



OMAR AL-QATTAA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Palestinians ordered by the Israeli military to evacuate from shelters in Beit Hanoun crossed into Jabaliya in North Gaza on Tuesday.

Toll on Brain For Veterans Of Fast Boats

By DAVE PHILIPPS

SAN DIEGO — In the year before Troy Norrell died, he grew convinced that the government had somehow infiltrated his brain. And in a way, he was right.

The 44-year-old was a rising star in the Navy’s Special Boat Teams — an elite group of stealth speedboat crews who can race over rough seas at 60 miles an hour to deliver Navy SEALs to their targets. But after years of pounding across the waves, he was barely able to function. He grew forgetful and confused. He struggled with insomnia, alcohol abuse and rage. On a training trip, he smashed a rearview mirror and started cutting his chest with the glass.

He was forced to medically retire in 2017 after 12 years in uniform.

As a civilian, he grew delusional and paranoid and started to believe that the government had bugged his phone, then his kitchen walls and finally his own skull.

“There’s only a little piece of me left,” he told a neighbor in 2021, tapping his head. “They got the rest.”

A few days later, he was found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in a field near his home in the San Diego suburbs.

An autopsy revealed that his brain was riddled with chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or C.T.E., a progressive disease often associated with football players who suffer repeated blows to the head.

A Defense Department neurologist who analyzed samples of Mr. Norrell’s brain wrote that his C.T.E. probably came from years of impacts with waves. The neurologist alerted the Navy that other sailors in the Special Boat Teams might face the same risk.

As if to underline the point, six weeks after Mr. Norrell’s death, another boat team member in the grip of paranoid delusions, Travis Carter, 33, died by suicide a few miles away.

Seeking an edge in combat, the Navy has created boats so powerful that riding in them can destroy sailors’ brains, several former senior members of the Special Boat Teams said.

In interviews, 12 former boat team leaders — nearly all chiefs or

Continued on Page A21

Israel Renews Brutal Cycle of War in North Gaza

This article is by Jack Nicas, Adam Rasgon and Hiba Yazbek.

JERUSALEM — When Israeli forces first swarmed into Gaza last year, they targeted North Gaza, an area stretching across densely packed urban centers and small strawberry farms near the border with Israel.

The military said that hardened Hamas fighters were hiding among the civilians there, so it struck residential neighborhoods, hospitals and schools turned shelters. It was one of the deadliest moments of the war.

Now, almost exactly a year later, it is all happening again.

Effort to Uproot Hamas Brings New Round of Misery to Residents

North Gaza is the center of a renewed Israeli offensive that, over the past five weeks, has unleashed some of the Israeli military’s most devastating attacks yet. In an effort to stamp out what the military has called a Hamas resurgence, troops, tanks and armed drones have hammered the area almost daily, displacing 100,000 residents and killing likely more than 1,000

others, according to the United Nations. (Those statistics do not distinguish between civilians and combatants.)

There are so many corpses, multiple residents and a local doctor said, that stray dogs have begun to pick at them in the streets.

“Life over the past four weeks, if I can sum it up, is a people being exterminated,” said Islam Ahmad, 34, a freelance journalist from North Gaza who described helping bury neighbors in a mass grave.

The return of fighting to the northernmost reaches of the Gaza Strip shows how Israel’s approach

Continued on Page A10



ANTHONY KWAN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Frank Gehry’s Opus, a twisting glass-and-steel tower, used to be home to two of China’s richest men.

\$130 Million Hong Kong Mansion, Priced to Sell

By ALEXANDRA STEVENSON

HONG KONG — One by one, tycoons who built their wealth on China’s economic rise have been giving up their trophy homes in Hong Kong.

Two apartments in a Frank Gehry glass-and-steel tower that twists out of the mountainside. Three European-style mansions with turrets and swimming pools. Four white villas sitting in a row.

All but two of the properties have already sold for tens of millions of dollars each. And though it

Tycoons Fleeing After a Real Estate Collapse

might be hard to believe, each one was a steal — snatched up for discounts of one-third to more than half of the previous values.

Hong Kong’s housing market has long had an are-you-kidding-me feel to it. For nearly 20 years, property prices have climbed higher and higher, turning it into one of the most unaffordable cities

in the world, where the poor rented subdivided apartments so small they were colloquially known as “coffin homes.”

Now, many of the same people who contributed to the housing market’s inequities, from the builders to the wealthy speculators, have found themselves being forced to sell their prized homes fast. Their riches had swelled with an unfathomable rise in China’s real estate market, and its collapse and aftermath have left many short on cash.

Continued on Page A12

Many Women See a Setback; Many Disagree

Harris’s Loss Illustrates Deep-Rooted Divide

By DIONNE SEARCEY

To many left-leaning Americans, it is resoundingly clear that women who backed Donald J. Trump in the presidential election voted against their own self-interest.

Liberal women, in particular, have spent recent days practically stunned, stewing over how other women could have rejected Kamala Harris, who would have been the first woman to lead the nation in its nearly 250-year history. Instead, they chose a candidate who spews misogyny seemingly with glee. For the second time.

One voter from Maine, interviewed after Mr. Trump declared victory, offered a takeaway shared by many. As she put it, “The sisterhood did not stand up.”

In many ways the election results seemed to contradict generations of progress made toward women’s equality and for feminism generally. Women have made strides in nearly every facet of American life in recent decades, generally making up a greater proportion of the U.S. work force than in the past, taking on high-paying jobs and outpacing men in higher education — though they remain underrepresented at the top levels of both business and government.

They now find themselves in a country where Mr. Trump won decisively with a campaign that pitted men against women, sitting down with podcasters who traded in sexism and choosing a running mate who had criticized single women as “childless cat ladies.” Mr. Trump took credit for appointing the Supreme Court justices who overturned the constitutional right to abortion but appeared to pay little price at the polls. Immediately after the election, social media posts were circulated by men that read, “your body, my choice.”

But women themselves clearly were divided in the election. Exit polls show that 45 percent of female voters cast ballots for Mr. Trump, and that far more white women voted for Mr. Trump than Black women. The compounding rejection of first Hillary Clinton then Ms. Harris has exposed an

Continued on Page A14

AT TRUMP’S SIDE, MUSK PUTS STAMP ON NEXT U.S. ERA

‘UNCLE’ AT MAR-A-LAGO

Richest Man’s Role in the Transition Surprises Even Some Allies

By THEODORE SCHLEIFER

In nearly every meeting that President-elect Donald J. Trump holds at Mar-a-Lago, alongside him is someone who has been elected or appointed to nothing and, only a few months ago, had no meaningful relationship with him.

Elon Musk.

The world’s richest person has ascended to a position of extraordinary, unofficial influence in Mr. Trump’s transition process, playing a role that makes him indisputably America’s most powerful private citizen. He has sat in on nearly every job interview with the Trump team and bonded with the Trump family, and he is trying to install his Silicon Valley friends in plum positions in the next administration.

He has taken on an almost mythical aura in Mr. Trump’s inner circle. At Mar-a-Lago one recent evening, he walked into the dining room about 30 minutes after the president-elect did and received a similar standing ovation, according to two people who saw him enter.

Mr. Musk, often with his 4-year-old son X on his lap, has spent most of the last week at Mar-a-Lago, joining not just interviews but almost every meeting and many meals that Mr. Trump has had. He briefly shuttled back to Austin, Texas, where he has a \$35 million compound, before returning on Friday, where he ate in Mar-a-Lago’s dining room and on its patio, roamed the gift shop and spent time on the golf course — all alongside the president-elect.

“I’m happy to be the first buddy!” he replied to a social-media follower this weekend.

This article is based on roughly a dozen interviews with Republican donors, politicians and friends of Mr. Musk, many of whom insisted on anonymity to talk about private conversations.

Publicly, over just the first week of the transition, Mr. Musk has endorsed Senator Rick Scott of Flor-

Continued on Page A15

MOVE TO DISMISS Donald J. Trump’s lawyers argued that his 34 felonies from the Manhattan criminal case should be cleared. **PAGE A17**

Archbishop of Canterbury Quits Over Findings in Abuse Scandal

By STEPHEN CASTLE and MARK LANDLER

LONDON — The archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. Justin Welby, resigned on Tuesday after a damning report concluded that he had failed to pursue a proper investigation into claims of widespread abuse of boys and young men decades ago at Christian summer camps.

Pressure had mounted rapidly on Mr. Welby, who serves as the spiritual leader of 85 million Anglicans worldwide, since the report was published last week. Helen-Ann Hartley, a senior figure in the church and the bishop of Newcastle, called on him to step aside, while Prime Minister Keir Starmer pointedly declined to back him.

Mr. Welby’s resignation brings to an abrupt end an eventful and occasionally stormy tenure, during which he became Britain’s best-known cleric, presiding over momentous public ceremonies like the coronation of King



MARY TURNER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Most Rev. Justin Welby, the archbishop of Canterbury.

Charles III and becoming an impassioned voice on issues like migration.

But Mr. Welby struggled to hold together a church cleaved between liberals and traditionalists. Though he has not been accused of any abuse himself, he was ultimately brought down by the same type of sex-abuse scandals that have toppled leaders of the Ro-

Continued on Page A11



INTERNATIONAL A4-12

Concerts Lift a Country at War

As Russia’s invasion nears the end of its third year, music has continued to keep people’s spirits up in Ukraine. **PAGE A8**

73 Women Win Seats in Japan

One victor elected to the lower house of Parliament last month upended a male political dynasty in her district. **PAGE A4**

NATIONAL A13-22

Pondering Life After the House

Kamala Harris’s defeat is personal for Representative Barbara Lee, a retiring California Democrat. But after years in the fight, she exits undaunted. **PAGE A13**

Documents Leaker Sentenced

Jack Teixeira, a Massachusetts Air National Guardsman who posted secret reports, will go to prison. **PAGE A20**

BUSINESS B1-6

New Tricks to Go Green

In Britain, several experiments are underway to nudge residents into alternative energy sources. **PAGE B1**



ARTS C1-6

Asking ‘What Would You Do?’

The FX series “Say Nothing” strives to capture the long conflict in Northern Ireland known as the Troubles. **PAGE C1**

A Campy Alter Ego Is Shed

Alina Troyano and Branden Jacobs-Jenkins plumb identity and art in “Give Me Carmelita Tropical!” **PAGE C1**

SPORTS B7-10

Bills Fans Snap Up Bonds

Critics of using public money to build sports facilities dismissed the sale, but some of the team’s devoted followers eagerly paid in to help pay for a stadium set to open in 2026. **PAGE B7**

Door Opens for Rising Stars

In the first ATP Finals without any of the “Big Three” of men’s tennis since 2001, the players whose hopes they crushed year after year have a chance to make their mark. **PAGE B10**

OPINION A24-25

Margaret Renkl **PAGE A25**



FOOD D1-10

Get Out the Rolling Pin

These stunning pies — chic and cozy, new but not intimidating — will make you want to offer to bring the dessert this Thanksgiving. **PAGE D6**

