Trump targeted at golf club

FBI investigates apparent assassination attempt at his course in Florida

Former president is not harmed

Ву ЅЕЕМА МЕНТА

A man was taken into custody Sunday after attempting to assassinate former President Trump as he golfed at his course in West Palm Beach, Fla., according to law enforcement officials. Trump was unharmed in the second attempt on his life in two months.

The FBI described the incident as "an apparent assassination attempt.'

The suspect was taken into custody and identified as Ryan Wesley Routh, law enforcement sources told The Times. A motive has not yet been determined.

He will initially be booked on state charges, though federal charges are almost certain to follow, authorities said.

The incident unfolded around 1:30 p.m. EDT on Sunday at the Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach. A Secret Service agent scoping out the area one or two holes ahead of Trump saw the muzzle of AK-47-style weapon pointing out of the treeline on the perimeter of the course, Palm Beach County Sheriff Ric Bradshaw said during a news briefing. The weapon had a scope on it, and the former president was 300 to 500 yards away.

"With a rifle and a scope like that, that's not a long distance," Bradshaw said, praising the agent's work. "The golf course is surrounded by shrubbery. [See Trump, A12]

A SHERIFF'S vehicle blocks the street outside the Trump International Golf Club in West Palm Beach, Fla., after a shooting incident nearby. The Republican presidential candidate said he was "safe and well."

The specter of violence returns

A second attempt on GOP nominee leaves followers even more resolved to reelect him

By James Rainey AND KEVIN RECTOR

A gunman's ability to get within shooting distance of former President Trump on Sunday has again raised the specter of violence in the American political landscape, a development that analysts said is all too expected as Trump's followers vowed it would make them even more determined to reelect him.

assassin's bullet clipped Trump's ear in Butler, Pa., the Secret Service fired shots at a man with an assault rifle who had hidden himself in foliage less than $500\,\mathrm{yards}$ from the former president.

The motives of the suspect, identified by law enforcement sources as Ryan Wesley Routh, had not been revealed by late in the afternoon, but Trump followers immediately rallied around the former president.

"FIGHT! FIGHT! TRUMP 2024," wrote one supporter on Trump's [See Violence, A12]



ALEX BRANDON Associated Press **SUPPORTERS** immediately rallied around Donald Trump

after the latest incident

A TIMES INVESTIGATION

State is purging import records

Bureaucratic mess over veterinary forms could make it more difficult to identify unscrupulous sources.

BYALENE TCHEKMEDYIAN AND MELODY GUTIERREZ

California requires that dogs be examined by a veterinarian before they can enter the state for sale, a law meant to protect consumers from buying sick puppies and track disease out-

But the state purges thousands of the veterinary forms as they pour in from around the country, without even looking at them.

State officials have an easy answer for why they destroy the records: They shouldn't be receiving them. California requires that they be sent to the counties the dogs are bound for.

County officials, though, seem unaware they are supposed to collect them and, for the most part, don't.

The fallout is that some California consumers unknowingly buy high-priced pets from unscrupulous middlemen who import and resell the puppies with little oversight — at times from profit-driven mass breeders across the country, a Times investigation found.

The bureaucratic mess has angered animal advo-

"To say I'm surprised and alarmed would be an under-



LEE YONG-SOO, a South Korean survivor of sexual slavery during World War II, examines a "comfort women" statue during its unveiling in Seoul on Aug. 14, 2019.

Memorial to WWII sex slaves takes diplomatic fight to Berlin

Japan has criticized such statues globally, but in Germany battle has special resonance.

By Max Kim

BERLIN - On a quiet street corner in Berlin's Mitte district, a bronze statue of a young girl in a traditional Korean dress glitters in the sun.

Her fists are clenched. her expression tense. She is

seated, but her heels do not touch the ground. A shadow of an elderly woman is carved into the granite below her. Beside her is an empty chair.

To Germany's Korean diaspora — 50,000 strong the statue is a poignant tribute to the 200,000 so-called comfort women who were forced or tricked into sexual slavery by the Imperial Japanese military during World

But to the Japanese government, which has never fully accepted responsibility for this dark history, the statue is propaganda meant to reignite an issue it says was settled long ago.

Cast into the middle of the conflict is the German government, which has become the target of a high-level Japanese lobbying campaign to take down the stat-

[See Berlin, A4]

It's official: Summer 2024 declared hottest on record

Entire year is virtually certain to gain the same title

By Hayley Smith

As Southern California sweltered under its most punishing heat wave of the vear, international climate officials confirmed that summer 2024 was Earth's hottest on record.

The global average tem-

perature in June, July and August — known as the boreal summer in the Northern Hemisphere — was a recordbreaking 62.24 degrees, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service. The season was marked by explosive wildfires, sizzling heat waves and heat-related deaths in

California and many other parts of the world.

"During the past three months of 2024, the globe has experienced the hottest June and August, the hottest day on record, and the hottest boreal summer on record," read a statement from Samantha Burgess,

[See Hottest, A6]

Houthis fire missile at Israel

Netanyahu vows to retaliate for Yemeni rebel group's attack, which didn't cause serious damage. world, A3

Barbs fly in race for Eastside seat

L.A. Councilman Kevin de León and first-time candidate Ysabel Jurado face off at a forum. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather Low clouds clearing. L.A. Basin: 73/59. **B5**

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TELEVISION'S FINEST

Dakota Fanning, nominated for "Ripley," attends the Emmy Awards in L.A. on Sunday. Scan the code to read our coverage of the ceremony.





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