



PHOTOGRAPHS of victims of Hamas’ Oct. 7 attack on a music festival in Israel are displayed Tuesday at a commemoration near Reim. OHAD ZWIGENBERG Associated Press

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 different. 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 captivity 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 citizens. In exchange, Israel has released 180 Palestinian prisoners, all wom-

en or youths. Many were teens accused of throwing rocks or firebombs. 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

Henry 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.” In November 1968, when Nixon [See Kissinger, A9]



Getty Images

‘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.

Why are people moving between coasts?

By HAILEY 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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