



PHOTOGRAPHS of victims of Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on a music festival in Israel are displayed Tuesday at a commemoration near Reim.

Relatives relay former hostages' fear, hunger, despair in captivity

Families have to contend with damage that was inflicted in Hamas custody

By Laura King AND TRACY WILKINSON

JERUSALEM — All the stories are the same; all the stories are dif-

They were held underground or aboveground; together with loved ones or separated; cut off from the outside world or keenly aware of the catastrophic battle unfolding around them; plunged in grief or unaware of the fate of a husband, a mother, a child.

Nearly a week after the Palestinian militant group Hamas began freeing hostages under terms of a temporary truce with Israel, a textured portrait of sojourn in captivitv in the war-battered Gaza Strip is beginning to emerge

Hamas fighters and other attackers seized an estimated 240 people during a bloody Oct. 7 raid on small southern Israeli communities, frontier army bases and an open-air music festival. A total of 97 have been released since last week, including 16 freed on Wednesday nearly all women and children, most of them Israelis, but some of them foreign nationals or dual citi-

In exchange, Israel has released 180 Palestinian prisoners, all women or youths. Many were teens accused of throwing rocks or fire-

In Israel, former hostages for the most part remained sequestered in hospitals, receiving medical care, psychological support and family visits. In recent days, those relatives have provided public accounts based on what loved ones told them about their ordeal — though many

[See Hostages, A4]

HENRY A. KISSINGER, 1923 - 2023

Towering figure in U.S. foreign policy

Architect of Cold War strategy was as controversial as influential

By Norman Kempster

enry A. Kissinger, the architect of U.S. foreign policy at the apex of the Cold War and a towering intellectual force in world affairs for more than half a century, has died at his Connecticut home. Kissinger died Wednesday, according to his consulting firm, Kissinger Associates. He was 100.

As national security advisor and secretary of State in the administrations of Richard M. Nixon and Gerald R. Ford, Kissinger dominated international relations from 1969 to 1977 with charisma, intellect and a wry cynicism.

Although his tenure in the Nixon and Ford administrations marked his only senior government positions, he had an impact on policy both before and after his years in office. From 1956, when he was study director of an influential panel on nuclear policy, until well into the 21st century, Kissinger advised presidents of both parties.

"Any student of American foreign policy will need to be familiar with his philosophy of realism," said Peter Rodman, a Pentagon official, scholar and aide to Kissinger. "He suggests there is a diplomatic approach to everything.

[See Kissinger, A9] In November 1968, when Nixon



'PHILOSOPHY OF REALISM'

Kissinger's influence on world affairs stretched from his nuclear policy work in the 1950s into the 21st century as he advised presidents of both parties.

Fearing winter rains in wake of slides

In Rolling Hills Estates, where eight homes collapsed in July, neighbors dread further ground shifts.

By Grace Toohey

Sepideh Razipour and her husband never thought they could afford to be homeowners, but when their Rolling Hills Estates rental went up for sale, they scrambled to make the townhouse their own, pulling together savings and borrowing from extended family.

But before they made their first mortgage payment, a massive landslide upended life on Peartree Lane, pulling eight neighbors' homes down a nearby canyon and pushing others into different levels of structural purgatory. Razipour's home survived unscathed, but the land movement damaged crucial sewer lines, which left her unit unlivable.

Now, almost five months later, utility repairs are stalled as officials worry about potential ground shifts, leaving Razipour's family of four stuck in tem-

porary housing. "What are the chances of buying a home and not being able to live in it after a week? It was just a week," Razipour said. "It's affecting every aspect of our lives.

She remains hopeful they can soon return, but concerns about a rainy winter and her street's long-term stability loom large — even as work to shore up the slope finally begins.

"I'm worried, but hopefully ... they'll do the winterization before the heavy rain starts," Razipour said. "It's been really hard."

The city of Rolling Hills Estates reported that last winter's excessive rains caused July's devastating landslide, although the findings were preliminary and at least two independent analyses are ongoing.

But residents worry that heavy rainfall could overwhelm the still unstable ground, threatening even more homes or creating new issues across the landslide-prone Palos Verdes Peninsula.

"A part of our hillside is missing, so who's to say during the rainy season if there's more instability," said David Zee, who also bought his house months before the

Zee's house is one of four deemed structurally unsafe but not destroyed, although it now sits on the precipice of the failed slope. Eight other homes collapsed with the hillside, and five more - including Razipour's - remain yellow-tagged and va-

[See Landslide, A12]

Why are people moving between coasts?

BRANSON-POTTS

After 15 years in Florida, Valsin Marmillion decided it

was time to get out. Marmillion, a longtime campaign strategist, had been working as an adjunct journalism instructor at the University of Florida. He

taught global activism and

social change communication, discussing hot-button topics such as fake news and the Black Lives Matter movement.

After four semesters, the online course was canceled with little warning in the spring, he said.

Marmillion, 73, already was fed up with Florida: With Gov. Ron DeSantis and his anti-"woke" rhetoric.

With school book bans. With the state's "Don't Say Gay" law and an environment that feels increasingly unsafe for LGBTQ+ people like him.

So in late July, Marmillion and his husband, Juan Pisani, bid farewell to their small horse farm in Alachua. piled into their SUV with their three dogs — Frida, Gaucho and Paco - and

drove to the progressive bastion that is California.

"We're cultural refugees," said Marmillion, who is now settled in Rancho Mirage, where he is semiretired, doing some public relations work while his husband works as a tennis instructor. "Just the feeling of openness

that's what we missed The feeling of acceptance, [See Florida, A7]

Hate crimes surge in L.A. County

At least 929 people were victims in 2022, up 18% from 2021 and the most since 2001. CALIFORNIA, B1

Class-action suit targets NCAA

Litigation has the organization staring down extinction. Is that a bad thing? Michael Hiltzik asks. BUSINESS, A8

Weather

Variable cloudiness. L.A. Basin: 66/51. **B6**

Is it panic time for Lakers fans?

Brutal blowout loss to Philadelphia caused consternation, but season is long. SPORTS, B10





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