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Democracy Dies in Darkness

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More IDF raids trap civilians in West Bank

Basic services like water, power, cell service shut down amid incursion

This article is by Steve Hendrix, Claire Parker, John Hudson, Sufian Taha and Annabelle Timsit

TULKARM, WEST BANK — A major Israeli military incursion in the northern West Bank stretched into a second day on Thursday, as troops battled militants in cities and refugee camps, trapping civilians, destroying roads and infrastructure and raising the operation's death toll to at least 16, according to Israeli authorities and Palestinian health officials.

Around Tulkarm and Jenin, where the raids were concentrated, residents said they were stuck at home or in mosques and hospitals as clashes erupted and Israeli military vehicles blocked the roads. Others were detained by soldiers and later released, they said, but were unable to get home. In some places, basic services such as water, power, internet and cellular service shut down amid the fighting.

Israel launched the operation overnight Tuesday into Wednesday with hundreds of troops backed by combat aircraft, and said the goal was to dismantle “terrorist infrastructure” used by militant groups to stage attacks on Israelis. The Israel Defense Forces, Israel Border Police and Shin Bet internal security service targeted three locations on the first day — Tulkarm, Jenin and the al-Fara’a refugee camp — all in the northern part of the occupied West Bank.

It is the most significant operation in the Palestinian territory since the Oct. 7 attacks, which was carried out by Hamas-led fighters from the Gaza Strip. Israel responded both by going to war in Gaza and clamping down in the West Bank, where roughly 3 million Palestinians and more than

SEE WEST BANK ON A11

Gaza polio shots: Israel to pause combat to allow vaccinations. **A16**



MOHAMAD TOROKMAN/REUTERS

Palestinians stand near a damaged house following an Israeli military raid in Tulkarm in the West Bank. At least 622 Palestinians and 15 Israelis have been killed in the West Bank since October, according to the U.N. humanitarian affairs office.

ELECTION 2024

In 24 hours, a messy medley of vintage Trump

Span saw QAnon tribute, crude attacks, false claims, GOP anxiety

BY HANNAH KNOWLES

Donald Trump amplified a vulgar joke about Vice President Kamala Harris performing a sex act. He falsely accused her of staging a coup to secure the Democratic nomination and faulted her without evidence for a security lapse that enabled a rogue gunman to try to assassinate him. He shared a manipulated online image of Bill Gates in an orange jumpsuit and a call for Barack Obama to face a “military tribunal.” He promoted explicit tributes to the

QAnon conspiracy theory. He hawked digital trading cards in an online infomercial along with pieces of his debate night suit. (“People are calling it the knock-out suit.”) His campaign feuded publicly with Arlington National Cemetery over their visit.

And that was just in the span of 24 hours.

With fewer than 70 days until the election, Trump is zigging and zagging with an arsenal of unfocused attacks and peripheral pursuits that for any other politician would amount to a stunning stretch at such a pivotal moment in the campaign.

But when it comes to the former president, the burst of activity on Tuesday and Wednesday was a snapshot of the chaos that has defined his political career and in some ways marked a

throwback to his first run in 2016, when he waged a frenetic, unpredictable campaign that put his party on edge all the way up until his surprise victory.

Some Republicans have grown similarly nervous this time around. With pressure mounting to drive a sharper message against Harris, the Republican presidential nominee is delving into distractions and delivering a mix of incendiary and false statements. While such tactics have been on regular display in his third run for the White House, he is now pushing them further, running the risk of alienating key voters.

“I think people are incredibly frustrated,” said Jason Roe, a former Michigan GOP executive director and longtime Republican strategist. Harris’s campaign and

policies, Roe said, “provide opportunities for the Trump campaign to talk about issues that actually will matter to swing voters. And rather than doing that, he’s delving into this nonsense.”

Responding to an inquiry about the former president’s comments in the past week, Trump campaign spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt accused The Washington Post of focusing unfairly on “a few social media posts” and “negative stories” about Trump instead of Harris’s policies as vice president and Trump’s “highly

SEE TRUMP ON A6

Harris on CNN: She says she’d add a Republican to her Cabinet. **A7**

Arlington Cemetery: Army stands by staffer after confrontation. **A8**

Energy again a primary target

GLOBAL IMPACT SEEN AFTER FAILED TALKS

Cities go dark in Ukraine as depots burn in Russia

BY DAVID L. STERN AND ELLEN FRANCIS

KYIV — Ukrainian forces struck two oil depots within Russia overnight, while Moscow on Thursday launched the third major aerial attack on Ukraine this week — the latest in strikes by the two sides on each other’s energy infrastructure, causing electricity cutoffs throughout Ukraine and raising the prospect of a bleak winter for its people.

The attacks take place just weeks after Kyiv and Moscow were believed to be on the verge of an agreement to halt infrastructure attacks, diplomats and officials said. Instead, the two sides have resumed bombarding each other’s power plants and fuel refineries, in an escalatory struggle that could also have international impact.

The attacks also come as Ukraine has been pushing for a lifting of the restrictions on the long-range weapons it has received from its Western partners so it can hit more targets inside Russia, especially the staging grounds for the aerial onslaughts.

The Ukrainian call has received some Western support, with European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell on Thursday advocating for lifting the restrictions during a visit to Brussels by Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba.

“The weaponry that we are providing to Ukraine has to have full use, and the restrictions have to be lifted in order for the Ukrainians to be able to target the places where Russia is bombing them.

SEE UKRAINE ON A11

Downed F-16: A jet crashes, killing the pilot, in a Russian strike. **A11**

On Telegram, a haven for free speech — and predators

BY PRANSHU VERMA, WILL OREMUS AND GERRIT DE VYNCK

When Telegram CEO Pavel Durov sat down in his Dubai offices with Tucker Carlson in April, he drove home a high-minded message: “Humanity” needs a neutral messaging app like Telegram that respects “people’s privacy and freedom.”

That vision brought the Russian-born Durov wild success. Telegram has amassed more than 950 million users drawn by its freewheeling atmosphere and its promise not to share data with law enforcement.

But the messaging service’s anything-goes approach to online content has also made it one of the internet’s largest havens for child predators, experts say. French prosecutors charged Durov on Wednesday with complicity in the distribution of child sex abuse images and other wrongdoing on Telegram, following the billionaire’s dramatic arrest last week at

SEE TELEGRAM ON A16

‘You’re just barely surviving’

Newer flight attendants face homelessness and hunger as they struggle to make ends meet

BY NATALIE B. COMPTON

Kay had already worked a full day when Frontier Airlines called her to pick up a shift. The recently hired flight attendant had been awake since 4 a.m. driving Lyft, one of the few side gigs she could manage with her unpredictable schedule.

Her new career was off to a rough start. There were three-and-a-half weeks of unpaid training. Her first few paychecks were lower than she’d anticipated. She gave up her apartment in Atlanta, where median rent is about \$1,500, and had been renting a room from a friend.

The only way to make ends meet, she said, was to juggle all the gig work she could find: Instacart shopping, pet sitting, Lyft driving. The ride-share company was offering a \$500 bonus for completing 120 rides in four days. With her projected pay of \$23,000 a year before taxes and insurance, chasing the extra money felt necessary.

So after working for Frontier from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m., Kay turned back to Lyft. By the time she reached the bonus, she’d gone nearly 24 hours without sleep.

SEE WAGES ON A14



SEAN SCHEIDT FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Thresia Raynor, a flight attendant with Alaska Airlines, has arranged mobile food pantries and created a Facebook group to help provide food and other necessities for her colleagues in need.

Notes show writer left out key details of Till’s murder

BY GILLIAN BROCKELL

A journalist whose 1956 article was billed as the “true account” of Emmett Till’s murder withheld credible information about people involved in the crime, according to newly discovered documents.

William Bradford Huie’s article in Look magazine helped shape the country’s understanding of 14-year-old Till’s abduction, torture and murder in Jim Crow-era Mississippi. The article detailed the confessions of two White men who previously had been acquitted by an all-White jury in the murder. The men told Huie they had no accomplices.

Yet Huie’s own research notes, recently released by the descendants of a lawyer in the case, indicate his reporting showed that others were involved and suggest he chose to leave that out when it threatened the sale of his story. He also was seeking a movie deal about the murder and had agreed to pay the two acquitted

SEE TILL ON A4

IN THE NEWS

They call it ‘murderball’ Team USA is pushing for Paralympics gold in wheelchair rugby, a fast-growing and high-contact sport that athletes say challenges stereotypes. **A9**

Listeria The Boar’s Head plant in Virginia at the center of a deadly outbreak was regularly cited for violations in the past year. **B1**

THE NATION An inspector general said the FBI is still not adequately handling child sex abuse cases. **A2** The government restarted a migrant parole program after boosting anti-fraud measures. **A3**

THE WORLD A hippie artist relied on her own inner joy to survive a grim Russian prison cell. **A10** With the FBI’s help, sacred human skulls are back in the Pacific nation of Vanuatu. **A12**

THE ECONOMY A guide to finding new music in the age of the algorithm, without relying on Spotify or Apple Music. **A13** California lawmakers passed a bill that would regulate AI companies, pushing the fight over the technology toward the governor’s desk. **A15**

THE REGION A D.C. police officer was sentenced to five years in prison in the killing of a driver found asleep at the wheel. **B1** A D.C. police officer was using a metal tool to retrieve a gun from a storm drain when it went off, fatally wounding him, officials said. **B1**

STYLE Queer takes on old stories have flouted convention and reigned on-stage this summer. **C1**

WEEKEND Take to the water on these five D.C.-area boating excursions, featuring DJs, dancing, open bars, history and pirates.

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