

All the News  
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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00

## Russia Missiles Leave 50 Dead At Cadet Venue

### Kyiv Renews Plea for Air Defense Systems

This article is by **David Guttenfelder**, **Yurii Shyvala**, **Maria Varenikova** and **Marc Santora**.

POLTAVA, Ukraine — Russian missiles struck a military academy in eastern Ukraine on Tuesday only minutes after air-raid alarms blared, killing more than 50 people, wounding many others and underscoring Moscow’s superior firepower in one of the war’s deadliest attacks. Ukraine’s president said a hospital also was hit. Rescue workers in the eastern city of Poltava described scenes of dismembered bodies pulled from the rubble of the school, which Ukrainian news outlets identified as the Poltava Institute of Military Communications.

The entire area was littered with shattered glass, with nearby high-rises missing windows and doors. By some accounts more than 200 people suffered injuries, overwhelming hospitals.

Denys Kliap, the 26-year-old director of Free and Unbreakable, a volunteer emergency response team, was asleep when the first blast rocked him out of bed. “As soon as it happened, we went straight to the site,” Mr. Kliap said. “When we arrived, the only thing I remember was the pile of bodies scattered all over the territory of the institute.”

While he has seen many horrific scenes, the devastation after Tuesday’s strikes was shocking, he said. He recalled bodies being pulled from the rubble “without legs, others without arms, some even without heads.”

The strike was a demoralizing Continued on Page A9

**WAR’S SCARS** Many students in a Kyiv classroom have fled frontline areas or lost relatives. PAGE A8



Clearing debris from inside a military academy on Tuesday after a deadly attack by Russian missiles in Poltava, in eastern Ukraine.

DAVID GUTTENFELDER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Netanyahu’s Hard Line Extends to Political Opponents at Home

By **PATRICK KINGSLEY**

JERUSALEM — When Israel’s largest union began a strike on Monday, building on the largest antigovernment protests since the start of the war in Gaza, the group hoped to persuade the government to swiftly agree to a cease-fire.

Within hours, its effort fizzled as the union — which represents 800,000 Israelis — complied with a court order to end the strike. And the day ended with a defiant

speech from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he refused to compromise in the negotiations with Hamas and implicitly rebuked the protesters for straining Israel’s social cohesion.

Despite one of the biggest displays of wartime dissent in Israel’s history, an emotionally potent moment failed to evolve into a political turning point.

“Politically, it could have been much worse for Netanyahu,” said Ariel Kahana, a commentator for Israel Hayom, a leading right-wing newspaper. “It looks like

### Calls for Unity Drown Out Protesters’ Cries for a Cease-Fire

the opposition has lost,” Mr. Kahana added.

While the strike slowed or suspended services at thousands of schools and several municipalities, transport networks and hospitals, some sectors were only partly affected. Many municipal authorities and institu-

tions declined to take part. Unlike in March 2023, when a general strike and mass protests prompted Mr. Netanyahu to suspend a contentious plan to overhaul the judiciary, this time his right-wing party maintained the public unity it has displayed throughout the war. Only Yoav Gallant, the defense minister, voted against a recent cabinet motion to restrict the circumstances in which Israel could agree to a cease-fire, and few, if any, other senior officials from his party, Likud, have broken Continued on Page A6



Jean Etienne, an immigrant, at McGregor Metal, a family-owned business in Springfield, Ohio.

MADDIE MCGARVEY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Immigration Debate Descends on an Ohio Town

By **MIRIAM JORDAN**

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio — It has been more than a year since the fateful morning last August when, outside Springfield in southwestern Ohio, a minivan veered into oncoming traffic and rammed into a school bus on the first day of class, killing an 11-year-old boy and injuring 23 other children.

Soon, it emerged that the driver of the minivan was not a longtime resident but one of the thousands of immigrants from Haiti who had recently settled in the area. He was driving with a foreign license not valid in Ohio.

The stage was set for another

### Haitians Helped Revive Springfield. Then, a Fatal Crash.

fraught chapter in the debate over immigration in America, this one magnified because JD Vance, the state’s junior senator, would soon become the Republican vice-presidential nominee.

Haitians were new to the region. During the last census, in 2020, a little more than 58,000 people lived in Springfield, a town at the crossroads of America that

had fallen on hard times and shed population as opportunity slipped away. But it has changed dramatically in recent years, as a boom in manufacturing and warehouse jobs attracted a swelling wave of immigrants, mainly from Haiti. City officials estimate that as many as 20,000 Haitians have arrived, most of them since the pandemic.

At the first City Commission meeting after the bus crash, angry residents packed the chambers and demanded answers.

“How do you know we aren’t getting criminals, rapists?” a man in a blue Harley Davidson T-shirt

Continued on Page A13

## Extreme Weather Is Increasing Risk of Collapse for U.S. Bridges

By **CORAL DAVENPORT**

On a 95-degree day this summer, New York City’s Third Avenue Bridge, connecting the Bronx and Manhattan, got stuck in the open position for hours. As heat and flooding scorched and scoured the Midwest, a steel railroad bridge connecting Iowa with South Dakota collapsed under surging waters. In Lewiston, Maine, a bridge closed after the pavement buckled from fluctuating temperatures.

America’s bridges, a quarter of which were built before 1960, were already in need of repair. But now, extreme heat and increased flooding linked to climate change are accelerating the disintegration of the nation’s bridges, engineers say, essentially causing them to age prematurely.

The result is a quiet but growing threat to the safe movement of people and goods around the country, and another example of how climate change is reshaping daily life in ways Americans may not realize.



Flooding ruined a bridge between Iowa and South Dakota.

KC MCGINNIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

“We have a bridge crisis that is specifically tied to extreme weather events,” said Paul Chynowski, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Colorado Boulder who researches the effects of climate change on infrastructure. “These are not things that would happen under normal climate circumstances. These are not things that we’ve ever seen at this rate.”

Continued on Page A12

## Bumpy Road to Trump’s Alliance With Kennedy

This article is by **Rebecca Davis O’Brien**, **Jonathan Swan** and **Maggie Haberman**.

About three hours after former President Donald J. Trump was nearly assassinated, on a Saturday evening in mid-July, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. got a phone call: Would he consider joining forces with Mr. Trump? What about serving as his running mate?

### The Ups and Downs of a 6-Week Courtship

The caller was Calley Means, a health care entrepreneur who had advised Mr. Kennedy on chronic-disease policy. He suggested that it might be a moment for unity — Mr. Trump had just narrowly es-

### THE WEATHER

Today, sunny, still very low humidity, high 77. Tonight, mostly clear skies, low 62. Tomorrow, sunny to partly cloudy, still rather low humidity, high 77. Weather map, Page A16.

## AIDE TO HOCHUL IS FACING CHARGES OF HELPING CHINA

### U.S. LAYS OUT 10 COUNTS

### Years of Perks for Putting Taiwan on Sidelines in New York

By **WILLIAM K. RASHBAUM** and **HURUBIE MEKO**

In July 2021, six Nanjing-style salted ducks, prepared by a Chinese consulate official’s private chef, were delivered to the New York home where the parents of a senior aide to Gov. Kathy Hochul lived. About four months later, another six ducks arrived. Another four months later, there were more salted ducks. Eight months after that: still more salted ducks.

Prosecutors say that the poultry shipments, described in a federal indictment unsealed Tuesday, were a small part of a yearslong series of payoffs to the aide, Linda Sun, in exchange for actions that benefited the People’s Republic of China and its Communist Party. The 65-page indictment also described travel benefits, event tickets and the promotion of a close friend’s freight business with a headquarters in Queens.

Prosecutors say that Ms. Sun blocked Taiwanese officials from having access to the governor’s office, eliminated references to Taiwan from state communications and quashed meetings between Taiwanese officials and state leaders, including Ms. Hochul. She also ensured that state officials did not publicly address the persecution of Uyghurs, a primarily Muslim ethnic group that for more than a thousand years has lived in a region of what is now China, prosecutors said.

Ms. Sun, 40, was charged on Tuesday with 10 criminal counts that included visa fraud, money laundering and other crimes. Her husband, Chris Hu, 41, a businessman, is charged in the indictment with money laundering.

Both pleaded not guilty in federal court, were released on bond and were required to surrender their passports. Linda Sun’s lawyer, Jarrod Schaeffer, said that Ms. Sun was looking forward to addressing the indictment in court. “Our client is understandably upset that these charges have been brought,” Mr. Schaeffer said.

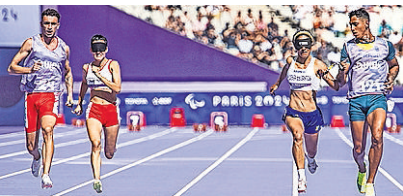
The accusations, if true, would represent a brazen manipulation of New York State government at the highest level, covering several years of the administrations of Ms. Hochul and her predecessor, Andrew M. Cuomo, both Democrats.

Avi Small, the press secretary for Ms. Hochul, said that Ms. Sun “was hired by the executive chamber more than a decade ago,” adding that Hochul administration officials “immediately reported her actions to law enforcement and have assisted law enforcement throughout this process.”

He said that the administration “terminated her employment in Continued on Page A15



Linda Sun



SPORTS B7-10

### The Quiet Collaboration

For Paralympians and their assistants, a simple touch can be all the communication that’s needed. PAGE B7

### Reload? More Like Rebuild.

Florida State is 0-2 after being picked to repeat as A.C.C. champion. The only fix might be better recruiting. PAGE B10

INTERNATIONAL A4-10

### U.S. and Iraq Combat ISIS

The number of insurgent attacks has increased, officials say, as Baghdad and Washington negotiate a plan to wind down the U.S.-led mission. PAGE A7

### Trump Land Deal in Albania

Locals question how Jared Kushner and Ivanka Trump got development rights for luxury hotels on the coast. PAGE A10

NATIONAL A11-15

### Vance Promoted Family Guide

In 2017, JD Vance praised a Heritage Foundation report offering instructions on how to raise children. PAGE A15



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### From Librarian to Activist

Amanda Jones’s memoir tells of pressure school librarians face and describes the threats she received. PAGE C1

### Sharing Hawaiian Culture

When Leleo Kinimaka was young, the waves were home. Now he makes surfboards that are works of art. PAGE C5

BUSINESS B1-6

### Eyeing the ‘Tax Doom Loop’

Democrats are tired of losing to Republicans on tax policy. They hope to mount a comeback next year and end a cycle they see as to blame for widening inequality and ballooning deficits. PAGE B1

### Trial in Emissions Case Begins

Nine years after the carmaker admitted to concealing emissions on a vast scale, Volkswagen’s former chief executive, Martin Winterkorn, will face charges in a German court. PAGE B1

OPINION A18-19

### Thomas L. Friedman

PAGE A18



FOOD D1-8

### More Easy Dinner Ideas

We have a whole new list of recipes, in honor of the back-to-school energy that September brings forth. Above, the sticky miso salmon bowl. PAGE D4

