan's central business district daily, the streets were quieter. PAGE 6

SUNDAY STYLES

Love, Silicon Valley Style
Some tech executives and other industry insiders are seeking to streamline the messy matters of the heart. PAGE 1

Streetwear Thrives Again
In London, Clint Ogbenna saw an opportunity to restore a long-gone thrill in style with his brand Cortez. PAGE 4



NATIONAL 20-28

Don't Fence Me In
GPS collars on cattle could allow ranchers in Wyoming and across the West to go without fences. That would be good for wildlife and for the land. PAGE 20

SPORTS 29-32
The Sun in Buffalo's Universe
The Western New York region shares a unique bond with the Bills' star quarterback, Josh Allen. PAGE 29

A Championship's Stakes
College football's title game will either return Miami to greatness or cap Indiana's astonishing turnaround. PAGE 31

ARTS & LEISURE

'KPop Demons Hunters'
Filmmakers, songwriters and actors tell how a "wackadoo" concept evolved for years into a global phenomenon. PAGE 6

Wagner Moura Is Outspoken
The Brazilian star of "The Secret Agent" is an Oscar contender and a critic of his government. PAGE 8



SUNDAY BUSINESS

Is He Apple's Next Chief?
John Ternus, a low-profile executive who is the head of hardware engineering, could be next in line. PAGE 4

He Runs a \$2.1 Trillion Fund
Nicolai Tangen hoped to raise the profile of Norway's oil fund, but have his efforts exposed it to scrutiny? PAGE 1

SUNDAY OPINION
Lydia Polgreen PAGE 6

