

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, early snow and rain, little to no accumulation, cloudy, breezy, high 42. **Tonight**, partly cloudy, low 30. **Tomorrow**, more clouds than sun, high 36. Weather map, Page D8.

VOL. CLXXIII No. 60,048

© 2024 The New York Times Company

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Ukraine Considers Tougher Draft Law
A proposed mobilization has become the focus of a debate as more men dodge the draft and soldiers grow exhausted. Page A8.

The National Dilemma of the Man in Room 117

By ELLEN BARRY

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Alone with his mother for the first time in almost a year, Andrey Shevelyov had a question: Could he come home?

She sat beside him and stroked his head. The hotel room had a sour, rancid smell, and clothes lay mounded in a corner. His fingernails were long and curved and ridged with dirt. In jail, they cut off his hair, which had been matted and infested with lice.

Clean-shaven now, Andrey looked younger than his 31 years,

Should the Mentally Ill Be Able to Refuse Treatment?

like the gentle, artistic boy he had been before the psychosis took hold. “Zaichik,” his mother called him, a childhood nickname. Bunny rabbit. She pushed a strand of hair over his ear. He lay back on the bed and smiled, and a dimple appeared on his cheek.

“I like living with you also,” said

Olga Mintonye, but it was not an honest answer.

Three years ago, when he stopped taking his antipsychotic medication, her son withdrew into delusions, erupting in unpredictable and menacing outbursts. Fearful of being evicted from their apartment, she and her husband, Sam, sought a no-contact order to keep Andrey away.

Since then, he had lived in a tent, wandering Vancouver, Wash., in ragged clothing and carrying machetes for protection. Twice, he had been in jail, ranting

Continued on Page A10



MICHAEL HANSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Andrey Shevelyov, 31, said he would rather live on the street than take antipsychotic medication.

Black Pastors Pressing Biden On Cease-Fire

By MAYA KING

As the Israel-Hamas war enters its fourth month, a coalition of Black faith leaders is pressuring the Biden administration to push for a cease-fire — a campaign spurred in part by their parishioners, who are increasingly distressed by the suffering of Palestinians and critical of the president’s response to it.

More than 1,000 Black pastors representing hundreds of thousands of congregants nationwide have issued the demand. In sit-down meetings with White House officials, and through open letters and advertisements, ministers have made a moral case for President Biden and his administration to press Israel to stop its offensive operations in Gaza, which have killed thousands of civilians. They are also calling for the release of hostages held by Hamas and an end to Israel’s occupation of the West Bank.

The effort at persuasion also carries a political warning, detailed in interviews with a dozen Black faith leaders and their allies. Many of their parishioners, these pastors said, are so dismayed by the president’s posture toward the war that their support for his re-election bid could be imperiled.

“Black faith leaders are extremely disappointed in the Biden administration on this issue,” said the Rev. Timothy McDonald, the senior pastor of First Iconium Baptist Church in Atlanta, which boasts more than 1,500 members. He was one of the first pastors of more than 200 Black clergy members in Georgia, a key swing state, to sign an open letter calling for a cease-fire. “We are afraid,” Mr.

Continued on Page A14

Dossier Details Alleged Actions Of Aid Workers

U.N. Seeks Funds for Agency After Claims

By RONEN BERGMAN and PATRICK KINGSLEY

One is accused of kidnapping a woman. Another is said to have handed out ammunition. A third was described as taking part in the massacre at a kibbutz where 97 people died. And all were said to be employees of the United Nations aid agency that schools, shelters and feeds hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

The accusations are contained in a dossier provided to the United States government that details Israel’s claims against a dozen employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency who, it says, played a role in the Hamas attacks against Israel on Oct. 7 or in their aftermath.

The U.N. said on Friday that it had fired several employees after being briefed on the allegations. But little was known about the accusations until the dossier was reviewed on Sunday by The New York Times.

The accusations are what prompted eight countries, including the United States, to suspend some aid payment to the UNRWA, as the agency is known, even as war plunges Palestinians in Gaza into desperate straits. More than 26,000 people have been killed there and nearly two million displaced, according to Gazan and U.N. officials.

The UNRWA workers have been accused of helping Hamas stage the attack that set off the war in Gaza, or of aiding it in the days after. Some 1,200 people in Israel were killed that day, Israeli officials say, and about 240 were abducted and taken to Gaza.

On Sunday, the United Nations secretary general, António Guterres, described himself as “horrified by these accusations” and noted that nine of the 12 accused employees had been fired. But Mr. Guterres implored those nations that had suspended their aid payments to reconsider. UNRWA is one of the largest employers in Gaza, with 13,000 people, mostly Palestinians, on staff.

Asked about Israel’s allegations on Sunday, UNRWA said that two of the 12 employees were dead but that it could not provide more information while the U.N.’s Office of Internal Oversight Services was still investigating.

Two Western officials confirmed on the condition of anonymity that they had been briefed on the contents of the dossier in recent days, but said they had not been able to verify the details. Although the United States has yet to corroborate the Israeli claims, American officials say they found them credible enough to warrant suspending aid.

The Times verified the identity of one of the 12 employees, a store-room manager, whose social media profile lists him as an UNRWA employee and shows him wearing U.N.-branded clothes.

The Israeli dossier, presented to U.S. officials on Friday, lists the names and jobs of the UNRWA employees and the allegations against them.

Continued on Page A6

3 U.S. TROOPS DIE AS DRONE STRIKE HITS JORDAN BASE

25 OTHERS ARE INJURED

Attack From Iran-Backed Militia May Deepen Mideast Conflict

By ERIC SCHMITT

WASHINGTON — Three U.S. service members were killed in Jordan on Sunday and at least 34 others were injured in what the Biden administration said was a drone attack from an Iran-backed militia, the first American military fatalities from hostile fire in the turmoil spilling over from Israel’s war with Hamas.

The attack happened at a remote logistics outpost in northeast Jordan called Tower 22 where the borders of Syria, Iraq and Jordan converge. The one-way attack drone hit near the outpost’s living quarters, causing injuries that ranged from minor cuts to brain trauma, a U.S. military official said.

But the deaths of U.S. service members, most of whom were military reservists, will almost certainly increase pressure on President Biden to retaliate more forcefully as strife grows in the Middle East after the Oct. 7 attacks that killed 1,200 people in Israel.

“Three U.S. service members were killed — and many wounded — during an unmanned aerial drone attack on our forces stationed in northeast Jordan near the Syria border,” Mr. Biden said in a statement on Sunday. “While we are still gathering the facts of this attack, we know it was carried out by radical Iran-backed militant groups operating in Syria and Iraq.”

Speaking later in Columbia, S.C., Mr. Biden said, “We lost three brave souls.” The president then



THE NEW YORK TIMES

led a moment of silence, before adding, “We shall respond.”

Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III also held Iran-backed militias responsible for the continued attacks against U.S. troops in the region, but he did not identify which country the attack was launched from. “The president and I will not tolerate attacks on American forces, and we will take all necessary actions to defend the United States, our troops and our interests,” Mr. Austin said.

The Pentagon declined to identify the service members who died or their units pending notification of family members. The military’s

Continued on Page A6

Favorites Line Up for a Marathon to November

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

With Donald J. Trump rapidly closing in on the Republican presidential nomination, the 2024 general election campaign is set to be one of the longest in modern history, pushing President Biden and Mr. Trump into unfamiliar territory as they struggle to engage an electorate that seems numbed by the prospect of a 2020 rematch.

For Biden and Trump, No Time to Rest

For all their experience in presidential politics, Mr. Biden and Mr. Trump face extraordinarily complicated challenges as they and their aides grapple with how to run a presidential campaign that will last almost nine months, significantly longer than most general election contests.

This is a race that has been run before, a rematch between two older and by now well-known candidates: Mr. Trump is 77, and Mr. Biden is 81. Mr. Trump has essentially been a candidate for re-election since his defeat four years ago and may spend much of the spring fighting felony charges in court. Both men are unpopular

Continued on Page A14

On Trial, Trump Uses the Courtroom as a Stage

By MAGGIE HABERMAN and KATE CHRISTOBEK

He shook his head in anger, sitting with his back hunched. He spoke to his lawyers, his words sometimes quite audible to the packed courtroom. He wrote instructions for his defense team that he shoved their way. He walked in late at one point, and at another, while a lawyer suing

NEWS ANALYSIS

him was speaking to the jury, he stalked out.

Former President Donald J. Trump’s behavior as he attended the defamation trial that ended on Friday with a jury ordering him to pay \$83.3 million to the writer E. Jean Carroll — and his similar conduct in a pending civil case in New York — showcased

his disdain both for a legal system seeking to hold him accountable and for the protocols of courtrooms where he has little control.

His use of the defense table as a stage also provided clues to the public, and a reminder to his own legal team, of how he might handle himself if and when any of the four criminal cases he is facing go to trial. In all of those

Continued on Page A16



INTERNATIONAL A4-8

Haiti Seeks New Security Plan
Kenya had promised to send officers to pacify the island’s streets, but a court has rejected that proposal. PAGE A7

Presidential Runoff in Finland
No candidate secured a majority in Sunday’s vote. The victor will be the first new head of state in 12 years. PAGE A8

NATIONAL A9-17, 20

Gender’s Role in Campus Woes
Recent dramas at Ivy League institutions have made female leaders in academia wonder how far they have really progressed. PAGE A12

A Battle Over a Drug Test
A D.E.A. agent said he used CBD for chronic pain. The choice led to a positive marijuana finding. He lost his job, but he recently got it back. PAGE A9

Honoring Holocaust Survivors
The artist Gillian Laub projected some of her portraits of more than 200 survivors onto buildings and structures throughout New York City. PAGE A13



SPORTS D1-7

Grand Slam Breakthrough
Jannik Sinner, above, rallied to beat Daniil Medvedev for the Australian Open men’s singles title. PAGE D1

Making a Play for the N.H.L.
Ryan Smith, the owner of the Utah Jazz, has been in talks with the league about getting an expansion team. PAGE D6

BUSINESS B1-4

A Shadow Over W.W.E.
Several high-profile deals have the wrestling company well-positioned for years to come, but sexual abuse allegations against Vince McMahon, its former leader, are not going away. PAGE B1

Hollywood Bombs in China
No American films ranked among the 10 highest grossing in the country last year as viewers who once flocked to foreign blockbusters continued to opt for domestic fare. PAGE B1

OPINION A18-19

David French PAGE A18



ARTS C1-6

Liking Ike, for the Time Being
Documentaries stood out at this year’s Sundance festival. Above, Nikita Khrushchev and Dwight D. Eisenhower in “Soundtrack to a Coup d’Etat.” PAGE C1

