



Gathering to pray in Tehran on Monday after the death of Iran's president, Ebrahim Raisi. But not everyone in Iran was in mourning.

More Guns and Looser Laws Ravage Ohio City

By SHAILA DEWAN and ROBERT GEBELOFF

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The sequence of events that led to the killing of Jason Keys was so confounding that friends and family did not quite believe it until they saw the video evidence played in court.

Mr. Keys and his wife, Charae Williams Keys, were getting into their car after a Father's Day visit in 2021 with her grandparents in a leafy neighborhood near Walnut Hill Park in Columbus, Ohio. A 72-year-old neighbor carrying a rifle accosted them in the belief, he later told the police, that Mr. Keys had let the air out of his daughter's tires and poisoned his lawn.

Mr. Keys, who was carrying a

front door with a so-called ghost gun, an AR-style rifle that Mr. Smith had assembled from parts ordered online. Within seconds, he opened fire, hitting Mr. Keys five times.

"What are you shooting for?" a relative of Mr. Keys can be heard asking on surveillance video that captured parts of the incident.

Mr. Smith answered, "I don't know."

It was an encounter emblematic of gun violence in America today, a dispute that might not have turned deadly but for firearms in increasingly easy reach. And it was an episode that exemplified a striking spread in fatal shootings nationwide since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 — a period

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Shootings Have Soared in Columbus Since the Pandemic

pistol in his waistband, and his father-in-law tried to disarm the man, knocking him to the ground, while another relative ran back inside to get a .22 rifle. While Ms. Keys ducked behind the car to call 911, she heard multiple gunshots. She emerged to find her husband mortally wounded.

It took a moment for everyone to realize that the shots had come from a fourth gun across the street. Elias Smith, a 24-year-old ex-Marine, had stepped to his



JASON ANDREW FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Cargo Ship Refloated

The Dali, which crashed into a bridge in Baltimore, was guided back to a berth Monday. Page A16.

At Trump's Trial, There's Disorder in the Court

This article is by Jonah E. Bromwich, Ben Protess and Maggie Haberman.

On a pivotal day in the first criminal trial of an American president, the courtroom threatened to spin out of control.

The prosecution's star witness, Michael D. Cohen, admitted on the stand to stealing from former President Donald J. Trump's company. Mr. Trump's courtroom entourage included three supporters charged with felonies of their own.

Judge Clears the Room to Scold a Witness

And the defense's only real witness was so defiant that the judge, after excoriating him, cleared the courtroom.

The trial's first five weeks featured dramatic descriptions of sex and scandal, and the final phase of testimony on Monday showed no signs of a letup, as the courtroom

played host to a nonstop spectacle.

The tension came to a head after the prosecution rested its case and the defense called its witness, Robert J. Costello, a lawyer who had once advised Mr. Cohen. The defense saw Mr. Costello as a foil to Mr. Cohen, Mr. Trump's onetime personal lawyer and longtime henchman.

But the strategy may not have paid off: The judge promptly lost his patience with Mr. Costello, as

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A Call to Arrest Hamas Leaders And Netanyahu

By PATRICK KINGSLEY and MATTHEW MPOKE BIGG

JERUSALEM — The chief prosecutor at the world's top criminal court on Monday announced that he was seeking arrest warrants for the leaders of both Israel and Hamas on charges of crimes against humanity, a strong rebuke that equated Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel with his Hamas counterpart, Yahya Sinwar, and compounded the growing international alarm at Israel's conduct in Gaza.

In a statement, Karim Khan, the chief prosecutor, said that after investigating Hamas's Oct. 7 attack on Israel and Israel's counter-attack on Gaza he had decided to apply for arrest warrants for Mr. Sinwar, Hamas's leader within Gaza; Muhammad Deif, Hamas's military leader; and Ismail Haniyeh, the movement's Qatar-based political leader. Mr. Khan also said he was requesting warrants for Mr. Netanyahu and for Israel's defense minister, Yoav Gallant.

While Mr. Khan's request must still be approved by judges from the court, the announcement forms one of the harshest rebukes of Israel's strategy in its seven-month campaign against Hamas that has killed tens of thousands of Gazan civilians. It also heightens scrutiny of Hamas's actions at the start of the war in October, when Hamas fighters led a raid that killed more than 1,000 people and abducted hundreds more.

"Today we once again underline that international law and the laws of armed conflict apply to all," Mr. Khan said in his statement. "No foot soldier, no commander, no civilian leader — no one — can act with impunity."

For now, the announcement is largely symbolic. Israel is not a member of the court and does not recognize its jurisdiction in Israel or Gaza, meaning that Israeli leaders would face no risk of arrest at home.

Judges can also take months to uphold requests for arrest warrants. But if they do issue warrants, those named could be arrested if they travel to one of the court's 124 member nations, which include most European countries but not the United States.

Mr. Khan's decision to simultaneously pursue Israeli and Palestinian leaders was criticized by Is-

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Iran Takes Swift Action To Fill Leadership Gaps After Fatal Copter Crash

NEWS ANALYSIS

Will Next President Tread Carefully?

Tehran Is Aiming to Project Stability Amid Tensions

By DAVID E. SANGER

In their three years in power, President Ebrahim Raisi of Iran and his equally hard-line foreign minister, Hossein Amir Abdollahian, did everything they could to consolidate the "Axis of Resistance" against the United States and Israel.

They funded Hamas and Hezbollah. They armed the Houthis, feeding the militia intelligence that fueled attacks on cargo ships in the Red Sea. They cracked down on dissent at home, launched Iran's first direct missile attacks on Israel, after Israel killed several Iranian generals, and turned Iran into a "threshold" nuclear state that could produce fuel for three or four bombs in short order.

But for all those aggressive moves, the two men, both killed in a helicopter crash in the mountains near Azerbaijan on Sunday, were also careful.

Last week, days before their deaths, they approved talks with the United States through intermediaries aimed at making sure the war in Gaza was not the prelude to a wider war in the Middle East. And they stopped just short of making those bombs, at least as far as American intelligence agencies and international inspectors can determine.

The question now is whether their successors — almost certain to be from the same hard-line camp, American officials suspect — will show similar caution. And whether, in the cauldron of internal Iranian power plays, and an all-consuming presidential election in the United States, it will even be possible to keep up the sliver of communications between Washington and Tehran.

"The thing about Raisi was that he was the supreme leader's man," said Dennis Ross, the longtime Mideast negotiator, referring to Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the 85-year-old head of state who has led the country since 1989. "He allows engagement, but no compromise. His team will inflict damage but keep it within bounds. They don't want

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This article is by Farnaz Fassihi, Vivian Yee and Leily Nikounazar.

Iran sought to project a sense of order and control on Monday by quickly naming an acting president and foreign minister a day after a helicopter crash killed both leaders. The change in leadership came at a time of heightened tensions in the Middle East and domestic discontent in Iran, where many residents have called for an end to decades of repressive clerical rule.

Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, announced five days of mourning for the president, Ebrahim Raisi, 63, and the foreign minister, Hossein Amir Abdollahian, 60, who died when their helicopter plunged into a mountainous area near an Iranian city, Jolfa. The men had been returning from Iran's border with Azerbaijan after inaugurating a joint dam project.

Iran's Armed Forces said they had created a committee to investigate the crash, which state media attributed to a "technical failure."

Mr. Raisi, a hard-line cleric who came of age during the country's Islamic Revolution, oversaw a deadly crackdown on protesters as the head of the judiciary in 2019 and as president in 2022. He was widely viewed as a possible successor to Ayatollah Khamenei, 85.

Ayatollah Khamenei on Monday named Iran's first vice president, Mohammad Mokhber, acting president and announced that Mr. Mokhber would organize elections for a new president within 50 days. A conservative political operative, Mr. Mokhber has a long history of involvement in large business conglomerates closely tied to the ayatollah.

Iran's cabinet appointed Ali Bagheri Kani, a deputy foreign minister, as the ministry's "caretaker," the IRNA state news agency reported. Mr. Bagheri Kani has served as Iran's chief nuclear negotiator and was involved in a deal last year that freed imprisoned Americans in exchange for several jailed Iranians and eventual access to about \$6 billion in Iranian funds.

Iranian officials said there

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Is a Taco a Sandwich? No. Yes. Even the Law Is Divided on It.

The question of what is and what is not technically a sandwich grips us tightly.

The question won't die. But one day I will, and I can imagine that the last thing I hear will be some guy explaining to me why a hot dog is a sandwich, or why a hamburger is a sandwich, or why my soul leaving my body as I breathe my last breath is also a sandwich.

On Monday, in Fort Wayne, Ind., a judge ruled that tacos are "Mexican-style sandwiches," and while a local zoning issue might not usually make national headlines, it was impossible to resist this one. It took the absurd sandwich question seriously in a civil court case, then appeared to land on the wrong answer.

I type these words from Los Angeles, where the question itself is trifling. There are many kinds of well-established, Mexican-style sandwiches here — cemitas, pambazos, dozens of

CALEB KENNA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Are these sandwiches to you? An Indiana judge says they are.

regional styles of tortas — and the taco is simply not one of them. The taco is its own glorious archetype, its own indisputable and formidable department of joy.

But getting caught up in this argument is a bit of a distraction.

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U.K. Court Rules for Assange

The WikiLeaks founder won his bid to appeal his extradition to the U.S. on espionage charges, opening a new chapter in his long legal battle. PAGE A5

A New Leader in Taiwan

President Lai Ching-te has pledged to stay on the narrow path of resisting Beijing without provoking it. PAGE A4

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Travis Snider's guidebooks emphasize the role of parents and coaches in reducing stress on children. PAGE B6

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A Jarring Tale of Violence

At an American Psychiatric Association meeting, a patient described being restrained years earlier. PAGE D1

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After a secret review several years ago, the bureau shed confidential sources who were thought to be connected to Russian disinformation. PAGE A12

Challenge for Asylum Seekers

A record number of new migrants has left many with legitimate cases unable to find a lawyer. PAGE A9

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A week of marquee spring art auctions indicates a cooling marketplace for the art world's young stars. PAGE C1

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A Senate inquiry found that BMW, Jaguar Land Rover and Volkswagen had bought parts from problematic Chinese suppliers flagged by the U.S. government. PAGE B1

Germany's Green Fuel Push

A subsidiary of ThyssenKrupp, Germany's venerable steel producer, is landing major deals for a device that makes hydrogen, a clean-burning gas, from water. PAGE B1

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Maia Szalavitz

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A Symbol of 1980s Greed

Ivan F. Boesky, 87, made a fortune from insider trading before he went to prison, and he inspired the Gordon Gekko character in "Wall Street." PAGE A20

