



weekly
The Generation
 Spokesperson of the new generation

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- 9/11 families were open to the plea deal
- The potential trial has been delayed due to various court actions since 2008

9/11 Families Demand Trial Date Amid Plea Deal Controversy

When Beth Murphy's late husband, Kevin James Murphy, was killed in the World Trade Center attacks on Sept. 11,

2001, she was battling cancer and had two young children. "My husband was at my bedside crying,

begging me to live," she said. "I had a 50% chance of survival. Then he was killed, and my goal at every CAT scan

was, 'Oh my God, I can't die. I have two children to take care of.'" Murphy has spent *See page 2 to cul. 1*



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News

9/11 Families Demand

After Page 01

much of the past 23 years raising her children and fighting for justice for her late husband and other 9/11 victims, despite facing another cancer diagnosis, heart problems and a stroke on the 20th anniversary of 9/11, which she attributes to stress.

Although U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin reversed a plea deal with the alleged mastermind of 9/11 and two accomplices on Friday, bringing the death penalty back into consideration, Murphy is outraged that a plea deal was even considered.

Although U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin reversed a plea deal with the alleged mastermind of 9/11 and two accomplices on Friday, bringing the death penalty back into consideration, Murphy is outraged that a plea deal was even considered.

"I had to tell my children that there was a plea deal," Murphy said. "My children demand justice, our country demands justice."

She and other loved ones of 9/11 victims believe this includes a maximum sentence of the death penalty and a trial date set by the Biden administration. The potential trial has been delayed due to various court actions since 2008.

Murphy joined U.S. Rep. Nicole Malliotakis, R-Staten Island, and other 9/11 families at the Postcards 9/11 Memorial on Staten Island Monday.

"Anything short of the death penalty is unacceptable," Malliotakis said. "There should be zero mercy when it comes to these monstrous terrorists."

"A trial is needed so the American people will learn the full truth of our darkest day," said Terry Strada.

Some 9/11 families were open to the plea deal, which included the opportunity to question the accused terrorists. Strada, who was left to raise a 7-year-old, 4-year-old and 4-day-old after her husband Tom was killed in the attacks, is not among them.

"Without justice, it's just this feeling that never goes away—that we're being forgotten, people don't care," Strada said.

"Fighting for all these things for my children, all these laws to help victims of terrorism," Murphy said. "That's what all 9/11 families are trying to ensure, not only for our families but for future victims of terrorism."

The White House previously stated it had no knowledge of the plea deals.

The torture that five defendants in the 11 attacks underwent while in CIA custody has slowed the cases and left the possibility of full trials uncertain, partly due to the inadmissibility of evidence tied to the torture.

Source: Source: Spectrum NY1

Bangladesh President Dissolves Parliament After Hasina Resignation

The president of Bangladesh has dissolved the country's parliament after an ultimatum issued by the coordinators of student protests that forced the resignation on Monday of the prime minister, Sheikh Hasina.

The office of the president, Mohammed Shahabuddin, also announced that the former prime minister and opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia had been officially released from prison and given a full presidential pardon.

The announcements came as student protest leaders were in a meeting on Tuesday with the army chief, Gen Waker-Uz-Zaman, after the military announced it would form an interim government following the departure of Hasina.

On Monday, Hasina resigned and fled the country after at least 300 people were killed in a crackdown on demonstrations that began as student protests against preferential job quotas and swelled into a movement demanding her downfall.

Celebrations erupted on Monday after Hasina resigned, and continued overnight. The prime minister's residence was overrun and looted and several of the ruling party's offices were set alight. Reports suggested calm had returned



Reuters photo

to the streets on Tuesday and many of the crowds were helping in the clear-up or congregating in peaceful gatherings around the capital, Dhaka, and other towns and cities.

An interim government would hold elections as soon as possible after consulting all parties and stakeholders, Shahabuddin said in a televised address late on Monday.

The US Senate majority leader, Chuck Schumer, said the interim government must aim to set up swift democratic elections. "PM Hasina's violent reaction to legitimate protests made her continued rule untenable. I applaud the brave protesters and demand justice for those killed."

Hasina won a fifth term in January in an election boycotted by the opposition and called out as not free and fair by international observers.

Source: The Guardian

Bronx Apartment Designated for People with Disabilities has had Broken Elevator for Weeks

An apartment building designated for people with disabilities in the Bronx has had a broken elevator for six weeks and some residents have been trapped in their apartments with no hope for a solution. The broken elevator at 1310 Morris Ave. in the Bronx has presented serious challenges for residents and their families.

"There's a lady that lives on the third floor, she has a manual wheelchair, she has to leave it down the steps, she cannot walk. How are people managing without an elevator? I don't know but I know I cannot manage," said resident Dawn Carroll.

Carroll said going up and down the stairs even to the second floor is hard.

The City Department of Buildings has received at least 11 complaints since then and says the building failed an inspection for failing to have a working elevator.

Penalties for the landlords will be determined at an upcoming court hearing. In the meantime, the department has ordered the landlords to restore service.



Eyewitness News also tried to speak to other residents but they were afraid to speak out publicly.

DOB inspectors were on scene at 1310 Morris Ave., Bronx, on August 1, 2024 to conduct an inspection of the elevator in response to multiple 311 complaints made by members of the public.

DOB's elevator unit will be following up with the landlord's contracted elevator maintenance company to get an update on the timeline for repairs. If the landlords fail to make the necessary repairs to the elevator, they will face additional enforcement actions.

Source: ABC7 News

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World

Myanmar military says it withdrew ‘for safety of people’

Myanmar’s military withdrew from some positions close to China’s border to prioritise the “safety of people”, the junta chief said, days after an alliance of ethnic armed groups said they had routed state troops in the area.

Shan State in eastern Myanmar has been rocked by fighting since late June when the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) renewed an offensive against the military along a major trade highway to China. “With regard to the situation of Shan State, security forces withdrew their

positions by considering the security of current areas and safety of people,” Min Aung Hlaing said in a speech on state television on Monday night.

“The government will continually strive to ensure peace and stability -- not only in Shan State, but the entire nation,” he added.

His comments came days after the MNDAA said it had captured a regional military command after weeks of clashes, in a major blow to the junta.

Alliance fighters “fully captured the headquarters of the northeast military command” in Lashio, the group said in a statement Saturday.

Junta spokesman Major-General Zaw Min Tun admitted Monday that the military had lost contact with senior officers from the command after intense fighting. “Got last contact with the senior officers at 6:30 pm on August 3, and we lost contact with them till now,” he said in a statement.

“According to reports that are still being confirmed, it is known that terrorist insurgents arrested some senior officers.”



Reuters photo

Source: AFP



Tablets containing the synthetic opioid fentanyl disguised as Oxycodone. Photographer: Craig Kohlruss/Fresno Bee/Tribune News Service/Getty Images via Bloomberg

China to Reinforce Regulations on Fentanyl Chemicals: White House

China will put tighter restrictions on three chemicals used to produce illicit fentanyl, the White House said on Tuesday, calling it “a valuable step forward.”

This was the third such significant action by China since Washington and Beijing resumed bilateral counter-narcotics cooperation in 2023 after a meeting of US President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, National Security Council acting spokesperson Sean Savett said in a statement.

“This action follows last week’s senior official Counternarcotics Working Group

meeting between the United States and the PRC (China), where the two countries discussed key initiatives, including ways to increase law enforcement cooperation, disrupt the illicit financing of transnational criminal organizations, and accelerate the scheduling of precursor chemicals,” Savett added.

Last year, the US and China restarted cooperation against the illegal drug trade, working to reduce the flow of precursor chemicals and pill presses fueling the fentanyl crisis.

Source: Anadolu Agency

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Photo: AFP

6,000 Police at the Ready to Quell UK Riots: Govt

The UK government said on Tuesday that 6,000 specialist police were ready to deal with far-right rioting after another night of destructive troubles in English cities.

There has been a week of nightly riots in various cities since three children were killed in a mass stabbing.

On Monday, six people were arrested and several police officers injured when they were attacked by rioters hurling bricks and fireworks in Plymouth, southern England.

Officers in Belfast, Northern Ireland, were attacked as rioters attempted to set fire to a shop owned by a foreign national. Police said a man in his 30s was seriously assaulted and that

they are treating the incident as a racially motivated hate crime.

A group of men who gathered in Birmingham, central England, to counter a rumoured far-right demonstration, forced a Sky News reporter off air shouting: "Free Palestine". She was then followed by a man in a balaclava holding a knife.

Another reporter said he was chased by members of the group "with what looked like a weapon", while police said there had also been incidents of criminal damage to a pub and a car.

Unrest broke out last Tuesday after three children were killed at a Taylor Swift-themed dance class in Southport, northwest England.

There have been hundreds of arrests around riots that have flared up since.

Justice minister Heidi Alexander told BBC Radio 4 that the government had freed up an extra 500 prison places and drafted in 6,000 specialist police officers to deal with the violence.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer again sought to reassure the nation that action was being taken.

He said after a cabinet meeting: "99.9% of people across the country want their streets to be safe and to feel safe in their communities, and we will take all necessary action to bring the disorder to an end."

Source: AFP

Bangladesh Frees Hasina Rival Khaleda Zia from House Arrest

Bangladesh has released Begum Khaleda Zia, the chair of the main opposition party, from house arrest, the president's office announced.

Zia, 78, who twice held the post of prime minister, was convicted in a corruption case in 2018 and sentenced to 17 years in prison. The head of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) was moved to a hospital a year later as her health deteriorated. She has denied the charges against her.

Zia was an archrival of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, 76, who resigned and fled the country on Monday.

term – relocated to the United Kingdom.

The announcement of her release came after the army chief, General Waker-Uz-Zaman, was meeting student leaders to discuss the formation of an interim government that is expected to hold elections soon after it takes over.

The families of political prisoners jailed in Bangladesh under Hasina waited desperately for news of their relatives, as some of those missing were released.

Among the most prominent of those released on Tuesday was opposition activist and lawyer



Begum Khaleda Zia/AP photo

On Tuesday, President Mohammed Shahabuddin announced Zia's release from house arrest and dissolved parliament after calls from the student-led national movement. Zia had led the BNP since 1981 after her husband, then-president Ziaur Rahman, was assassinated in an attempted military coup. She became Bangladesh's first woman prime minister a decade later.

Despite having ruled between 1991 and 1996 and from 2001 to 2006, Zia's terms in office were marred by corruption allegations.

As part of a deal to allow Zia to resume political life, her two sons – also accused of corruption during her second

Ahmad Bin Quasem, a British-educated barrister son of Mir Quasem Ali, the former leader of Jamaat-e-Islami who was hanged in 2016 after his final appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court.

Security forces during Hasina's rule were accused of detaining tens of thousands of opposition activists, killing hundreds in extrajudicial encounters, and disappearing their leaders and supporters.

Human Rights Watch last year said security forces had committed more than "600 enforced disappearances" since Hasina came to power in 2009, and nearly 100 people remain unaccounted for.

Source: Al Jazeera

Hiroshima remembers A-bomb victims as 'global tragedies' unfold

The mayor of Hiroshima said Tuesday that wars in Ukraine and Gaza were deepening fear and distrust worldwide, on the 79th anniversary of the atomic bombing that devastated the Japanese city.

Kazumi Matsui made a sombre speech at a memorial event to commemorate the victims of the US nuclear attack on August 6, 1945 that left around 140,000 people dead.

"Russia's protracted invasion of Ukraine and the worsening situation between Israel and Palestine are claiming the lives of countless innocent people and shattering normal life", he said.

Days after the 1945 Hiroshima attack, a second US nuclear

bomb hit Nagasaki in southwest Japan, killing around 74,000 people.

The two strikes led to the end of World War II, and to this day Japan remains the only country to be hit by atomic weapons in wartime.

During Tuesday's ceremony, dignitaries including Prime Minister Fumio Kishida -- all clad in black suits -- bowed deeply and laid wreaths at the memorial cenotaph featuring the inscription "rest in peace".

Today, Hiroshima is a thriving metropolis of 1.2 million people, but the ruins of a domed building stand in the city centre as a stark reminder of the attack's horrors. For the third year running, Russia and Belarus were not

invited to the ceremony because of the Ukraine crisis.

It was the city's first peace memorial since Israel launched a military offensive in Gaza last year following an attack by Palestinian militant group Hamas on the country.

The Israeli ambassador attended the ceremony as usual, but according to local media, Hiroshima has never invited a Palestinian representative.

Israel's ambassador has not, however, been invited to the Nagasaki peace ceremony this year.

Nagasaki has said the decision was not politically motivated, but rather taken to avoid any unexpected trouble.

Source: AFP

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USA

Google Has an Illegal Monopoly on Search, Us Judge Finds

A US judge ruled on Monday that Google violated antitrust law, spending billions of dollars to create an illegal monopoly and become the world's default search engine, the first big win for federal authorities taking on Big Tech's market dominance. The ruling paves the way for a second trial to determine potential fixes, possibly including a breakup of Google parent Alphabet GOOGL.O, which would change the landscape of the online advertising world that Google has dominated for years. It is also a green light to aggressive US antitrust enforcers prosecuting Big Tech, a sector that has been under fire from across the political spectrum. "The court reaches the following conclusion: Google is a monopolist, and it has acted as one to maintain its monopoly," US District Judge Amit Mehta, Washington, D.C., wrote. Google controls about 90% of the online search market and 95% on smartphones. The "remedy" phase could be

lengthy, followed by potential appeals to the US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit and the US Supreme Court. The legal wrangling could play out into next year, or even 2026. Shares of Alphabet fell 4.5% on Monday amid a broad decline in tech shares as the wider stock market cratered on recession fears. Google advertising was 77% of Alphabet's total sales in 2023. Alphabet said it plans to appeal Mehta's ruling. "This decision recognizes that Google offers the best search engine, but concludes that we shouldn't be allowed to make it easily available," Google said in a statement. US Attorney General Merrick Garland called the ruling "a historic win for the American people," adding that "no company - no matter how large or influential - is above the law." White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the "pro-competition ruling is a victory for the American people," adding that "Americans deserve an internet that is free, fair, and open for competition." *Source: Reuters*

COVID cases on the Rise Across the Country as Updated Vaccines are in the Works

Cases of COVID-19 are on the rise in areas throughout the country. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows as of July 30, infections were growing or likely growing in 35 states and territories, particularly those located in the South and Midwest. The percentage of positive COVID tests per week, meanwhile, has seen a consistent increase for nearly three months, CDC data shows. As of July 27, the test percent positivity reached 16.3%, an increase from 3.1% as of May 11 and the highest since early 2022, according to the data from the CDC. The percentage of deaths due to COVID-19 per week remains significantly

lower than earlier in the pandemic. The CDC has currently marked the wastewater viral activity level for COVID-19 - which the agency says can be seen as an "early warning" that an infectious disease is increasing or decreasing in a community - as high around the country. The west region currently has the highest wastewater activity level for COVID, with both the west and the south region sitting above the national level. Earlier this summer, the CDC recommended everyone aged six months and older receive the updated 2024-2025 vaccine to protect against the virus this fall and winter as soon as they are available.

Source: Spectrum News NY1

US Urges 'Calm' and 'Restraint' in Bangladesh after Premier Flees Country

The US on Monday urged "calm" and "restraint" in Bangladesh and called on all parties to refrain from further violence after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country following violent nationwide protests.

"We have seen the announcement that Prime Minister Hasina resigned from her position and departed Bangladesh. We are monitoring the situation carefully. The United States stands with the people of Bangladesh," State Department spokesman Matthew Miller told reporters.

"We urge all parties to refrain from further violence. Too many lives have been lost over the course of the past several weeks, and we urge calm and restraint in the days ahead," he added. Miller said the US welcomes the announcement of an interim government, and urged any transition be done in accordance with Bangladesh's laws. He also said the US is "deeply" saddened about the reports of



State Department spokesman Matthew Miller/AP Photo

human rights abuses, deaths, and injuries in recent weeks. Miller said Bangladeshi people have a right to peacefully assemble, and the US opposes any kind of violent crackdown. "We have seen the reports that the army resisted calls to crack down on the protesters, and if those reports are true, certainly, that is something that we would encourage," he added. Bangladesh military chief Gen. Waker-uz-Zaman on Monday announced plans for

a transitional government after Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country due to violent nationwide protests. Hundreds of people were killed and wounded during the protests since July, which first called for the abolition of quotas in government jobs and later the resignation of Hasina, who had been in power for 15 years. The 76-year-old is the daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the nation's founding leader.

Source: Anadolu Agency

US calls on all Parties in Middle East to 'Take Steps to Ease Tensions'



US secretary of state Antony Blinken/AP photo

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken called Monday on all parties in the Middle East to "take steps to ease tensions" as Iran and Hezbollah are expected to attack Israel in retaliation for the assassination of Hamas political chief Ismail Haniyeh and senior Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr.

Speaking at a signing ceremony for a memorandum of understanding with his Australian counterpart Penny Wong, Blinken said it is a "critical moment" for the Middle East.

"We are engaged in intense diplomacy, pretty much around the clock, with a very simple message: All parties must refrain from escalation. All parties must take steps to ease tensions. Escalation is not in anyone's interest. It will only lead to more conflict, more violence, more insecurity," he said.

The top US diplomat also said it is "critical" to break this cycle by reaching a cease-fire in Gaza, which would unlock possibilities for "more enduring calm, not only in Gaza itself, but in other areas where the conflict

could spread." "So for the United States, for many other countries, both in the region and beyond, this is our focus," he said. "And what it comes down to, really, is all parties finding ways to come to an agreement, not look for reasons to delay or to say 'No.'" "It is urgent that all parties make the right choices in the hours and days ahead," he stressed. Hezbollah is also expected to retaliate after Israel assassinated Shukr in an airstrike on a southern suburb of Beirut on July 30. *Source: Anadolu Agency*

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Wildfire in California Destroys Houses, Scorches Over 100 Acres

A rapidly advancing wildfire in San Bernardino County, Southern California, has scorched at least 100 acres of land and destroyed houses since it started on Monday, according to reports. According to the San Bernardino County Fire Department, the Edgehill fire began in the Shandin Hills area and quickly spread through the neighborhood, burning residences and prompting evacuation orders, The Guardian reported. No injuries have been reported. The extreme heat, with temperatures

reaching triple digits, has exacerbated the situation. A total of 200 firefighters have been deployed to combat the blaze. "Little Mountain is a community that is not unaccustomed to fire," Eric Sherwin, fire department spokesperson, said. "The residents here are aware of fire and the threat that exists in this community. As engines were pulling up, people were already evacuating out of this area," he added.

Source: Anadolu Agency



Photo: AP



Photo: Reuters

Biden briefed on attack on Ain Al-Asad Air Base in Iraq

US President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris were briefed on a suspected rocket attack on Ain al-Asad air base in Iraq, where US and coalition forces are stationed, the White House said Monday. "They discussed the steps we are taking to defend our forces and respond to any attack against our personnel in a manner and place of our choosing," it said in a statement. The statement came after Biden and Harris were briefed by the national security team on developments in the Middle East. Several US personnel were injured

Monday in a suspected attack on the airbase in western Iraq, according to US media, citing anonymous American officials. The White House said the briefing focused on the threats posed by Iran and its proxies to Israel and to US service members in the region. "They were updated on US military efforts to support the defense of Israel, should it be attacked again. They were also briefed on continued diplomatic efforts to de-escalate regional tension and to bring the cease-fire and hostage release deal to a conclusion," it added.

Source: Reuters

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Red Cross Urges People to Donate Blood Amid National Emergency Shortage

The Red Cross is urging people to donate blood in a two-day effort amid a critical shortage of the national blood supply. The organization said its supply is down by more than 25% since the beginning of July. The strong storms up and down the East Coast are

likely to result in additional blood drive cancellations and lower donor turnout. This is in addition to other factors that typically limit blood donations during the summer, such as travel and seasonal activities, the group said. Hospital needs are outpacing donations coming in but there are ways New

Yorkers can help. All blood types are needed, but Type O Positive and O Negative are critical for hospitals to help treat patients facing emergencies. You can sign up for blood drives at redcrossblood.org and you can sign up every 56 days. This is not the first time the American Red Cross has warned of the risk of a blood supply shortage. Earlier this year, the organization it was seeing the lowest number of people giving blood in 20 years, something it is still experiencing. According to the Red Cross, only 3% of age-eligible people, or about 6.8 million Americans, donate blood every year. In an attempt to increase donations, the Red Cross is offering anyone who donates blood by August 31 a \$20 Amazon gift card by email.

Source: ABC7 News



NV. Ethan Miller/Getty Images



BLOOD SHORTAGE



File photo/NY Post

Flood Watch Issued for NYC as Heavy Rain and Downpours Expected

New York City is bracing for heavy rain and potential flooding, with showers and downpours expected late Tuesday afternoon. A Flood Watch has been issued for all five boroughs until 8 a.m. Wednesday. New York City is forecasted for a moderate flood risk.

The National Weather Service warns that flooding could be significant in some areas, disrupting transportation and underground infrastructure, including basement dwellings.

The New York City Emergency Management Department has issued a Travel Advisory through Wednesday.

NY1 meteorologist Guy Brown said a frontal boundary—the area where two different air masses meet—moving into the city throughout Tuesday morning will stall in the area, leading to isolated showers and thunderstorms that could bring heavy rainfall and minor flooding.

“New Yorkers should prepare in advance of the storms and take the necessary precautions to remain safe,” said Mayor Eric Adams. “While we expect some disruptions from this weather, all relevant city agencies have been activated and are prepared to handle whatever comes our way. New Yorkers, do your part: stay informed, stay alert, and, if you can, stay put during the worst of it.”

NY1 is forecasting that some areas of the city could see 2 inches of rain or more. The heaviest rainfall is expected Tuesday evening, with conditions improving after midnight. Spotty showers are expected to linger into Wednesday afternoon.

Gov. Kathy Hochul has instructed all state agencies to be prepared. Hochul has extended the state’s emergency operations for the rest of the week as forecasters monitor the remnants of Hurricane Debby moving up the eastern coast.

Source: Spectrum News NY1

2 Women Shoved off Subway Platform at Delancey Street-Essex Street Station

Two women were pushed onto the tracks at a Lower East Side subway station by another woman, who was quickly apprehended by police.

The victims, ages 27 and 28 and from Mexico, were shoved off the northbound F line platform at the Delancey Street/Essex Street station just after 2:15 a.m. Monday.

Officers were already assigned to the station and rushed to the women’s aid. A bystander helped the women back onto the platform.

They also helped detain a female suspect who apparently had no shoes and appeared to be in emotional distress.

The suspect, later identified as 42-year-

old Ebony Butts, is charged with two counts of reckless endangerment and two counts of assault.

Police say the 28-year-old woman was pushed onto the tracks, and when the 27-year-old tried to help out her friend, she was also pushed by the woman.

The women are recovering at Bellevue Hospital and being treated for minor injuries.

The MTA does have a pilot program in effect to install barriers at certain stations to protect riders from increasing random attacks. It is not fully scaled at this point, but the latest incident certainly brings to mind a need for extra safety measures.

Source: ABC7 News

13 People Injured in Crash Involving MTA Bus in University Heights

At least 13 people were injured during a crash involving an MTA bus in the Bronx on Monday.

FDNY officials say the crash happened around 1:45 p.m. At East 181st Street and Jerome Avenue in the University Heights section.

They say 13 people suffered minor injuries in the crash.

Eleven of them were taken to nearby hospitals, and two refused medical attention.

No further details have been provided.

Source: ABC7 News

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Editorial

Biden Made Tough Choices to Bring American Hostages Home, Netanyahu Avoids Them

by Mickey Bergman

As a “fringe diplomat” for almost 20 years, I have seen part of my share of prisoner/hostage negotiations, from Otto Warmbier to Brittany Griner. A through line in all of them is that they are not easy – and require sacrifices and leadership. Without those elements deals fall apart.

The prisoner swap that safely brought Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, former Marine Paul Whelan, Russian American journalist Alsu Kurmasheva and Pulitzer Prize winner Vladimir Kara-Murza back to the United States was a series of tough but necessary calls by the

Biden administration. It included the release of prisoners guilty of terrible crimes, like Vadim Krasikov, a Russian assassin, and others. It required multinational complex negotiations over months.

It is the unfortunate reality that to save innocent people being wrongfully detained, like Evan and Paul, trades are sometimes the only pathway. In this case, Russian prisoners, held for serious crimes, were released. President Joe Biden understands this aspect of diplomatic trades to get innocent people out of dangerous situations and make families whole again.

In contrast, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu does not, or refuses to care.

As an Israeli and a person whose job it is to get hostages home, the situation in Gaza is simultaneously infuriating and heartbreaking.

It has been more than 300 days since the hostages – elderly men, young women and even children – were ripped from their homes and taken captive by Hamas. It is Prime Minister Netanyahu’s most important job and core to the Israeli social contract that he leads the charge to bring them home.

I served in the Israeli army. But it does not take a soldier to understand that only a deal – not military action – can set them free. A deal in late November successfully returned more than 100 hostages, including 4-year-old American Israeli Abigail Edan.

Hamas is still holding 115 hostages, eight of them are believed to be Americans.

Netanyahu came to the United States last month and promised families that a deal is “ripening,” but it is all talk and gaslighting. At the same time, he is walking back the deal that he and his government did agree to, asking for more, derailing any progress.

There are two cardinal truths I’ve learned in my career, something that Netanyahu needs to keep in mind. First, hostage negotiation deals never get better over time. Even the latest prisoner swap deal with Russia was pricier than it could have been earlier. And second, time never plays out well for the hostages in captivity.

The deal that is on the table is the same deal that was available to Israel in December. The only difference now is that there are fewer hostages alive.

Hostages facing death at every moment

hat my daughter understands about Israel-Hamas negotiations that Netanyahu can’t

Though Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh was not a decision-maker with regards to the hostage negotiations, and thus not a substance factor in the negotiations, his killing last week, nevertheless, carries a significant emotional and symbolic consequence and is likely going to force a pause in contacts over cease-fire/hostage negotiations for a couple of weeks.

It is morally bankrupt – and the opposite of leadership – to hold onto these proposed deals on the back of the hostages. The remaining hostages don’t have the time for Netanyahu to keep asking for more and rejecting every offer that makes it to his desk. They are starving, thirsty, injured, afraid and fighting to survive.

I know these deals are complex. I failed four tries to get Paul Whelan included in the exchange before it finally happened last week. It takes constant effort at the negotiation table, working around the clock to save the wrongfully detained.

This is where Netanyahu is failing. He leaves negotiations for weeks on end and throws a wrench in every deal because he doesn’t get what he wants.

Real leaders understand that a good deal doesn’t get you exactly what you want but it does get your citizens home. Nothing in the proposed deal poses an existential threat over the state of Israel. Therefore, Israel is strong enough to say yes – and bring its people home.

Biden agreed to a deal that involved releasing convicted assassins and spies to fulfill his moral obligation to free his people who were being held illegally.

Prime Minister Netanyahu stood at the White House on July 25 with President Biden and American Israeli hostage families and said a deal was close. The families are doing all they can to advocate for a deal. Biden is doing all he can to broker the deal. It is up to Netanyahu to be a leader and make the hard choices that come with hostage deals.

Netanyahu’s legacy will either be saving the hostages or being the person responsible for keeping them in captivity. History will remember.

Opinion

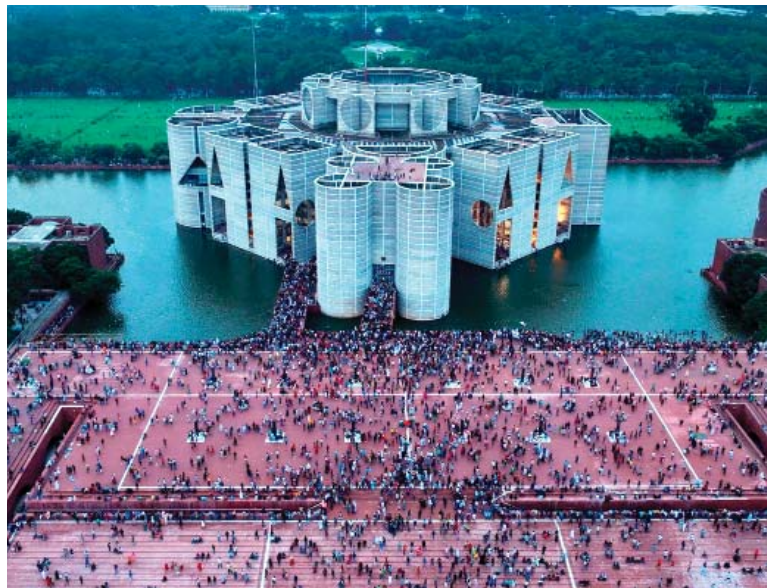
A New Dawn Rises on Bangladesh

by Anisuzzaman Muhammad

This is a day that will be remembered for generations to come. A day when a 15-year-long authoritarian rule finally came to an end. A day when people truly rose to power, putting aside their differences and uniting in their desire for freedom and a better tomorrow. It will not be

an exaggeration to say that the extraordinary showing of the student-mass movement that has led to the downfall of Sheikh Hasina—who came to power for a fourth consecutive term only this January—will henceforth be the new reference point in our history of mass uprisings. The anticipation was building up even before

set, and ensure that our future actions align with it, otherwise the huge sacrifices that went into making it successful will have been for nothing. The first goal of this movement was establishing justice for those who perished during protests marked by brutal crackdowns by security forces, aided by ruling party cadres. But then, because of the constant refusal of the government to recognise the gravity of the tragedy and conduct fair investigations, it transformed into a bigger fight against the very seat of power that favours the interests of a few over that of the vast majority of the people. It is this fight that has galvanised the whole nation, bringing together foes and friends alike. On Monday, people claimed their first victory in this fight. But the fight is far from over.



the day began, with the planned “March to Dhaka” preponed by a day because of the urgency created by the events of the previous day. In what many called the second wave of violence, about a hundred people perished that day as ruling party activists and police clashed with anti-government protesters. During the first wave on July 18-21, over 200 people had died. So desperate protesters, seeing their demand for justice frequently trivialised, wanted an end to all the farce and violence with a final push. And at 4PM on Monday, with crowds from across the country heading to Dhaka to siege Gono Bhaban, disregarding a curfew, the army chief announced the resignation of Sheikh Hasina. An interim government will likely be formed soon to run the country.

In the coming days, we will know more about the interim government which we hope will swiftly deliver on the promises of justice for each of the killings and a peaceful democratic transition. But right now, let’s recognise this moment in our history. Perhaps nothing describes the events of the past few weeks better than what the Russian revolutionary Vladimir Ilyich Lenin once said: that there are decades where nothing happens, and then there are weeks where decades happen. We have seen such eventful weeks in 1952, in 1969, and in 1990. But none of those uprisings claimed so many lives. None of them were against a democratically elected government, however questionable those elections were. This makes it all the more crucial that we remember the background in which this latest uprising was

The extraordinary scenes that unfolded after the fall of the Awami League government highlighted both long-awaited joy and long-suppressed anger. Soon after the announcement, millions of people poured into the streets all over the country. Despite the lingering grief over the loss of over 300 lives during the brutal crackdowns, the atmosphere was electric and filled with hope and possibility. Families with children, elders, students—everyone was out on the

streets. It was a kaleidoscope of colours and sounds. Marching down the streets, many were waving flags or chanting slogans, their voices rising in unison, a powerful testament to their shared struggle and newfound liberty.

These upbeat scenes, however, starkly contrasted with the scenes of devastation in many places. It was painful to see a repeat of the vandalism that once stained the movement so soon after its victory. Reportedly, mobs went about destroying and pillaging houses of ruling party leaders, ruling party offices, public properties, and key symbols of power including Gono Bhaban, Prime Minister’s Office, police stations, etc. Even the parliament building and the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum at Dhanmondi 32 came under attack. Equally alarmingly, many houses, businesses and places of worship of the minority communities were reportedly damaged. Overall, at least 142 people were killed in violent clashes and vengeful attacks across the country. The breakdown of law in the aftermath of the government’s fall is a reminder of how important it is to ensure calm and peace to avoid anarchy.

So, as we enter a new era, we must do so with optimism but also caution. While it is vital to stay watchful so that no untoward incident like what happened yesterday happens again, we also must start thinking about the kind of future we want. To truly honour the sacrifices of our fallen heroes, we must strive to build a future where democratic and egalitarian values triumph over narrow political interests. The time to rebuild our nation is now.

Kamala Harris Bypasses Bigger Names for Tim Walz's Broad Appeal

by Josh Wingrove



Vice President Kamala Harris' choice for her running mate came down to two governors — one who offered to deliver the most populous 2024 battleground but threatened to alienate important party factions, and a little-known contender with progressive credentials from a reliably blue state.

In the end, Harris bypassed the pick from a more politically valuable state — Pennsylvania's Josh Shapiro — for Minnesota's Tim Walz, opting for a folksy governor whose mocking of Republicans Donald Trump and JD Vance as “weird” became a rallying cry for Democrats.

Walz's selection completes a two-week makeover of the Democratic ticket after President Joe Biden ended his reelection bid, and it focuses the party's hopes of defeating Trump on turning out the very progressive voters and rank-and-file labor members whose support for the sitting president had eroded.

Walz's task is clear: Bring back Democratic blocs who drifted from Biden, while sharpening the party's message on the economy — a defining issue — to expand the party's appeal in states including Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin.

The potential for Walz to unite the party's base and expand its appeal was immediately evident by the support he received from independent Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia — a onetime centrist Democrat — and Democratic Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, a liberal firebrand.

Manchin said Walz could “bring normality back to the most chaotic political environment” many have seen. Ocasio-Cortez said Harris and Walz would “govern effectively, inclusively, and boldly,” calling his addition to the ticket “an excellent decision” in a post on X.

The pick is in some ways symbolic of the way in which Harris' candidacy has upended an electoral map that just last month had Republicans eyeing Minnesota as a potential pickup.

Walz, 60, demonstrated his plain-spoken approach, which helped him win six terms in the House from a rural, conservative-leaning district and two terms as governor, ahead of his selection.

“These guys are just weird,” Walz said, an insult casting Trump as out-of-the-norm and energizing Democrats who often struggled to find the right counter to the former president. Trump, a convicted felon who espouses policies that offer to test the boundaries of US

law, was the frontrunner against Biden for much of the summer.

Labor-Friendly

Walz was hailed by progressives and leaders of organized labor, who had pushed for his selection. AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler praised him Tuesday as a “labor champion who will stand up for working people.”

As governor, Walz signed legislation providing free breakfast and lunch to students, and expanded child care and paid family and medical leave — achievements Democrats hope resonate with voters hard-hit by high prices and anxiety over jobs and wages. Pocketbook issues will be central to Democratic messaging as Harris looks to counter one of her biggest liabilities — voter dismay with Biden's handling of the economy.

Earlier: Harris Taps Minnesota's Walz in Appeal to Blue-Collar Workers

Trump has made inroads with blue-collar workers, an effort Republicans sought to bolster with Vance's starkly populist economic approach. Vance's message is one Walz will be tasked with countering. While Harris can boast endorsements from union leaders, support has been less solid among labor's rank-and-file who are wary of the Biden administration's clean energy push.

Ticket Balance

Walz emerged from a shortlist of mostly White, male elected officials, including Arizona Senator Mark Kelly, seen as bringing balance to an already historic ticket. Harris is seeking to become the first Black woman and first Asian-American US president.

Before entering politics, Walz served in the Army National Guard and worked as a high-school teacher. In the House, he focused largely on the military and veterans as well as agricultural issues — areas where he can bolster Harris' standing.

He's often displayed an independent streak — earning an endorsement from the National Rifle Association before going on to back gun restrictions, and as one of a handful of Democrats who once voted to hold then-Attorney General Eric Holder in contempt. Holder would go on to lead Harris' vetting of

running mates.

Former Speaker Nancy Pelosi praised Walz Tuesday. “Growing up as a child working on the farm, Governor Tim Walz knows the heartland of America,” she said in a statement.

Carrying Walz's own state offers to be an afterthought for Democrats. Minnesota last voted for a Republican for president in 1972, when Richard Nixon carried the state in a national landslide. Neighboring Wisconsin, though, is a swing state and Walz's birthplace of Nebraska does not award its five electoral votes on a winner-take-all basis, leaving room for a pick-up.

Earlier: Walz's Folksy Appeal Makes Him Contender for Harris Running Mate

Shapiro offered to deliver the party Pennsylvania, which has the most Electoral College votes of the seven battleground states, but his support for Israel in its war against Hamas threatened to spur a revolt from the Democratic left.

Vance criticized Harris for not picking Shapiro, blaming “antisemitism in their own caucus” in an interview with radio host Hugh Hewitt.

GOP Attacks

One challenge Walz must overcome is the lack of a national profile. An ABC News/Ipsos poll of American adults from July 26-27 found 57% said they didn't know what impression they had of Walz, and almost one-third had no opinion of him.

Republicans delighted in the pick, attacking Walz as too liberal for voters and resurfacing images of civil unrest in his state after the murder of George Floyd — signaling that crime and race will be persistent themes in the election.

Trump at a July rally in Minnesota cast Walz as failing to control the protests in 2020. “When the violent mobs of anarchists and looters and Marxists came to burn down Minneapolis four years ago, remember me, I couldn't get your governor to act,” Trump said.

In a bid to define Walz, Trump's campaign labeled him a “dangerously liberal extremist” in a statement Tuesday and a video assailed him as “a rubber stamp” for Harris' agenda.

Walz, the chair of the Democratic Governors Association, was also criticized by their counterparts — the Republican Governors Association.

“His record shows that he consistently backs the most liberal policies that national Democrats have to offer,” RGA Executive Director Sara Craig said in a memo.

He'll get his first test Tuesday evening at a Philadelphia rally, as he looks to introduce himself to voters.

Republican former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty said Walz could deliver Harris' liberal philosophy with a different style.

“He's like Bernie Sanders in hunting gear,” Pawlenty said.

--With assistance from Mark Niquette, Billy House, Zach C. Cohen, Eric Martin and Hadriana Lowenkron.

(Updates with Manchin and Ocasio-Cortez remarks starting in fifth paragraph) ©2024 Bloomberg L.P.

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Pest Control

by Hasib Ur Rashid Ifti

Geronimo rushed inside the hole coughing, somehow managing to shut the door behind him. His mother Telapatra grabbed her son, hugging her tight for an instant before smacking him across the back. “How many times did I tell you not to go out at this hour?” cried Telapatra.

“They’re spraying insecticides everywhere”, coughed Geronimo, “I saw it with my own eyes.”

“Those are for the affected ones only”, commented an unbothered Mr Telaroach, Geronimo’s father.

Telapatra looked at her husband with cold eyes, giving him the signal to shut up for once, which really isn’t Mr Telaroach’s area of expertise. Geronimo, still in disbelief at his father’s lack of empathy, burst into tears, “I was there, Papa! I saw cockroaches my age lose consciousness and drop dead within seconds. I even saw our neighbour Mr Telaowski’s son lying unconscious in front of their curb.”

“Oh, that little runt”, Mr Telaroach sounded annoyed, “They’re the ones spreading this disease and forcing the authorities to take such measures. Have you seen his face? He looks like one of those insurgents—his entire family does.”

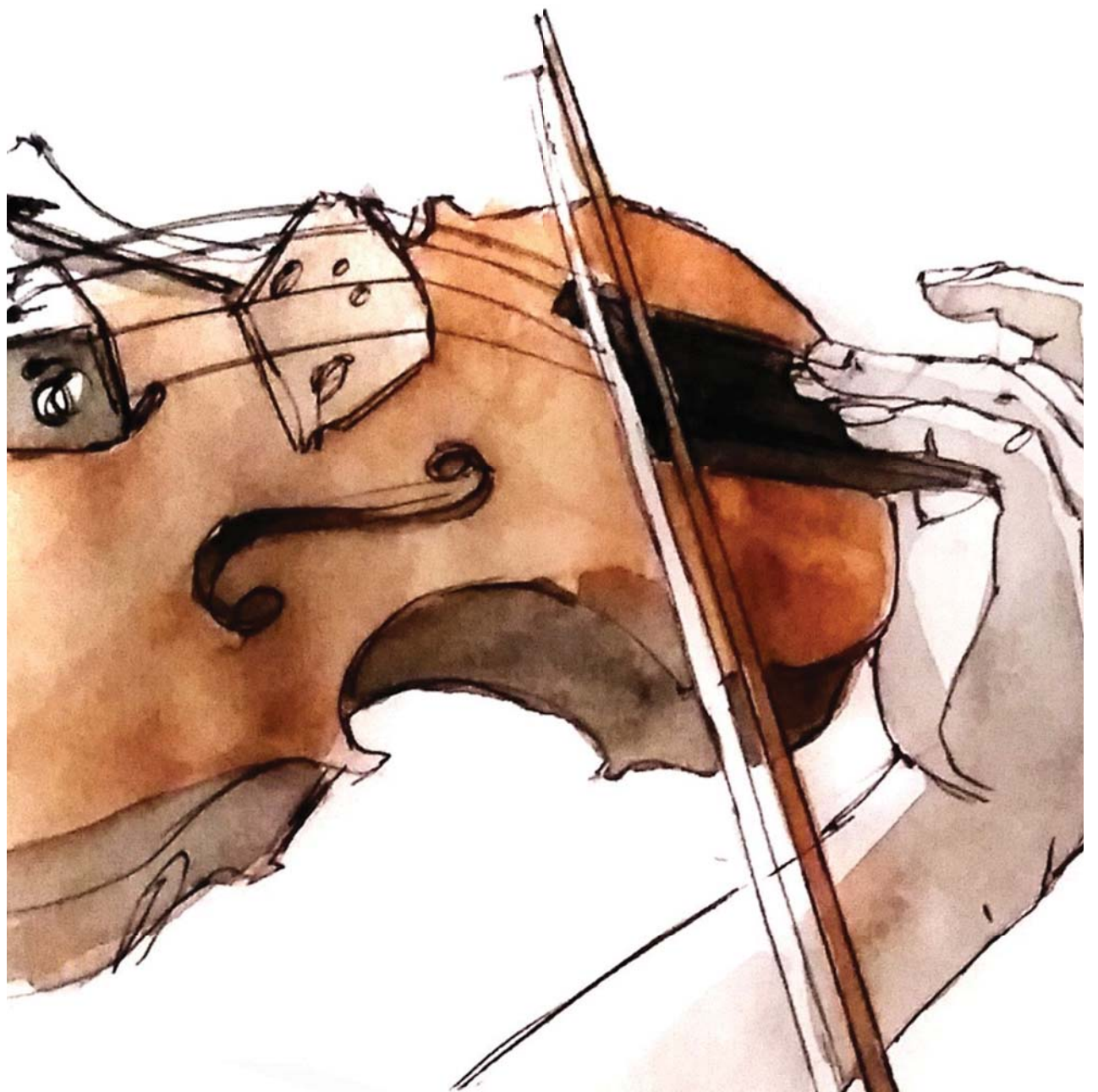
Tears kept rolling down Geronimo’s cheeks as he stared at his unbothered father. He choked out a quick burst of laughter out of rage and disbelief before rushing to his room.

The situation in Roachtown worsened after an epidemic of rot disease spread across the town, affecting cockroaches of all ages and causing their skin and wings to rot within a few days. In response, the authority imported vaccines from the faraway lands of Roachland at cheap rates. The motive was mostly to rebuild a friendly relation with the town, which had been otherwise strained for years.] to [The motive was mostly to rebuild a friendly relation, which had otherwise been strained for years, with the town. The friendship between the two towns meant a lot to the authority and they were willing to take any measures to make sure it was strengthened under the current regime.

Although the new vaccine put a halt on the rot, victims mysteriously died of other reasons within weeks. The authority put out a notice suggesting the epidemic had been successfully tackled and the mysterious deaths were completely unrelated to the vaccinations. While the authority-funded celebrations riled up the city and Roachtown declared itself a ‘rot-free city’, an independent study about the vaccine was leaked by a whistleblower within the Health Ministry. The study showed clear correlations between the vaccine and the mysterious deaths that followed and the authority’s efforts to hide it. The whistleblower, Telward Roachden, was found dead in his home the next day.

Following the leak, protests broke out all across Roachtown as crowds numbering up to thousands gathered outside the town centre. It was unlike anything Roachtown authority had ever seen before or expected for that matter. The mayor, Julius Roacher, decided it was time to go hard and nip the protest in its bud before it could turn into a revolution.

Mayor Roacher knew that two measurements were needed before his forces could clean house—cease all modes of communication and control what the public gets to know. For the first measure, all telephone lines were cut across the town and flying was prohibited until further notice. Now that the unregulated flow of information ceased, it was time to control and modify it. The mayor called an urgent meeting with newspaper editors: “The headlines will be sent to you right after midnight”, they ordered. “You can work overnight, fill in the gaps and print them by the morning. If you don’t



want to end up like The Roach Times, I suggest you listen to my suggestions, stop printing misinformation and stop creating panic in times of emergency.”

Most roaches knew the mayor’s strategies and didn’t believe the newspapers anymore. While they were still on the streets putting their lives on the line, some roaches like Mr Telaroach were gullible enough to believe whole-heartedly that everything truly was under control. ‘The true cockroaches of Roachtown’—as mayor Roacher had labelled them and congratulated them for keeping their trust in the republic.

To the mayor’s displeasure, the situation kept worsening and he had no option but to launch smokes of the same vaccine at the gathered crowd, only multiple doses stronger, intense enough for the rioters to lose consciousness and die in under a minute. To their horror, the casualties reached thousands within a week.

“It says right here—the casualties have been somewhere under a hundred”, declared Mr Telaroach, reading The Daily Roach out loud to his revolting son and an unconvinced yet silent wife, “I believe it’s even less. The Daily Roach has always been a bit anti-republic.”

“Just look out the window, Papa!” howled Geronimo, “They’re spraying the pesticide everywhere as we speak. There isn’t even a crowd out there. They’re just targeting neighbourhoods now.”

“It’s a vaccine, not pesticide”, scolded Mr Telaroach, “And didn’t you read the leaflet distributed by the mayor? These vaccines are genetically modified in such a manner that it will only affect the anti-republics. Roaches like us will be safe from its effects even if we accidentally fall in the attack radius.”

The silent treatment from his wife and son angered

Mr Telaroach even more. “Look, the mayor’s even distributing gas masks at a discounted rate! There’s no pleasing y’all anymore”, he said while putting on the gas mask to show Geronimo.

Suddenly, a shell burst right through the window of the Telaroach household. Before Mr Telaroach could run towards his wife and son, a huge explosion threw him across the drawing room and against the wall.

When he woke up minutes later, Mr Telaroach crawled across piles of rubble and, as the dust finally settled, he could see Geronimo and Telapatra lying on their backs, covered in bricks and rods, presumably dead.

The attacks on Roachtown that night were the final blow on the revolution with casualties crossing 10,000 in a single night. When the bodies were too many for the mayor to hide, he wrote an emergency instruction for the victims’ families to be broadcasted via flying roaches all across Roachtown.

Mr Telaroach was holding his wife and son, still in shock, when he heard the declaration in the loudspeaker, “Victims’ family members are instructed not to panic. As you know, the vaccines only affect the anti-republics. If you’re confident that your loved one is not an anti-republic, you’re instructed to dig a hole behind your household and bury them as soon as possible. Not following this procedure will automatically result in labelling the victim as an anti-republic and the household will be issued an anti-republic certificate by our officials.”

Mr Telaroach quickly rushed to the shed behind his house and grabbed a shovel. He had a long night ahead of him.

Politics

Hoboken City Council Denies Changes To Rent Control Rules, Setting Up Fight With Landlords

The Hoboken City Council unanimously voted down an effort to weaken the city's rent control measures and allow landlords to raise rents on certain apartments on Monday night, setting up a high-stakes fight this fall.

The Democratic-led Council rejected a proposal that would have changed the

gut rent control in the 1-square mile city just across the Hudson River from the Big Apple. Meanwhile, property owners say that the rent adjustment is needed to generate enough money to maintain and update buildings.

The fight over rent control in Hoboken underscores a major affordability issue in the New York City metro area and New Jersey. In the past few years, median rents in Hoboken have steadily increased to \$3,850 a month, according to Zillow. And over the past two decades, the number of rent-controlled apartments in the city has dipped from 12,000 to 8,000.

Statewide, experts estimate that New Jersey is short more than 200,000 affordable apartments for low-income residents.

The dramatic fight over rent control in Hoboken came on swiftly this summer.

"It says something that in a region like New York City you could get something on a ballot like that in Hoboken," said City Councilmember Phil Cohen. "It bodes very badly for the region with respect to affordable rentals."

Simoncini, the association's executive director, called that allegation "a bunch of hooley." He said his group needed 894 signatures to get on the ballot, and received more than 1,200.

On Tuesday, Bhalla said he was "pleased" with the Council's vote against the landlord-backed proposal and was "fully confident" the ballot referendum would be defeated.

Source: Gothamist



Photo by Lev Radin/Pacific Press/LightRocket/Getty Images via Gothamist

rules for when and how rent can be raised on low-priced apartments in Hoboken. The proposal was backed by the city's landlords, who said they were looking to increase prices to help cover their expenses.

The 9-0 vote by the local Legislature now sets up an even bigger fight in November, when voters will be asked to weigh in on a ballot referendum that housing advocates and officials say will



US Vice President Kamala Harris/Photo by Elijah Nouvelage/AFP/Getty Images via Newsweek

Kamala Harris Boosts Lead over Donald Trump in NY, New Poll Shows

Vice President Kamala Harris has a 14-point lead over former President Donald Trump among likely voters in New York, according to a Siena College poll released on Tuesday that shows the new Democratic candidate gaining ground over her Republican rival.

In the first public survey of likely New York voters taken since President Joe Biden dropped his reelection bid last month, 53% of respondents said they back Harris, compared to 39% who support Trump.

"The change at the top of the Democratic ticket has had a noticeable, while not dramatic, effect on the horse race," Siena pollster Steve Greenberg said in a statement.

Trump's numbers held steady since the previous Siena poll, conducted in late June. But Harris' showing surged compared to Biden, with new support coming primarily from Democratic and independent voters. Her 14-point lead is still notably smaller than Biden's margin of victory in the state in 2020.

Crucially for Democrats, the new poll showed Harris picking up support in the New York City suburbs, where Democrats and Republicans are battling over a handful of marginal districts that tipped the House to GOP control in 2022. In a head-to-head race, Harris is running even with Trump in the suburbs, 47-47%, according to Siena. That's a significant change from the college's June poll, whose results showed Trump crushing Biden in the same region, 48-35%.

The Democratic Party in New York has long relied on its presidential candidates to run up the score at the top of the ticket. That can create a trickle-down effect for the party's candidates down the ballot. Harris' 14-point lead in the latest Siena poll trails what other Democratic candidates have put on the board in previous election cycles. In 2020, Biden defeated Trump by 23 percentage points in New York, which was slightly higher than Hillary Clinton's 22-point margin of victory in the state in 2016.

Source: Gothamist

New York's Nassau County bans wearing of masks to hide identity

Lawmakers in a suburban New York county have approved a bill to ban masks in public places with exemptions for people who cover their faces for health reasons or religious or cultural purposes. Supporters said the bill approved Monday by the Republican-controlled Nassau County Legislature on Long Island would prevent violent protesters from hiding their identity.

Legislator Howard Kopel said the measure was introduced in response to "antisemitic incidents, often perpetrated by those in masks" since the Oct. 7 start of the latest Israel-Hamas war.

All 12 Republicans in the legislature voted in favor of the measure, while the body's seven Democrats abstained.

The county lawmakers acted after New York Gov. Kathy Hochul, a Democrat, said in June that she was considering a ban on face masks in the New York City subway system. No specific plan



Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, at podium, speaks during a news conference in Mineola, N.Y., Wednesday, March 6, 2024/Philip Marcelo/AP Photo

has been announced to enact such a ban, which like the Nassau measure was floated in response to the rise in mask-wearing protesters.

The New York Civil Liberties Union criticized the Nassau mask ban as an infringement on free speech rights.

"Masks protect people who express

political opinions that are unpopular," the group's Nassau County regional director Susan Gottehrer said in a statement.

The Nassau bill makes it a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine for anyone to wear a facial covering to hide their identity in public. Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, a Republican, is expected to sign the bill.

"Unless someone has a medical condition or a religious imperative, people should not be allowed to cover their face in a manner that hides their identity when in public," he said in a statement after the legislature's vote.

Dozens of public speakers for and against the bill packed the legislative chambers. Democratic Legislator Arnold Drucker said before the vote that the bill "overstepped and could be detrimental to First Amendment rights."

Source: Spectrum News NY1

Sports

Romania turn to 79-year-old Lucescu for World Cup qualification

Romania turned back the clock on Tuesday when they appointed 79-year-old Mircea Lucescu as their new national coach - 38 years after he left the post. Lucescu, who managed the side between 1981 and 1986, takes over from Edward Iordanescu, who stepped down after taking Romania to the last 16 of Euro 2024 in Germany. "I did everything I could to decline the offer," said Lucescu who told a press conference in Bucharest it should have been someone younger. "But I can't say no to the national team, that would have been cowardly of me."

Lucescu, who has signed a two-year contract, played for Romania between 1966 and 1979, featuring at the 1970 World Cup. As coach he qualified Romania for the 1984 European Championships but left in 1986 after they failed to make that year's World Cup in Mexico. His club coaching career has taken him across Romania, Italy where he was in charge of Ronaldo at Inter Milan, Turkey and Ukraine, winning over 30 titles in the course of his career. He also managed the Turkish national team between 2017 and 2019, missing out on the 2018 World Cup. *Source: AFP*



Romanian coach and former football player Mircea Lucescu/August 6, 2024/Photo: AFP



Kristen Faulkner celebrates with her Olympic Gold Medal after winning the Women's Road Race to become Olympic Champion in front of The Eiffel Tower/Photo: Alex Whitehead/SWPix.com

31-Year-Old Harvard Grad Just Won a Gold Medal for the US in the Olympics

Kristen Faulkner ended a 40-year-drought for the U.S. in the Paris Olympics — in a sport she picked up for fun six years ago. On Sunday, the 31-year-old became the first American rider to win gold in the women's road race since Connie Carpenter did so in the 1984 Los Angeles games. Faulkner grew up hiking and rowing in Homer, Alaska, a small city on the Kenai Peninsula, and joined the women's crew team at Harvard University, where she graduated in 2016. She didn't start competitive cycling until 2017 when she moved to New York to

work as a venture capitalist. "I still needed that outdoors fix that was such a big part of my life," the Olympian told NBC News in a recent interview. Faulkner wasn't even supposed to compete at the 2024 Paris Olympics but was called up to Team USA in early July after Taylor Knibb resigned her spot in the road race to focus on the Olympic time trial and triathlon events. "This is a dream come true," she told reporters after the race. "I'm still looking at that finish line sign wondering how my name got there."

Source: CBS News



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Arrest Warrant Issued Against Actress Moushumi

Entertainment Desk: A Dhaka court recently issued an arrest warrant against famed actress Arifa Parvin Zaman Moushumi in a dishonoured cheque case involving IPDC Finance Limited. The warrant comes after Moushumi failed to appear in court despite successive summonses. The court has scheduled October 16 as the deadline for submitting the execution report of the arrest warrant. The case, filed on December 3 of the previous year by IPDC's Officer-in-Charge MM Mushfiqur Rashid, centres around a dishonoured cheque totalling Tk 106,211. The court promptly acknowledged the

complaint and summoned Moushumi to appear before the judiciary. The initial summons, sent to Moushumi's residence in Gulshan-1, was returned undelivered. A succeeding summons was dispatched to her Bashundhara Residential Area home on April 28, yet Moushumi did not present herself in court. Consequently, on July 24, the court issued an arrest warrant against the actress. IPDC Finance Limited's legal counsel, Abu Al Nahid, also confirmed the legal actions taken, stating, "A dishonoured cheque case has been filed against actress Moushumi. The court has issued an arrest warrant due to her failure to appear in court."

'Deadpool & Wolverine' Opens with Record-Breaking \$205M in Domestic Sales

Entertainment Desk: Marvel's raunchy and violent "Deadpool & Wolverine" lit up box offices over the weekend with \$205 million in US and Canadian ticket sales, the biggest domestic opening of the year, distributor Walt Disney said on Sunday. The returns set a record for an R-rated film and topped the \$154.2 million collected by another Disney film, the animated Pixar movie "Inside Out 2," when it debuted in June. "Deadpool & Wolverine," the first R-rated Marvel film by Disney, stars Ryan Reynolds as Deadpool, a character known for sexually explicit jokes, swearing and violence. Hugh Jackman

plays Wolverine, a sharp-clawed mutant. The movie opened in international markets on Wednesday and has brought in \$233.3 million outside of the US and Canada, Disney said. It is the second straight hit for Disney, which is rebounding from lackluster performances in 2023 for movies such as "The Marvels" and "Haunted Mansion." The films have helped cinema chains such as AMC Entertainment, Cineworld and Cinemark that are grappling with a thin film slate in 2024. Several major titles were delayed because of strikes last year by Hollywood actors and writers.

Source: Reuters



Ryan Reynolds as Deadpool and Hugh Jackman as Wolverine in 'Deadpool & Wolverine.' Jay Maidment/20th Century Studios/Marvel

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News

Prof. Muhammad Yunus to be Chief

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the Bangabhaban, reports our correspondent from the spot. At the meeting, which started around 7:00pm, the student leaders proposed the formation of an interim government headed by Prof Yunus. President Md Shahabuddin agreed with their proposal.

According to UNB, the president said the country is now passing through a transitional period. It is important to form an interim government as soon as possible to overcome this crisis.

He suggested that the nomination of other members of the Advisory Council to be finalised in consultation with political parties. The president also suggested nominating a freedom fighter in the interim government, reports UNB.

Chief of Army Staff General Waqar-uz-Zaman, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Hasan Mahmud Khan, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Mohammad Nazmul Hassan, Dhaka University Law Department Professor Asif Nazrul, International Relations Department Professor Tanjim Uddin Khan and 13 coordinators of student movement were present at the meeting.

The development came as the country is facing uncertainty after Monday's resignation of Sheikh Hasina as prime minister in the face of a mass uprising against her and her Awami League government.

Hasina's resignation came following around three weeks of violence that had its origins in the students' demand for reform to the quota system in public service jobs. Between July 16 and yesterday (Tuesday), over 400 people (as far as this newspaper could confirm) have been killed in violent clashes.

On July 23, the government through a circular reformed the quota system as per the demand of the students, but by then nearly 200 died in clashes.

The protesters demanded the resignation of Sheikh Hasina and her cabinet on August 3, holding her government responsible for the deaths. The government toppled in the space of three days.

Hasina was serving her fourth straight term in office since assuming power in 2009, and fifth overall.

Kamala Harris Picks Minnesota's

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white voters, according to sources familiar with the matter.

Campaign officials did not respond to requests for comment. An official announcement was expected on Tuesday morning.

Walz, a 60-year-old US Army National Guard veteran and former teacher, was elected to a Republican-leaning district in the US House of Representatives in 2006 and served 12 years before being elected governor of Minnesota in 2018.

As governor, Walz has pushed a progressive agenda that includes free school meals, goals for tackling climate change, tax cuts for the middle class and expanded paid leave for Minnesota workers.

Harris, the daughter of immigrants from Jamaica and India, is adding a popular Midwestern politician whose home state votes reliably for Democrats in presidential elections but is close to Wisconsin and Michigan, two crucial battlegrounds.

Such states are seen as crucial in deciding the Nov. 5 election, and Walz is widely seen as skilled at connecting with white, rural voters who in recent years have voted broadly for the Republican Donald Trump, Harris' rival for the White House.

Harris chose Walz over Josh Shapiro, the governor of Pennsylvania, who had been seen as essential to delivering his crucial battleground state.

Harris was expected to appear with her running mate at an event in Philadelphia on Tuesday evening.

The Harris campaign hopes Walz's extensive National Guard career, coupled with a successful run as a high school football coach, and his Dad joke videos will attract such voters who are not yet dedicated to a second Trump term in the White House.

Walz was a relative unknown nationally until the Harris "veepstakes" heated up, but his profile has since surged. A popular member of Congress, he reportedly had the backing of powerful former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who was instrumental in persuading Biden to leave the race.

Harris and Walz will face Trump and his running mate JD Vance, also a military veteran from the Midwest, in the November election.

Stumping for Harris, sometimes in a camouflage baseball hat and T-shirt, Walz has

attacked Trump and Vance as "weird," a catchy insult that has been picked up by the Harris campaign, social media and Democratic activists.

Source: Reuters

US visa for Ex-PM Hasina Reportedly Cancelled Amid Asylum Bid

The US embassy in Dhaka has not confirmed the visa revocation

Dhaka correspondent: Following her resignation as prime minister and subsequent asylum in India, reports have surfaced that the United States has cancelled the visa of Awami League President and former prime minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina.

Several media outlets have highlighted this development, although the US embassy in Dhaka has remained silent on the matter, citing confidentiality.

Indian news outlet News18 reported on Tuesday, citing opposition political sources in Bangladesh, that the US has revoked Hasina's visa.

This comes amid reports that Western countries are reluctant to provide asylum or support to Hasina.

A spokesperson from the US embassy in Dhaka said, "US visa information is confidential under US law. Therefore, we do not discuss individual visa matters."

Hasina resigned under pressure from widespread student and public protests, flew to India on Monday afternoon with her sister Sheikh Rehana, on board a



military aircraft.

The plane landed at Hindon Airbase, 31 kilometres from Delhi, at 5:36pm local time.

Upon arrival, she was received by Air Officer Commanding, or AOC, Sanjay Chopra.

She also met Air Marshal PM Sinha, chief of the Western Air Command of the Indian Air Force.

Indian media reported on Monday that Hasina has applied for political asylum in the UK. If granted, she intends to go there.

Governor Hochul Brings School

After Page 16

distraction for students in classrooms. In fact, according to a recent Pew Research poll, 72% of teachers across the nation say phones hinder learning.

The question though is how to implement a cell phone ban?

To navigate that question Gov. Hochul said she wanted to hear from students, parents, and teachers across the state -- and on Monday she stopped in Yonkers.

Several school districts in Westchester County have already implemented cellphone bans, including Newburgh.

The superintendent there said they have already seen a reduction in social anxiety and an increase in positive student engagement both in classrooms and with their peers..

Experts say social media instigates fights and feeds the frenzy of attention.

The governor is working with the state legislature on a bill early next year as part of her "Get Offline, Get Outside" campaign. As for how to implement the ban, the state has yet to determine that, but several school districts in Westchester County have students place their phones in pouches which stay locked until the end of the day.

New York City Public Schools is also considering some restrictions on cellphone use by students during classes.

Source: ABC7 News

Mayor Doubles Down on

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amendment — including its most controversial provisions — across the finish line.

The text amendment would allow ADUs on lots with single- and two-family buildings. Such apartments, often called granny flats, could only span 800 square feet, and properties could only add one such unit. If detached, the units must be at least 10 feet away from other buildings on the lot, can only take up 50 percent of the backyards and can't be located in the front or side yards.

Only 15 percent of the city's land is zoned for single-family use, and less than 10 percent for two-family. Still, the Adams administration estimates these changes would create between 26,000 and 40,000 ADUs over the next 15 years. That is a significant chunk of the more than 100,000 homes the administration hopes to add during that time through the text amendment, which would also eliminate parking mandates in new construction and ease office conversion rules.

The Department of Housing Preservation and Development launched the Plus One ADU pilot program in November, and received more than 2,800 applications within the first five weeks, according to HPD Commissioner Adolfo Carrión Jr.

The administration is also launching a "one-stop shop" online portal to help owners navigate "the labyrinth" of regulations, high costs and other challenges associated with adding these units.

The City Planning Commission is expected to vote on the City of Yes for Housing Opportunity in the fall, after which the text amendment heads to the City Council. Nearly half of the city's community boards have found the text amendment to be "unfavorable," though these decisions are not binding.

Borough presidents in Manhattan, Bronx and Brooklyn have thrown their support behind the proposal, while Staten Island Borough President Vito Fossella came out against the text amendment. Queens Borough President Donovan Richards is holding a hearing on the proposal on Thursday.

Source: The Real Deal

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Adams amps up fight for ADUs Mayor Doubles Down on City of Yes Proposal



Photo: Ed Reed/Mayoral Photography Office via Spectrum News NY1

Mayor Eric Adams on Monday doubled down on a proposal that will make it easier for property owners to build accessory dwelling units, pushing back against backlash from community boards and elected officials in the outer boroughs. The mayor announced additional funding for a pilot program aimed at helping a handful of

property owners add backyard cottages or convert their attic or garage into an apartment. The funding itself, a \$4 million grant, is a drop in the bucket in terms of the city's broader housing goals, but Monday's press conference escalated the mayor's efforts to get his City of Yes for Housing Opportunity text

See page 15 to cul. 2



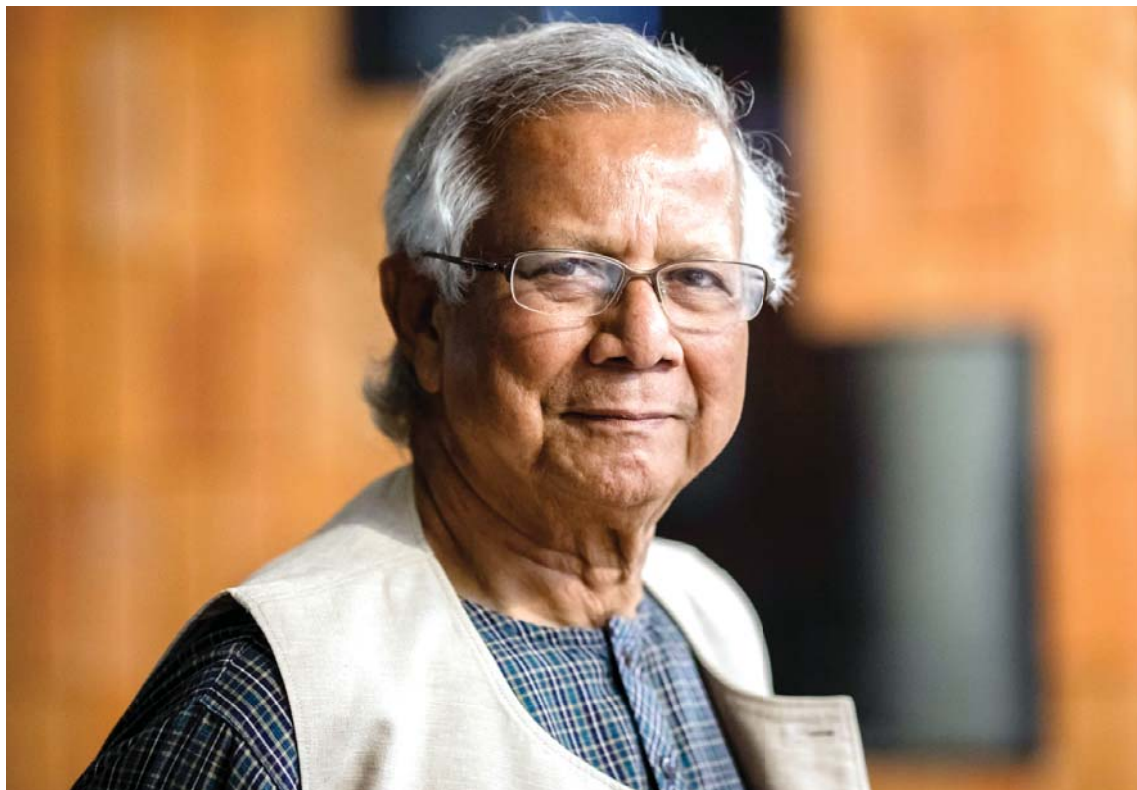
Photo: Reuters

Kamala Harris Picks Minnesota's Tim Walz for Vice President, Sources Say

Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris selected Minnesota Governor

Tim Walz to be her running mate on Tuesday, choosing a progressive policy champion and a plain speaker from America's heartland to help win over rural, See page 15 to cul. 1

Prof. Muhammad Yunus to be Chief Adviser of Interim Govt



Nobel Peace Prize laureate Muhammad Yunus/AP photo via Al Jazeera

Dhaka correspondent: Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus will be the chief adviser of the interim government, said a press release of Bangabhaban yesterday.

The decision came after a meeting on the formation of the interim government between key organisers of the anti-discriminatory movement and President Mohammed

Shahabuddin. The heads of the three armed forces were also present at the meeting. Around 6:00pm, the coordinator of the students' movement entered See page 15 to cul. 1

Governor Hochul Brings School Smartphone ban Listening Tour to Yonkers



Photo: Governor's official website

New York Governor Kathy Hochul is taking her statewide listening tour to Yonkers on Monday, as she considers banning the use of smartphones in schools across the state.

The listening tour is to hear from students, parents, and teachers about the effects of social media use on their mental health. It is no secret that cellphones can be a See page 15 to cul. 2



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