

Trump wants U.S. to turn over huge trove

In D.C. case, defense demands materials from wide-ranging probes

BY SPENCER S. HSU AND RACHEL WEINER

Donald Trump’s attorneys are seeking a vast trove of information about how the U.S. government investigated both him and his allegations of voter fraud in 2020 — the latest sign that the former president and 2024 Republican front-runner will fight charges in D.C. of election obstruction by relying on his unfounded allegation that President Biden’s victory was “stolen” and other baseless conspiratorial claims.

In court papers filed Monday, Trump’s legal team sought permission to compel prosecutors to turn over reams of information on the 2020 election and Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack from the FBI, national security and election integrity units of the Justice Department, the Department of Homeland Security, the Capitol Police, the Defense Department, the D.C. police department, the National Guard, and members of Congress.

Whether Trump genuinely believed the election was stolen may be a matter for trial, his lawyers wrote, but prosecutors cannot “suppress and withhold from President Trump information that supports this defense and related arguments regarding good faith and the absence of [his] criminal intent.” It was “certainly not criminal,” they added, “for President Trump to disagree with officials now favored by the prosecution and to rely instead on the independent judgment that the American people elected him to use while leading the country.”

The wide-ranging request for materials echoes many themes he has hammered on the campaign trail criticizing the charges against him: allegations of a politically motivated prosecution driven by his main presidential rival

SEE TRUMP ON A2

Pence on Jan. 6: ABC News says he considered recusing himself. A4

Kitten’s case of rabies set off scramble to halt spread

BY LENA H. SUN

At first, Madeline Wahl thought her new kitten was having a bad reaction to medication for ringworm. After each dose, he would shake his head and flail his legs.

She and her husband, Rich, had brought the kitten to their house in a historic neighborhood in Omaha after a friend found the stray meowing in her driveway. About 5 weeks old and barely two pounds, the cuddly black-and-white animal looked like he was wearing a tuxedo. The Wahls named him Stanley.

But, within two days, Stanley stopped eating and developed seizures. Then he stopped breathing; Wahl’s husband resuscitated him with chest compressions.

Wahl rushed him to a veterinarian, who noted that the kitten’s pupils were different sizes. The vet listed nearly two dozen

SEE RABIES ON A7

Puerto Rico’s death rate in 2022 surpassed that of any other year in the past two decades, including 2017, when Hurricane Maria hit



ERIKA P. RODRIGUEZ FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

An aging, ailing population, faced with faltering health care

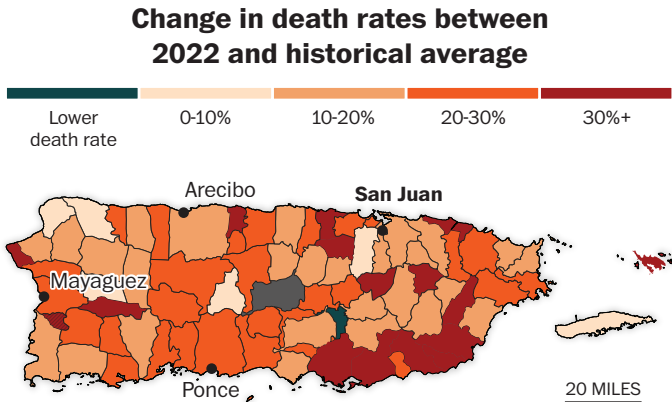
BY OMAya Sosa Pascual, Jeniffer Wiscovitch, Arelis R. Hernández, Andrew Ba Tran and Dylan Moriarty

IN AGUAS BUENAS, PUERTO RICO

In a purple house along a narrow road in Puerto Rico’s Central Mountain Range, Margarita Gómez Falcón’s breathing suddenly grew labored one March evening. She called an ambulance and began a grim two-hour wait for paramedics to arrive.

Health services across this self-governing island have been deteriorating for years, contributing to a surge in deaths that reached historic proportions in 2022, an investigation by The Washington Post and Puerto Rico’s Center for Investigative Journalism has found.

The case of Gómez Falcón, 67,



Source: Puerto Rico Department of Health

THE WASHINGTON POST

underscores the many ways a faltering medical system has contributed to elevated death rates. She had struggled with kidney disease, covid-19, and breathing problems requiring the use of oxygen. But access to dialysis and other specialized medical care had dwindled, especially since Hurricane Maria devastated the island in 2017.

Aguas Buenas, a small, working-class town in the central highlands, had one working ambulance for its 25,000 people when Gómez Falcón called for help, so dispatchers sent a private

SEE DEATHS ON A12

A worker rests beside one of the newer graves at Municipal Cemetery 1 in Aguas Buenas. The public cemetery is at capacity after Puerto Rico struggled last year against covid and as older citizens succumb to chronic conditions.

An admiring public offers a fond goodbye

In Ga., high-profile guests and everyday fans remember Rosalynn Carter’s decency, ‘quiet strength’

BY DANIELLE PAQUETTE

ATLANTA — Margie Ryman wanted to linger, but a Secret Service agent nudged her to move along. Hundreds of mourners were waiting behind her in line to see the flower-adorned casket of Rosalynn Carter.

Everyone got a few seconds to say goodbye.

“I just needed to be in her presence,” said Ryman, a 63-year-old office manager in Atlanta, weaving through the Monday-evening crowd at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, where the former first lady was lying in repose.

Those few seconds, she said, were worth braving the rush-hour traffic and chilly night air. She had bowed her head, clasped her hands and mentally recited part of the Lord’s Prayer, which seemed like a more fitting farewell than watching a live stream of the funeral.

“She had this quiet strength,”

SEE CARTER ON A6



BRYNN ANDERSON/POOL/AP

Amy Carter walks past her mother’s casket after speaking at a service honoring Rosalynn Carter at Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church in Atlanta. The former first lady died Nov. 19 at 96.

CIA head in talks to build on pause

BURNS IN QATAR TO MEET MOSSAD CHIEF

Key player in U.S.’s most vexing foreign challenges

BY JOHN HUDSON

CIA Director William J. Burns arrived in Qatar on Tuesday for secret meetings with Israel’s spy chief and Qatar’s prime minister aimed at brokering an expansive deal between Israel and Hamas, said three people familiar with the visit.

Burns is pushing for Hamas and Israel to broaden the focus of their ongoing hostage negotiations, thus far limited to women and children, to encompass the release of men and military personnel, too.

He is also seeking a longer multiday pause in fighting while taking into account the Israeli demand that Hamas release at least 10 people for every day there is a break in the war; those familiar with the matter said, speaking on the condition of anonymity to detail sensitive discussions.

Crucially, Burns is pushing for the immediate release of American hostages held by Hamas. U.S. officials put the number of those hostages at eight or nine.

The CIA declined to comment on the director’s travel, which is kept classified. A U.S. official said, “Director Burns traveled to Doha for meetings about the Israel-Hamas conflict including continued discussion on hostages.”

Burns has emerged as the

SEE BURNS ON A11

Spotlight on civilians: Aid officials and envoys eye a longer pause. A9

Freed hostages: A mix of joy and tragedy as they reacclimate. A15

Thousands leave U.S. lives to join Israel’s war

BY DAN LAMOTHE AND ALEX HORTON

The carnage in Kfar Aza was indelible. Villagers shot dead in the streets. Bodies set on fire.

Menachem Isseroff, a 29-year-old from Brooklyn, was among the Israeli soldiers dispatched to the kibbutz where Hamas militants, having massacred dozens, staged a raging battle amid their surprise cross-border assault. He described the barbarity as “absolutely horrific,” adding, “Any one of those individual scenes would . . . last most people a lifetime.”

Thousands of miles away in New York, his younger sister Shterny was celebrating the Jewish holiday Simchat Torah. As she learned what had happened, her perspective darkened, too — though for different reasons: The Israeli government, she was sure, would use the atrocities committed by Hamas on Oct. 7 as “justification” for carrying out “acts of violence against the Palestinian people.”

“War crimes, even,” she said.

The Isseroffs are among those

SEE AMERICANS ON A10

IN THE NEWS

Charlie Munger, 1924-2023 The champion of common-sense investing forever altered the finance world as Warren Buffett’s top adviser and dry-witted sidekick. B4

Challenge to slavery’s legacy A parent petition began a process that may yield a new name for a Montgomery County school. B1

THE NATION Hunter Biden wants to speak to a House panel publicly, not in private, his lawyer said. A3
CDC data showed life expectancy rose in 2022 but that the U.S. still has a mortality crisis. A5

THE WORLD Meet Mary Nisbet, who helped her husband make off with ancient “marbles” of Athens. A8
The wife of Ukraine’s military intelligence chief was poisoned, said a Kyiv official. A16

THE ECONOMY Rural postal carriers are being overwhelmed as Amazon increasingly relies on them for “last-mile” deliveries. A17
Consumer spending over the holiday week-end ticked up to \$38 billion, but inflation, rising debt and other financial headwinds loom. A18

THE REGION Tefiney Worthy and Hendrix, a French bulldog stolen from her Saturday, were reunited at a D.C. police station. B1
Opening statements began in the trial of a Prince George’s police officer charged in the fatal shooting of a handcuffed man. B1

STYLE In the world of sexual fetishes, getting humiliated over personal political views is a kink. C1

FOOD Madhur Jaffrey reflects on a cookbook she wrote 50 years ago that moved her beyond acting and toward fame in the culinary world.

BUSINESS NEWS.....A17
COMICS.....C6
OPINION PAGES.....A19
OBITUARIES.....B4
TELEVISION.....C3
WORLD NEWS.....A8

CONTENT © 2023
The Washington Post
Year 146, No. 53684

0 170628 211001 3