



The reception for President Xi Jinping of China on Thursday. Mr. Xi said his country and the U.S. share a “historic responsibility.”

TRUMP IS FORCED TO END MEDIA BAN

Sites Regain Access, but Keep TV Pool Dark

By MICHAEL M. GRYNBAUM

The reporters are back, but the television coverage isn't. Journalists from CNN, MS NOW and Politico were allowed back into the White House around noon on Thursday. Their return came after a chaotic morning in which the Trump administration had blocked them from entering, despite an overnight order from a federal judge that required the immediate restoration of their access.

It was another twist in a nearly weeklong standoff between President Trump and his press corps that has not yet been fully resolved. Mr. Trump abruptly barred the outlets from the White House last week, citing coverage he deemed “fake.” In response, the major TV networks suspended the White House television pool, which provides video footage for daily presidential events. As of Thursday afternoon, the TV pool remained suspended. The networks had indicated that they would not resume coverage of the president until the White House had formally agreed to allow CNN to participate once again in the pool.

The result, on Thursday, was a bizarre spectacle: a president hosting China's top leader, Xi Jinping, for a pomp-filled summit at the White House, with Chinese state television on-hand but no American network airing any live footage.

“Normally we'd be watching an elegant affair on the South Lawn,” the Fox News anchor Bill Hemmer told viewers, “and we don't get access to that now.”

Around 1 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, Judge Timothy J. Kelly of the U.S. District Court in Washington ordered the White House to “immediately return, reinstate, and restore” the press credentials held by journalists from CNN, MS NOW and Politico.

Hours later, when journalists from those outlets arrived at the White House, they were still not permitted to enter. Lawyers for the three news organizations requested an immediate hearing on the matter, and Judge Kelly or-

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Xi and Trump Bond Over Granite and Politesse

This article is by Zolan Kanno-Youngs, David E. Sanger and Thomas Fuller.

WASHINGTON — With a fly-over of a stealth bomber, a performance by a military brass band and a bright red carpet, President Trump welcomed President Xi Jinping of China to the White House on Thursday.

It was Mr. Xi's first visit to Washington in more than a decade and an exercise in pomp and politesse that masked the great divides between the two nations.

Speaking with Mr. Xi seated be-

Meeting at White House Masks Rift Between World Powers

hind him, Mr. Trump emphasized what he called a “truly great friendship” between the two leaders. In upbeat remarks, he spoke about “tremendous strides” on the issues they face.

But expectations are low for breakthroughs in resolving any of the major tensions between the

world's two most powerful countries. Those include a shaky trade-war truce, the fate of Taiwan, a risky race on artificial intelligence and China's support for Iran and for Russia's war against Ukraine.

The president took Mr. Xi for a walk to show him the construction of the White House ballroom, as well as the new helipad. The two leaders did not stop to answer shouted questions on Iran, Taiwan or the jailed Hong Kong media tycoon Jimmy Lai. Mr. Trump only stopped to tell reporters that Xi “loves granite.”

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Canada Looks Past U.S.

In a wide-ranging interview, Mark Carney described a tense, evolving relationship with President Trump, laying out a vision for breaking his country's dependence on the United States. Page A9.

New Risk Is Feared: Making A.I. Act Too Human

By CADE METZ

SAN FRANCISCO — Last week, Mustafa Suleyman, who leads the development of artificial intelligence technologies at Microsoft, took aim at the idea that today's A.I. is conscious.

Current A.I. systems, he said in an essay published on Sept. 16, “are sequence completion engines, internally hollow, designed to follow instructions, and accomplish goals set by humans.”

“If humanity is to flourish in the

Leaders in Tech Clash Over Ways to Train

21st century,” he added, “that is how they must remain.”

His 6,000-word essay took direct aim at Anthropic, the San Francisco start-up that has repeatedly said that A.I. systems show signs of introspection, and that they process information in ways that resemble human emo-

tion. In May, the Anthropic co-founder Chris Olah made these claims during a meeting with Pope Leo XIV inside the Vatican.

Mr. Suleyman's treatise added an unexpected twist to an already heated debate over the dangers of A.I. Like many others across the tech industry in recent days, current and former Anthropic researchers have warned that A.I. poses a serious risk to humanity. But Mr. Suleyman argued that Anthropic, along with others across

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Netanyahu Defends Wars And Calls Critics ‘Phony’

At U.N., He Underlines Threats to Israel and Assails Mamdani as Many Walk Out

This article is by Isabel Kershner, Farnaz Fassihi, Max Bearak and Michael Levenson.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel gave a combative speech to the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday in which he defended the wars in Gaza and in Iran as a “battle against barbarians” and accused his country's many critics of being hypocrites.

Directly addressing the protesters who were outside the building, he demanded to know where they had been when Iranian security forces killed thousands of people demonstrating against the regime in Tehran in January.

“Did you organize mass rallies, hunger strikes?” Mr. Netanyahu asked. “Did you protest outside the Iranian mission to the U.N.? Did you speak out, for that matter, for Christians persecuted in Iran and throughout the Middle East? No, no, you didn't do that. Because you're phony human rights protesters.”

Mr. Netanyahu also directly criticized Mayor Zohran Mamdani of New York, the city's first Muslim leader, who has called Mr. Netanyahu a “war criminal” and at one time called for him to be arrested.

“To all those spreading these lies about my country and about our brave soldiers, whether they sit in this hall or in the office of the antisemitic mayor of New York, I say this: Shame on you!” Mr. Netanyahu said. “Shame on you for distorting the facts. Shame on you for inverting victim and aggressor. Shame on you for spitting in the face of truth.”

Mr. Netanyahu addressed the General Assembly just hours after the Palestinian leader, Mahmoud Abbas, delivered a recorded video address in which he condemned Israeli actions in Gaza and the West Bank as “a malicious colonial scheme” aimed at forcing Palestinians to leave their homeland. He urged world leaders to restrain Israel and “ensure the via-

bility of the two-state solution.” “We seek a democratic Palestinian state that respects the rule of law and human rights, a non-militarized state that lives in security and peace alongside the state of Israel,” Mr. Abbas said. “It is possible.”

The dueling speeches cast into stark relief the sharp divisions in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as well as Israel's increasing isolation on the world stage.

Mr. Abbas, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, did not appear in person because, for a second year, the Trump administration refused to grant him a visa to travel to New York.

The State Department accused Palestinian officials of trying to “internationalize the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,” including by seeking to bring cases to international tribunals. In response, the



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel on Thursday.

United Nations' 193 members voted last week, as they did last year, to allow Mr. Abbas to send a videotaped speech.

When Mr. Netanyahu took the podium, he was greeted with boos, and many of the diplomats in the hall walked out, as they did last year. Supporters of the Israeli leader, meanwhile, began chanting, “Am Yisrael Chai,” a popular refrain meaning “the people of Israel live.”

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Slurs, Firings And Outbursts By Candidate

By KELLEN BROWNING

ANCHORAGE — National Democrats cheered when Mary Peltola, the former Alaska congresswoman, declared in January that she would run for the Senate.

Ms. Peltola, an Alaska Native who grew up fishing for salmon on the Kuskokwim River, was well-known and well-liked statewide, even by Republicans. Her party hailed her as one of its strongest prospects for ousting a Republican incumbent and winning control of the Senate.

But behind the scenes, her political operation has been marked by tumult, a pattern that stretches back to her time in Congress. Former aides describe angry and profane outbursts, sometimes directed at aides and sometimes expressed about others who had displeased her. In one instance, she shoved an aide, according to a former staff member who was present and two others who were told about it at the time. Another conflict led to a surprising staff shake-up on the eve of the primary election last month.

Four former staff members said they directly heard her use the word “faggot” over the years, in some cases about her own staff members, an allegation the campaign denied. She also used the

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Death of Kirk Opened Door To Crackdown

By MATTHEW PURDY and ALAN FEUER

The very public murder of Charlie Kirk on a Utah campus last September sent convulsions of grief through the political right. Within days, the Trump administration began transforming the slain prophet of young conservatives from a martyr to a cause.

“The last message that Charlie Kirk gave to me before he joined his creator in heaven was, he said, that we have to dismantle and take on the radical left organizations in this country that are fomenting violence,” Stephen Miller, a White House deputy chief of staff, said three days after the killing. “And we are going to do that.”

The message Mr. Miller described quickly turned into policy. Now, a year later, it is clear how bright a line of demarcation the period after Mr. Kirk's death has become in the efforts by President Trump and his allies to target Americans they see as “the enemy within.”

The administration's nearly exclusive crackdown on left-leaning organizations and activities has ushered in a pitched

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Congo's Deep Ebola Fears

When a driver unexpectedly died, front-line medical staff scrambled to isolate his body, triggering a standoff. Page A8

A Growing Partnership

In his second term, President Trump, long a Mexico basher, has warmed to the country and its president. Page A6

BUSINESS B1-5

Durable Rise of Wearables

Meta's smart glasses are the latest to raise eyebrows over privacy. That's not stopping other companies. Page B1

Costly Battle of Health A.I.s

The use of artificial intelligence by hospitals and insurers amplifies a long-standing feud over who pays. Page B1

OBITUARIES A24

A Squirm-Resistant Bug Chef

David George Gordon's boisterous demonstrations on TV made the case for insects as a sustainable (and delicious) source of protein. He was 76.



NATIONAL A12-21

National Parks System Turmoil

The White House cuts staff, diverts funds and erases exhibits it dislikes, disrupting America's parks. Page A12

Polls in Senate Battlegrounds

Democrats lead in Michigan and New Hampshire but the Republican incumbent is ahead in Maine. Page A13

SPORTS B6-9

Chicago's Double-Sided Delight

The Cubs and the White Sox provided a rare summer of citywide baseball euphoria. Even after a shaky September, playoff hopes are high among two fan bases a dozen EI stops apart. Page B6

A Scheduling Puzzle

The power conferences of college football are scrambling to figure out how to accommodate extra games and an earlier start next season, when Week 0 becomes Week 1. Page B7

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Zeynep Tufekci

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WEEKEND ARTS C1-12

He's Ready for Takeoff

Ma Yansong, the Chinese architect behind the new Lucas Museum in Los Angeles, says building designs can help people escape from reality. Page C1

