THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 · \$3

Russian 'space threat' emerges

U.S. officials raise alarm over unspecified dire risk to America and its allies

> BY SHANE HARRIS, ELLEN NAKASHIMA AND JOHN HUDSON

Russia is developing a spacebased military capability that members of Congress and U.S. officials worry could pose a significant threat to the United States and its allies, possibly by damaging critical intelligence or communications satellites with a nuclear weapon, according to officials familiar with the matter.

The precise nature of the system was unclear. One person referred to it as "a new Russian space threat capability." Some officials were alarmed after examining the classified intelligence on Wednesday and warned of ominous consequences; one member of Congress called it a potential "geo-strategic game changer." Several lawmakers stressed there was no imminent danger, but they urged the Biden administration to take countermeasures soon.

The Russian government has experimented with the use of nuclear explosions or directed energy to disable satellites, according to one U.S. official, who, like others, spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive information. Experts have raised concerns that a nation could detonate a nuclear weapon in space to interfere with satellites through the emission of radiation.

Russia also has tested antisat-SEE THREAT ON $\mathbf{A6}$

Super Bowl rally ends in gunfire and grief

At least 1 dead, 21 injured during victory parade for Kansas City Chiefs

> BY PRAVEENA **S**OMASUNDARAM AND REIS THEBAULT

A day of delirious celebration in Kansas City, Mo., ended in anguish and chaos after a volley of gunfire cut through a crowd at a rally after the Chiefs' Super Bowl parade, killing at least one person and injuring another 21, including several children.

The shots erupted around 2 p.m. local time near the city's stately Union Station, sending thousands of red-clad fans who had packed into downtown scrambling for safety as police responded with guns drawn.

The violence forced emergency evacuations of the region's top political leaders gathered for the parade and rally, including the governors of Missouri and Kansas and the mayor of Kansas City, who fled the shots with his wife and mother.

The city, intensely devoted to its dynastic football team, had been eagerly awaiting the festivities, SEE SHOOTING ON A6

Under the Florida sun, sure signs of spring





At the Washington Nationals' spring training complex in West Palm Beach, Fla., pitcher MacKenzie Gore signs for autograph-seekers before an unofficial workout Wednesday. Elsewhere at camp, coach Henry Blanco, far left, talks strategy with the catchers on the first day that pitchers and catchers were required to report. The first official workout is scheduled for Thursday, and position players will report next week. More in Sports, D1

D.C. community divided on school integration plan

BY LAUREN LUMPKIN

Maury and Miner elementary schools are within walking distance of one another and in some ways a world apart — with lopsided demographics that mirror the racial and economic segregation surrounding them on D.C.'s Capi-

Maury enrolls more than 500 children, and nearly 6 in 10 of them are White. Demand to get in

Officials seek fairness in merging elementaries, but some parents unsure

is so high that its wait list last year was in the hundreds. At Miner, where 80 percent of students are Black, most children are homeless, in foster care or receive public assistance. Enrollment, now around 370 students, has been on the decline.

District officials see an opportunity: improve diversity at both schools by wiping the boundary that divides them and pairing them together. Under the proposal, children would spend their early grades at one school and later years at the other.

It is one of several plans under consideration as part of D.C.'s

ongoing boundary study, the once-a-decade process that reexamines the invisible lines that often define so much, such as whether a student can study a foreign language or what kind of college counseling they'll get. It's one of the more contentious proposals, sparking arguments online, in person and in dueling petitions over who should be edu-

cated where - and testing the SEE SCHOOLS ON A4

Chance of mass release by ICE

TRYING TO CLOSE \$700M BUDGET GAP

Plans made after Senate failed to pass border bill

BY NICK MIROFF

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has drafted plans to release thousands of immigrants and slash its capacity to hold detainees after the failure of a Senate border bill that would have erased a \$700 million budget shortfall, according to four officials at ICE and the Department of Homeland Security

The bipartisan border bill that Republican lawmakers opposed last week would have provided \$6 billion in supplemental funding for ICE enforcement operations. The bill's demise has led ICE officials to begin circulating an internal proposal to save money by releasing thousands of detainees and cutting detention levels from 38,000 beds to 22,000 the opposite of the enforcement increases Republicans say they want.

The budget crunch and the proposal also present a difficult scenario for the Biden administration heading into the spring, when illegal crossings at the southern border are expected to spike again. On Tuesday, House Republicans voted to impeach Homeland Security Secretary SEE BUDGET ON A2

Spending: Congress agrees on an amount, but not how to use it. A22

Trump trial schedule coming into focus

Court hearings today could help settle timing and viability of two cases

> BY PERRY STEIN, AMY GARDNER AND SHAYNA JACOBS

Donald Trump is expected at the defendant's table in a Manhattan courtroom on Thursday for a conference that could confirm he'll be tried next month for allegedly falsifying hush money repayment records - the first criminal trial of a former U.S. president.

At the same hour in Atlanta, a team of Trump's lawyers will appear with some of his codefendants for a hearing in a separate indictment, in which Trump and others are accused of a vast scheme to overturn Georgia's 2020 election results. That hearing will focus on alleged misconduct by the prosecutor.

The dual court sessions could help crystallize the timing and viability of two of Trump's four criminal cases, with additional clarity coming after a hearing in Florida on March 1.

SEE **HEARINGS** ON A6

In advancing peace, Trump fueled Palestinian rage

2020 Abraham Accords between Israel and Arab states hang over Hamas's attack and Gaza war



President Donald Trump hosts an Abraham Accords signing ceremony on Sept. 15, 2020, along with Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu and officials from Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

BY ISAAC STANLEY-BECKER

Donald Trump welcomed the Israeli ambassador to his glassplated office on the 25th floor of Trump Tower and led off with a lofty question.

"So," Trump asked, about a week after his upset victory in 2016, "you think we can make peace?

The ambassador, Ron Dermer, answered with a question of his own: "With whom?"

To Trump, who a former adviser said was enamored with the idea of winning the Nobel Peace Prize, his meaning was clear. He was referring to the Palestinians, locked in a decades-long conflict with Israel over land and statehood whose resolution he thought would earn him international ac-

Dermer was blunt. "No," he told the president-elect. "But we can make peace with several Arab

> The exchange, recounted recently SEE TRUMP ON A18

Lawyers for Trump, who is

IN THE NEWS

Charting the future Scientists use records of the Colorado River's past to model 8,000 possibilities and stave off severe drought. A8

Standoff Three D.C. officers serving an arrest warrant were shot and wounded, prompting a nearly 13-hour impasse that ended when the suspect surrendered, authorities said. B1

THE NATION

Families used AI to re-create the voices of gun violence victims. A3 A Democrat won the House seat once held by George Santos, and his party now sees a 2024 blueprint. A5

THE WORLD

The unveiling of Notre Dame's re-created spire this week wasn't a high point for all. A10 Prabowo Subianto, accused of abuses, claimed victory in Indonesia's

presidential vote. A21

THE ECONOMY **Consumer spending** hasn't slowed down, as Americans seem to

Reserve's interest rate hikes. A23 The House blocked legislation that would have reduced federal taxes for relatively high-income

married couples. A24

shrug off the Federal

try to put the issue on the ballot this fall. B1 A panel of appellate

To raise the minimum

wage for tipped workers

in Maryland, advocates

THE REGION

judges is divided over whether a D.C. law banning high-capacity magazines should be blocked. B1

STYLE New York Fashion Week gets a surprise

when music superstar Beyoncé drops in on indie brand Luar's runway show. C1

LOCAL LIVING How designers

brought a 1920s D.C. home with "great bones" into the 21st century.

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