

“All the News
That’s Fit to Print”

The New York Times

THE WEATHER
Today, sunny, warm, humid, high 88. Tonight, partly cloudy and humid, low 74. Tomorrow, some sun, warm and humid with an afternoon storm, high 86. Weather map, Page 23.

VOL. CLXXIV ... No. 60,572

© 2025 The New York Times Company

SUNDAY, JULY 6, 2025

Prices in Canada may be higher

\$6.00



Camp Mystic and the damage from Friday’s flood near the Guadalupe River in Hunt, Texas. Rainfall exceeded what was forecast.

Today’s Israel: More Secure, More Isolated

By MICHAEL D. SHEAR

LONDON — It’s Israel’s Middle East now.

After three-quarters of a century fighting hostile neighbors, the tiny Jewish country, about the size of New Jersey, has all but vanquished its enemies — Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, Houthis in Yemen and now even Iran itself, the one backing them all.

The exercise of raw power has allowed Israel, for the first time since its creation in 1948, a future mostly free from immediate threats. The risk of a nuclear Iran is diminished, or perhaps gone. Israel has stable, if uneasy, relations with Persian Gulf Arab states. And Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has cemented his partnership with President Trump.

The new reality in Israel, said Yaakov Amidror, a retired Israeli general and former top aide to Mr. Netanyahu, is that places once under constant threat from Lebanon, Syria or Gaza “will be more secure than Manhattan.”

But at what cost?

Mr. Netanyahu’s relentless and unapologetic military response to the Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas-led attack that killed 1,200 people with 250 people taken hostage has cemented the view of Israel as a pariah, its leadership accused of genocide and war crimes, and disdained by some world leaders. In opinion polls globally, most people have a negative view of Israel.

In Gaza, the war against Hamas has taken a devastating toll, killing tens of thousands of people and leaving more than a million homeless and hungry. Much of the enclave has been reduced to rubble. Poverty and hopelessness are rampant.

Hundreds of Israeli soldiers have also been killed, and officials say they believe about 20 living hostages are still imprisoned in Hamas tunnels after over 630 days.

Israel’s actions have shattered a rock-solid, bipartisan consensus in the United States for defending Israel. Now, support for the country has become a fiercely contentious issue in Congress, the subject of angry debates and

Continued on Page 8

Dozens Dead in Texas; Search Goes On

This article is by **Edgar Sandoval, Erin McCann and Ruth Graham.**

KERRVILLE, Texas — Rescuers swarmed the area around the swollen Guadalupe River by air, land and water on Saturday in a desperate search for more than two dozen campers and others still missing after intense flooding the day before.

At least 47 people died, including 15 children, officials said. Four of the deaths occurred in the Austin area, which experienced torrential rain and flooding on Saturday. Most of the victims were killed on Friday, in Kerr County in the Texas Hill Country, where a devastating flash flood surprised local officials and strained their ability to respond.

Among the dead and missing people were children from Camp

Girls From a Christian Camp Are Missing After the Flood

Mystic, a popular Christian summer camp for girls, where dramatic efforts by staff and rescuers saved many more campers.

The mother of one girl said in an interview that the campers in her daughter’s cabin had been awakened by thunder early Friday, and that they then saw lights outside.

At least one truck was moving from cabin to cabin collecting girls, she said, but by the time it reached her daughter’s cabin, it was full. So counselors led the girls to the recreation hall through ankle-deep water, which was moving fast enough that the girls’ flip-

flop straps were breaking and being washed away, said the mother, who declined to give her name.

Multiple groups of girls wound up at the large building, which has a second-floor balcony running around the perimeter. The counselors led the girls in songs and tried to reassure them as the water rose to approximately 10 feet, according to the daughter’s account.

The water eventually receded in the recreation center, but the floor was a mess.

“The people who didn’t have shoes were getting their feet all muddy,” the daughter said, “and, at this point, I was really glad to have my Crocs.”

The girls were flown out by helicopter, then driven to a family reunification site at a nearby elementary school to reunite with

Continued on Page 22



A cabin at Camp Mystic, where flood warnings called for campers to evacuate to higher ground.

‘Bunker Buster’ Traces Its Roots to Navy’s ‘Bomb Lady,’ a Vietnam War Refugee

By ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

WASHINGTON — After the United States dropped 14 “bunker buster” bombs on nuclear sites in Iran, Anh Duong looked up the weapon’s technical details and felt a rush of familiarity.

Ms. Duong, 65, is a Vietnam War refugee who escaped Saigon and found a home with her family

in Washington. Long determined to give back to the nation that sheltered her, she got her chance a month after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, when she was the leader of a team of U.S. military scientists that created an explosive in the same family as the bunker buster used in Iran.

It was the BLU-118/B, a laser-guided bomb designed to travel deep into confined spaces like the

underground tunnels occupied by Al Qaeda in Afghanistan. BLU stands for Bomb Live Unit, not Big, Loud and Ugly, “which is maybe what the soldiers say,” Ms. Duong said in an interview at her home in suburban Maryland.

The bomb produced a high-temperature, sustained blast, “so that our guys would not have to flush out these hills or caves by foot,” she said. Used repeatedly in Af-

ghanistan, the weapon developed by the Navy’s “Bomb Lady” and her team is credited by others with shortening America’s longest war.

Before designing the BLU-118/B, Ms. Duong and her team were working on a new generation of “high-performance, insensitive explosives, that could take the ride and abuse” of traveling through layers of rock or

walls of masonry before detonating.

These were part of the family of explosives packed into the bunker buster, officially the GBU-57 Massive Ordnance Penetrator, that the United States used in Iran. A dozen of the bombs were dropped on the Iranian nuclear site at Fordo, which is deep underneath a mountain. Two more were dropped on

Continued on Page 10

Trump Revived Cash Flow Capitalizing on Comeback

As Empire Waned and New Deals Slowed, a Branding Bonanza Nets Millions

By RUSS BUETTNER

Last spring, even as Donald J. Trump’s march back toward the White House dominated public attention, his finances, largely out of view, faced serious threats.

His office building in Lower Manhattan generated too little cash to cover its mortgage, with the balance coming due. Many of his golf courses regularly lacked enough players to cover costs. The flow of millions of dollars a year from his stint as a television celebrity had mostly dried up.

And a sudden wave of legal judgments threatened to devour all his cash.

Then, with his clinching of the Republican nomination, everything began to change.

In the following months, Mr. Trump, along with his two eldest sons, Eric and Donald Jr., refocused the family business, forming a series of partnerships, especially in cryptocurrency, with investors who were willing to bank on his victory.

Once Mr. Trump won the presidency in November, that approach kicked into overdrive.

His family business announced numerous new deals that would financially benefit Mr. Trump directly, even as he made policy decisions that affected those industries or that involved countries in which the United States had political interests. Most glaringly, Mr. Trump is now both a partner in several crypto ventures and, as president, crypto’s chief policy regulator, and he has signaled that he wants his administration to have a hands-off approach to digital currencies.

Today, those moves are seen by Mr. Trump’s detractors as a money grab of historic proportions. But an analysis by The New York Times of thousands of pages of internal Trump Organization documents filed in one of the legal actions against him suggests a

more urgent motivation for Mr. Trump’s behavior: a need, rather than simply a desire, for easy money to keep his empire intact.

In late 2023, Mr. Trump boasted of having between \$300 million and \$400 million in cash when he testified as part of that legal action, a lawsuit brought by the New York attorney general that accused the Trumps of defrauding their lenders. His cash stockpile, Mr. Trump said, showed “how good a company I built,” and, he added in earlier testimony, “especially for a developer.”

Contrary to those assertions, records filed in the fraud case suggest that Mr. Trump’s cash was not the product of a steady and strong empire. His balance had fluctuated wildly, hitting a low of \$52 million in 2018, a small figure for the size of his operation. The subsequent increase came largely from the sale of properties and a payout of more than \$150 million from a passive investment.

Continued on Page 14



President Trump regulates, and heavily invests in, crypto.

Unimpeded President Relishes Victory Laps on Major Policies

By SHAWN MCCREESH

WASHINGTON — Just hours after his domestic policy megabill squeaked through Congress on Thursday, President Trump stood before a crowd of supporters and marveled at how well it all seemed to be going for him lately.

“We had a good two weeks, right?” Mr. Trump said at the Iowa State Fairgrounds, where he was taking a quick victory lap. “This has to be the best two weeks — has anybody ever had a better two weeks than this?”

Yes, in the history of Washington there has probably been a better two weeks than this. But there is no doubt that, at least on his terms, Mr. Trump can claim accomplishments one after another.

His order to bomb Iran set back that nation’s nuclear pro-

gram without triggering a broader conflict. He flew to Europe and got NATO members to pony up more money for their own defense. The Supreme Court continued a pattern of backing his assertions of executive power. The economy showed resilience in the face of predictions that his tariffs would send it spiraling, and the stock market hit record highs.

Illegal border crossings plummeted last month to the lowest numbers seen in decades. The parent company of CBS agreed to pay \$16 million to settle his complaint that “60 Minutes” had favored his opponent in last year’s election. And passage of his signature legislation by the House and the Senate demonstrated once more his dominance of the Republican Party and set fiscal and social policy for years

Continued on Page 16

INTERNATIONAL 4-12

Recalling the Kindertransport

Seven people who as children fled to Britain and other European countries in the 1938-39 rescue mission shared memories of their relocation. PAGE 4

How Should Canada Build?

Prime Minister Mark Carney wants to fast-track infrastructure projects, and Indigenous groups want a say. PAGE 6

NATIONAL 13-22, 24

Supreme Court Scorecard

A look back at some of the term’s major decisions, with the rulings, the rationales and the public reaction. PAGE 18



ARTS & LEISURE

Ringo Still Keeps the Beat

As he turns 85, the former Beatle maintains a springy energy. “I look in the mirror and I’m 24,” he said. PAGE 6

‘Dexter’ Is Back Yet Again

The TV franchise has a lot of company when it comes to spinoffs as brand extension mania intensifies. PAGE 9

REAL ESTATE

The Toxic Homes of L.A.

After the wildfire smoke cleared, residents whose homes were seemingly spared still found dangers lurking. Insurers have doubts. PAGE 6

SUNDAY STYLES

Is Pilates Political?

A video about thinness, femininity and fascism has inspired months of debate in the fitness community. PAGE 1

Out With Old, In With Young

Zohran Mamdani’s defeat of Andrew M. Cuomo in New York’s mayoral primary fits in a larger context. PAGE 2



METROPOLITAN

A Shelter’s Immigrant Story

More than 155,000 people from 150 countries passed through the doors of the Roosevelt Hotel since it opened as a refuge in 2023. PAGE 1

SUNDAY OPINION

Ezekiel Kweku PAGE 6

SUNDAY BUSINESS

On a Movement’s Fringes

Prosecutors argue that Ziz LaSota was the leader of an extremist strain of a group dedicated to improving the world through logical thinking and was the force behind six murders. PAGE 6

Snagged by a Trade War

Hit with President Trump’s tariffs, the Saint James clothing factory has put its inventory of striped shirts and sweaters intended for U.S. retailers in its warehouse in France. PAGE 1

