

# U.S. ATTACKS IRAN'S NUCLEAR SITES



ERIC LEE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES  
President Trump on Saturday at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland. He announced the bombing of Iran's nuclear facilities hours later.

## B-2s Drop 'Payload' of Bombs as Nation Enters Israel's War

By DAVID E. SANGER and MAGGIE HABERMAN

The United States dropped some of the largest bombs in its arsenal on three nuclear sites in Iran on Saturday, President Trump announced on Saturday night, bringing the U.S. military directly into Israel's war with Iran, and once again into the battles for influence in the Middle East.

"We have completed our very successful attack on the three Nuclear sites in Iran," the president wrote on Truth Social, his social media site.

He added that a "full payload" of bombs had been dropped on Fordo, the heavily fortified underground facility where Iran has produced near-bomb-grade uranium, leading to fears that it could be on the cusp of building nuclear weapons. "All planes are safely on their way home," Mr. Trump wrote.

The three sites that the president said were hit on Saturday night also included Natanz, Iran's other major uranium enrichment center, which Israel struck several days ago with smaller weapons. The third site, near the ancient city of Isfahan, is where Iran is believed to keep its near-bomb-grade enriched uranium and to have carried out critical research work that, intelligence agencies believe, would enable it to produce a nuclear weapon — though there is debate over how long that would take.

Administration officials said on condition of anonymity, given the sensitive nature of the information, that a number of American B-2 bombers were used to strike Fordo and that multiple 30,000-pound "bunker buster" bombs were dropped. Initial damage assessments indicated that the facility had been "taken off the table," one official said.

The B-2s are the only American warplanes that can carry the "bunker buster" bombs that can penetrate the mountain protecting the Fordo site. That bomb, called the Massive Ordnance Penetrator, was designed with Iran's under-the-mountain enrichment center in mind.

It was not immediately clear how many bombs were dropped on Fordo; American war plans called for up to seven. Nor was it clear whether other types of American warplanes were used in the strikes.

The attack on the sites is the first time since the Iranian revolution, in 1979, that the United States has sent its Air Force to strike major facilities inside the country, an act of war. But President Trump has now inserted the U.S. military directly into an open conflict with Iran, a scenario that American presidents dating back to Jimmy Carter have tried to avoid.

After weeks of internal debate and attempts to force Iran to abandon its nuclear ambitions, Mr. Trump concluded the United States could no longer remain on the sidelines. It was a striking decision for a president who had long vowed to avoid American involvement in overseas "forever wars," but who had come under immense pressure from Israel and some of his advisers, who believed that Iran was close to constructing a nuclear weapon.

Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina and one of the most vocal Iran defense hawks on Capitol Hill, celebrated the strike, writing in a social media post that it was "the right call."

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**SUCCESSION** Iran's leader names potential replacements for himself, and his chain of command. PAGE 8.

## 14 Stormy Days That Wiped Out An Aid Agency

This article is by Christopher Flavelle, Nicholas Nehamas and Julie Tate.

WASHINGTON — It was the day of President Trump's inauguration, and the U.S. Agency for International Development's new director looked like he might pass out, as the color drained from his face.

Jason Gray, U.S.A.I.D.'s chief information officer, who had been at the agency for only two years, had just learned he would be in charge, effective immediately. Mr. Gray wasn't supposed to be the boss. The outgoing Biden administration had selected somebody with more foreign aid experience to manage U.S.A.I.D. until the new president chose, and Congress approved, a permanent administrator. But Mr. Trump's team, apparently eager to reverse any decisions by the former president, told Mr. Gray to take the helm instead.

Inside the agency's offices, Mr. Gray's colleagues gathered around, trying to buck him up.

Yes, the job would be challenging under Mr. Trump, whose "America First" politics weren't exactly sympathetic to sending U.S. taxpayer money around the world. But U.S.A.I.D. had come through the first Trump administration largely unscathed, and Marco Rubio, the incoming secretary of state, was a longtime supporter.

A little after 4 p.m., Mr. Gray issued an upbeat memo to the agency's more than 10,000 employees, telling them to expect a focus on innovation and new partnerships. "The next four years offer a great opportunity for our agency," he wrote.

Two weeks later, U.S.A.I.D. was on the cusp of oblivion — its programs around the world stopped, its staff in Washington told to stay home.

Today, the rapid-fire dismantling of the country's sprawling global aid agency remains one of the most consequential outcomes of the Trump administration's efforts to overhaul the federal government. Not only did it transform U.S. foreign policy, but it also provided a vivid opening display of Mr. Trump's willingness to tear

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## A Harrowing Measles Outbreak Hits Home

By ELI SASLOW

BROWNFIELD, Texas — He was a chiropractor by training, but in a remote part of West Texas with limited medical care, Kiley Timmons had become a first stop for whatever hurt. Ear infections. Labor pains. Oil workers who arrived with broken ribs and farmers with bulging discs. For more than a decade, Kiley, 48, had seen 20 patients each day at his small clinic located between a church

and a gas station in Brownfield, population 8,500. He treated what he could, referred others to physicians and prayed over the rest.

It wasn't until early this spring that he started to notice something unfamiliar coming through the door: aches that lingered, fevers that wouldn't break, discolored patches of skin that didn't make sense. At first, he blamed it on a bad flu season, but the symptoms stuck around and then multiplied. By late March, a third of his patients were telling him about relatives who couldn't breathe. And then Kiley started coughing, too.

His wife, Carrollyn, had recently tested positive for Covid, but her symptoms eased as Kiley's intensified. He went to a doctor at the beginning of April for a

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HOW THEY SEE THEIR CITY On the cusp of choosing the next mayor, New Yorkers are taking stock of their metropolis. But many are split on whether it is back on track, or off the rails. Metropolitan.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY TODD HEISLER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Volunteers and 100-Degree Heat May Scramble Mayoral Primary

This article is by Nicholas Fandos, Dana Rubinstein, Emma G. Fitzsimmons and Alex Lemonides.

Tens of millions of dollars in campaign ads have cluttered the city's stoops and televisions. Candidates sparred face-to-face in two televised debates. And the last of the big-name endorsements have trickled in.

Now, with just days left, the critical Democratic primary for mayor of New York City has shifted into an urgent final footrace to push every last supporter in the five boroughs to the polls.

The round-the-clock effort took on fresh urgency this weekend, as the weather forecast for Primary Day on Tuesday threatened to bring dangerously high temperatures that some campaigns fear could keep older voters at home.

The nearly dozen Democratic candidates fanned out across the city on Saturday, but most eyes were on the two front-runners, former Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo and Assemblyman Zohran Mamdani, and the vastly different approaches they were taking to try to tip the outcome.

Mr. Cuomo, a 67-year-old moderate, is reprising an old, and conspicuously expensive, playbook he has used in statewide races. While his super PAC pounds Mr. Mamdani with millions of dollars in negative commercials and mail, he appears to be largely relying on labor unions and paid canvassers to carry his message to subway stops and doorways.

"I have 650,000 women and men in organized labor," Mr. Cuomo boasted on Tuesday after rallying with hundreds of carpenters, electricians and metal workers in Manhattan's Union Square. "Does he?"

The number represents the

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## Law Student Argued 'We the People' Meant Just White People. He Won an Award.

By RICHARD FAUSSET

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Preston Damsky is a law student at the University of Florida. He is also a white nationalist and antisemite. Last fall, he took a seminar taught by a federal judge on "originalism," the legal theory favored by many conservatives that seeks to interpret the Constitution based on its meaning when it was adopted.

In his capstone paper for the class, Mr. Damsky argued that the framers had intended for the phrase "We the People," in the Constitution's preamble, to refer exclusively to white people. From there, he argued for the removal of voting rights protections for non-whites, and for the issuance of shoot-to-kill orders against "criminal infiltrators at the border."

Turning over the country to "a nonwhite majority," Mr. Damsky wrote, would constitute a "terrible crime." White people, he warned, "cannot be expected to meekly

*Institutional Neutrality Cited by University*

swallow this demographic assault on their sovereignty."

At the end of the semester, Mr. Damsky, 29, was given the "book award," which designated him as the best student in the class. According to the syllabus, the capstone counted the most toward fi-

nal grades.

The Trump-nominated judge who taught the class, John L. Badalamenti, declined to comment for this article, and does not appear to have publicly discussed why he chose Mr. Damsky for the award.

That left some students and faculty members at the law school, considered Florida's most prestigious, to wonder, and to worry: What merit could the judge have seen in it?

The granting of the award set off months of turmoil on the law school campus. Its interim dean, Merritt McAlister, defended the decision earlier this year, citing Mr. Damsky's free speech rights and arguing that professors must not engage in "viewpoint discrimination."

Ms. McAlister, in an email to the law school community, also invoked "institutional neutrality," an increasingly popular policy among college administrators. It instructs schools not to take pub-

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Ukrainian security agents are holding classes at high schools to alert teenagers to schemes to recruit them for espionage or sabotage. PAGE 4

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Suga was the last member of the wildly popular K-pop boy band to complete his national service. Fans now want the band back together. PAGE 14

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The British, experiencing much higher temperatures than average in June, are resorting to desperate measures, like buying air-conditioners. PAGE 15



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Katie Miller is one half of a Trump-world power couple. But now some of that power has shifted. PAGE 10

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The nation's largest ports, in Los Angeles County, are a bellwether for the economy. They are being whipsawed as President Trump imposes tariffs and reorders global trade. PAGE 1

