

ISRAEL BEGINS GROUND ATTACK IN GAZA

Bombardment made way for the operation to occupy enclave's largest urban center.

By NABIH BULOS

BEIRUT — Israel began a ground offensive into Gaza City, military officials said Tuesday, slow-rolling into the beleaguered city from multiple directions despite international opprobrium and even as hundreds of thousands of Palestinian residents remain within Gaza's devastated confines.

Weeks of intense bombardment that all but leveled the Gaza Strip's largest urban center made way for what Israeli military officials said was the ground maneuver phase of the operation to occupy the city.

"We are operating in the depths of the territory ... Our aim is to deepen the blows to Hamas until its defeat," said the Israeli military's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Eyal Zamir, in a video statement said to be from the border with Gaza on Tuesday.

"All our operations are carried out according to an orderly plan, with the release of the hostages and the defeat of Hamas before our eyes."

Two divisions — comprising tens of thousands of soldiers — began entering the city late Monday from its western flank. Another is supposed to join in the coming days, while two other divisions encircle the city. Some 130,000 reservists are expected to be mobilized, the Israeli military said.

The Israeli military insists Hamas is using Gaza City as "the central hub" of its military and governing power, according to a briefing from its spokesman, Brig. Gen. Effie Defrin. He added the Palestinian group has turned the city "into the largest human shield in history."

"We estimate it will take several months to secure the city and its centers of gravity, and additional months to clear the city fully due to deep and entrenched infrastructure," Defrin said.

In a statement later on Tuesday, Hamas characterized Israel's accusation that it uses human shields as "a blatant attempt at deception." It added that Israel is "continuing to perpetrate brutal massacres against innocent civilians."

Residents reached by messaging apps reported "insane" amounts of bombardment while others said

[See Offensive, A4]

ROBERT REDFORD, 1936 – 2025



MICHAEL OCHS ARCHIVES Getty Images

GENERATIONAL ICON

Robert Redford's star rose opposite Paul Newman in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," above.

Sundance Kid's reach surpassed the big screen

By NARDINE SAAD

Robert Redford, a generational icon who commanded the big screen as the star of "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and "The Way We Were" and won awards and lasting praise for directing films such as "Ordinary People," has died. He was 89.

Long a critical force in the elevation of independent filmmaking through the Sundance Institute, Redford died Tuesday morning at his home, his publicist confirmed. He was "in the mountains of Utah — the place he loved, surrounded by those he loved," the state-

ment said.

Redford was a natural star who seemed to comfortably reflect the postwar zeitgeist in America with his choice of movie roles and side projects. As Newsweek put it, "What Redford has always captured best is the flawed American hero."

Redford's most memorable roles were arguably those that exploited the juxtaposition of the actor's chiseled, class-president good looks and his ability to conjure up a scarred and hostile psyche. Whether he was playing the sulky, driven

[See Redford, A8]

Champion of indie filmmakers

His institute and festival nurture new generations of creators

By MARK OLSEN

It all started with a purchase of land in the 1960s. Then, from that small slice of Utah and the founding of the Sundance Institute in 1981 and, later, its expansion into the Sundance Film Festival, Robert Redford developed a vision that would reshape on-screen storytelling as we know it. Sundance opened doors for multiple generations of filmmakers who might not otherwise have gained entry to the movie



CHRIS PIZZELLO Invision / AP

ROBERT REDFORD sought to give voice to directors outside the major studios.

business.

Redford, who died Tuesday at age 89, was already a hugely successful actor, producer and director, having just won an Oscar for his directorial debut "Ordinary People," when he founded the Sundance Institute as a support system for independent filmmakers. His Utah property, named after his role in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid," would become a haven for creativity in an idyllic setting.

[See Sundance, A10]

ACTOR-DIRECTOR: His 10 essential roles and most fateful career decisions. ENTERTAINMENT, E1

TV news is betting on free streaming

Media outlets turn to ad-based platforms such as Tubi to reach younger audiences.

By STEPHEN BATTAGLIO

Now you can be a cord-cutter and a TV news junkie too.

That's because consumers who are giving up pay TV are finding a growing array of options outside the cable bundle providing national and local news.

Look up at the screen at the local nail salon or bagel shop, and where you once might have seen CNN, Fox News or CNBC might be a free channel serving up headlines.

For purveyors of TV news, the streaming channels have become a bigger

part of their future as the habit of traditional viewing fades and a new generation relies on information from TikTok, Instagram and other social media platforms.

More consumers are discovering national and local news content on what the media industry calls free ad-supported streaming television — or FAST — channels. Internet-connected television sets with free streaming TV platforms such as Tubi, Pluto TV, Roku and Samsung TV Plus built into them are making the offerings easier to find.

Ethan Cramer-Flood, a principal forecast writer for the media research firm Emarketer, tracks the growth of FAST channels. But it wasn't until he recently cut the cord himself that he realized he could get

[See TV news, A12]

UC groups are suing Trump

Faculty associations call federal actions "financial coercion." CALIFORNIA, B1

Dodgers may use Ohtani in relief

Club says it's possible two-way star will come out of bullpen for the playoffs. SPORTS, B10

State's Punjabi truckers fearful

Indian drivers in California report harassment after a Florida crash. BUSINESS, A11

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Increasing clouds. L.A. Basin: 90/70. B6

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Surf City is roiled by slaying

White supremacists show up for Charlie Kirk, but calm prevails

By HANNAH FRY AND JENNY JARVIE



KTLA

MOURNERS gathered at the Huntington Beach Pier on Saturday. White nationalists staged an event too.

Death penalty sought for Kirk suspect

Prosecutor describes the conservative activist's slaying as an 'American tragedy.'

By SALVADOR HERNANDEZ AND RICHARD WINTON

Prosecutors will seek the death penalty for Tyler Robinson, the 22-year-old man accused of killing political activist Charlie Kirk with a single shot at Utah Valley University, officials announced Tuesday.

"I do not take this decision lightly," said Utah County Atty. Jeffrey Gray during a news conference. "It's a decision I made independently as county attorney."

Robinson has been charged with seven counts, Gray said, including one count of aggravated murder and two counts of obstruction of justice, for allegedly hiding the rifle used in the killing and disposing of his clothes.

Robinson is also facing two counts of witness tampering after he allegedly instructed his roommate to delete incriminating texts, and asking them not to talk to investigators if they were questioned by authorities.

In a news conference Tuesday, Gray detailed how Robinson's parents first came to suspect that their son may have been the shooter after images from the university were publicly released. Gray also provided details of a text exchange between Robinson and his roommate, a person transitioning to female with whom he was romantically involved, in which Robinson apparently confessed to the killing.

According to the exchange read by Gray, Robinson's partner appeared to have no knowledge that Robinson had taken a rifle and had planned the shooting for about a week.

"You weren't the one who did it, right?" the roommate texted Robinson after the shooting, according to Gray.

"I am. I'm sorry," Robinson responded, according to Gray.

While local and federal officials searched for the gun-

[See Robinson, A16]

Patel clashes with Senate Democrats

The FBI director, who has been under scrutiny, testifies before the Judiciary panel. NATION, A16