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What's News

World-Wide

Biden said he's convinced that Russia's Putin has decided to invade Ukraine and that he expects an attack in the coming days, with targets including the Ukrainian capital. **A1, A8**

◆ **Trump** had classified government records at his Florida residence, the National Archives told a congressional panel, saying it was in communication with the Justice Department on the matter. **A4**

◆ **The FDA** delayed its review of Pfizer's Covid-19 vaccine in children under 5 years old because the initial two-dose series so far wasn't working well against the Omicron variant during testing. **A5**

◆ **The Senate** unanimously passed legislation to require Supreme Court justices and federal judges to promptly post online their stock trades and financial holdings. **A4**

◆ **Former Brooklyn Center, Minn., police officer** Kimberly Potter was sentenced to two years in prison for the killing of Daunte Wright. **A3**

◆ **Police in Ottawa** towed heavy-duty trucks and made dozens of arrests as they moved to clear a protest against Covid-19 mandates. **A7**

Business & Finance

◆ **America's largest frackers** are reporting huge profits but plan to keep oil production in low gear this year, adhering to an agreement with Wall Street, even as prices approach the \$100-a-barrel mark for the first time since 2014. **A1**

◆ **The hot U.S. housing market** extended into the new year as buyers rushed to buy homes in the face of record-low inventory and climbing mortgage rates. **A1**

◆ **Fed officials** pushed back against the prospect that they would begin raising interest rates next month with a larger half-percentage-point increase. **A2**

◆ **Major U.S. stock indexes** posted weekly losses amid the threat of an invasion of Ukraine and the uncertain path of monetary policy. **B1**

◆ **GE warned** that supply-chain problems, labor shortages and inflation would weigh on its financial results in the first half of the year. **B1**

◆ **The SEC pushed back** on Tesla's allegation that regulators are harassing Musk over his compliance with a 2018 regulatory settlement. **B12**

NOONAN
San Francisco
Schools the Left **A15**

NOTICE TO READERS
WSJ.com and WSJ mobile apps will publish throughout the weekend. The print edition won't appear on Monday, Washington's Birthday (or Presidents' Day), but a daily edition will be available in WSJ iPad and Android apps.

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Residents of the Ukrainian-controlled town of Stanytsia Luhanska in the Luhansk region clean up debris in a home on Friday after shelling by Russia-backed separatists.

Russia Is Set To Invade, Biden Says

President Biden said Friday he's convinced Russian President Vladimir Putin has decided to invade Ukraine and that he expects an attack in the coming days, with targets including the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv.

By Gordon Lubold,
Michael R. Gordon,
and Yaroslav Trofimov

U.S. officials said a Russian attack could involve a broad combination of jet fighters, tanks, ballistic missiles and cyberattacks, with the ultimate intention of rendering Ukraine's leadership powerless.

The officials said Mr. Putin has laid the groundwork in recent days through a series of destabilizing activities and false-flag operations—long predicted by U.S. and allied officials—that intended to make it

look as if Ukraine has provoked Russia into a conflict, thus justifying the Russian invasion.

Speaking at the White House, Mr. Biden referred to the Kremlin's efforts to fabricate a pretext for Russian forces to attack, which he said is expected in coming days.

"We believe that they will target Ukraine's capital Kyiv, a city of 2.8 million innocent people," Mr. Biden said. He said he was providing the information because "we're doing everything in our power to remove any reason that Russia may give to justify invading Ukraine and prevent them from moving."

Asked about whether Mr. Putin

◆ Russian naval exercises jeopardize Kyiv's exports... **A8**
◆ Stock indexes post weekly losses amid invasion threat... **B1**

Frackers Hold Back Production As Global Oil Market Tightens

By COLLIN EATON

America's largest frackers are reporting huge profits but plan to keep oil production in low gear this year, adhering to an agreement with Wall Street, even as prices approach the \$100-a-barrel mark for the first time since 2014.

Three of the largest shale companies, Pioneer Natural Resources Co., Devon Energy Corp. and Continental Resources Inc., this week re-

ported their highest annual profits in more than a decade for 2021. The companies said they collected record amounts of extra cash by hanging on to the money they earn selling oil and natural gas and reinvesting only what they needed to keep output roughly flat. All three said they would continue to limit production growth this year.

They are pledging austerity despite a tightening oil-market supply. Global oil-production

growth isn't keeping pace with renewed demand as economies recover from the pandemic, and the threat of a Russian invasion of Ukraine is rattling markets. Those dynamics have alarmed the White House, which has asked U.S. producers to drill more as it confronts soaring gasoline prices and broad inflation.

For now, most large shale companies aren't answering the White House's call, sticking to commitments they

made to limit production and return more cash to shareholders, an effort to win back investors who fled the industry after years of poor returns. U.S. oil prices fell almost 1% Friday to \$91.07 a barrel.

Okla-based Devon, the top performer in the S&P 500 last year, said it has expanded a share-buyback program by 60% and raised its dividend to a record level. The company also said it collected \$2.8 billion

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EXCHANGE



POWER STRUGGLE
Why America's electrical grid is increasingly unreliable. **B1**

Inside Facebook's \$10 Billion Breakup With Advertisers

Privacy changes prompt e-commerce businesses to cut ad spending

Facebook was long one of the surest bets in digital advertising. No longer. Martha Krueger, who runs a gift-basket business called Giffen Market, used to spend

By Suzanne Vranica,
Patience Haggin
and Salvador Rodriguez

her entire advertising budget on Meta Platforms Inc.'s Facebook and Instagram. She picked up a new customer for every \$14 she spent.

When Apple Inc. introduced a privacy feature for mobile devices last year that restricts user tracking, she said, her costs to

acquire such customers rose 10-fold. In October, she shifted her whole ad budget to search ads on Alphabet Inc.'s Google.

Lots of other companies that depend on e-commerce sales, including makers of nutritional powders, eyebrow stencils and toilet sprays, are taking a look at their bottom lines and deciding the same thing. They are slashing their spending on Facebook and Instagram and sending their ad money to Google, Amazon.com Inc., Snap Inc. and other platforms, according to ad buyers and e-commerce companies.

The privacy change is hitting the heart of Meta's business: its ability to target ads at

Please turn to page A10

Moon, June Left Marooned: Pop Songs Embrace Imperfect Rhymes

Artists rely more on unusual echoes than ones that land right on the mark

By JAMES R. HAGERTY
AND ANNE STEELE

In her recent hit song "Btural," the pop star Olivia Rodrigo confesses:

And I'm not cool and I'm not smart
And I can't even parallel park
Wait, Does "smart" rhyme with "park?"
Not exactly, but both words contain an "ar" sound, creating an ear-pleasing echo. "I would give her great

marks for that," said Erin Chase, who teaches songwriting at Boston's Berklee College of Music.

Songwriters are growing more inclined to take liberties with their rhymes, as artists find imperfect ones can sound better than those that land right on the mark. In the music business, rhymes are more of an art than a science. Approximate rhymes have been around forever but

Please turn to page A10

A Sour Skating Final Prompts Soul Searching

After a wrenching night at the Olympics that ended with Russian teenagers in tears and the sport in tatters, figure skating began to sift through the wreckage of what appeared to

By Georgi Kantchev,
Ben Cohen
and Louise Radnofsky

be a systemic failure of the people who were supposed to be the adults in the rink.

All of the sport's darkest fears—about pushing ever-younger athletes through gruelling training to achieve ever-more dizzying achieve-

ments—exploded in one historic night of collective meltdown.

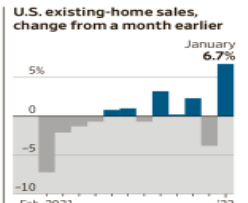
Fifteen-year-old Kamilla Valieva, faltered and slipped under the glare of a doping scandal, only to be confronted by her coach, Eteri Tutberidze, who demanded: "Why did you stop fighting?"

Another Russian teen, 17-year-old Alexandra Trusova who finished second, fell apart over failing to win and declared, "I hate this sport!"

And gold medalist Anna

Please turn to page A11

◆ Jason Gay: Grim Olympics stumble to the finish... **A11**



Sales Rise As Supply Of Homes Dwindles

By NICOLE FRIEDMAN
AND BRYAN MENA

The hot U.S. housing market extended into the new year as buyers rushed to purchase homes in the face of record-low inventory and climbing mortgage rates.

Existing-home sales rose 6.7% in January from the prior month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.5 million, the National Association of Realtors said Friday, with sales increasing in regions across the country. January sales fell 2.3% from a year earlier.

The housing market remains extremely competitive. Rising mortgage rates in recent weeks have prompted buyers to move quickly in case interest rates climb further, real-estate agents say. Homes are frequently selling within days for more than their list prices. More houses are being purchased with cash, and first-time buyers are getting squeezed out.

Still, the shortage of homes on the market is holding back the number of sales, economists say. On top of that, some buyers have been sidelined as rising prices and higher interest rates have made homeownership less affordable.

The median existing-home price rose 15.4% in January from a year earlier, NAR said, to \$350,300.

"Buyers were likely anticipating further rate increases

Please turn to page A2

◆ Fed officials dispel prospect of half-point rate rise... **A2**
◆ Heard on the Street: Rates will rain on house party... **B14**

Big money, big stars and big impact



Simon Kuper on 30 years of the English Premier League

LIFE & ARTS

Putin blames Kyiv for 'escalation' and brings forward nuclear drills

◆ Tensions rise in east Ukraine ◆ Invasion fears heightened ◆ US lifts Russian troop count

MAX SEDDON — MOSCOW
ROMAN OLEARCHYK — KYIV
GUY CHAZAN — BERLIN

Vladimir Putin blamed Kyiv for "escalating" tensions in eastern Ukraine yesterday as Kremlin-backed separatists ordered an evacuation of civilians from the region to Russia, and Moscow revealed plans for nuclear exercises to test ballistic and cruise missiles.

Putin will personally supervise the drills, which will include units from the air force, army and navy. Speaking after meeting his Belarusian counterpart Alexander Lukashenko, the Russian president said: "We are seeing an escalation in the Donbas."

Moscow's moves heightened fears that Russia is planning to invade Ukraine after the US warned that an attack was "imminent" and raised its estimate of Russian troops massed on Ukraine's border to more than 169,000.

Putin denied that Russia was planning to invade Ukraine but said: "Of course, we are looking at what is happening around the world and around us. But we have clearly defined guidelines in line with the national interests of the Russian people and the Russian state."

The timing of the nuclear drills, which US officials see as a show of strength by Moscow, will add to the sense of foreboding in western capitals over Putin's intentions in Ukraine. Joe Biden, US president, warned on Thursday that Russia was set to invade within "several days", saying Washington believed that the Kremlin was engaged in "a false flag operation to have an excuse to go in".



A Ukrainian border patrol near the Russian frontier in Chernihiv — Valeriy Ogorodnikov/Reuters

Inside

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◆ FT View & Gillian Tett, Page 8
◆ Dmitry Trenin, Page 9
◆ The day in markets, Page 14

"A new war threatens to break out in the middle of our Europe," Annalena Baerbock, Germany's foreign minister, told the Munich Security Conference yesterday. "This is one of the most dangerous moments, where from provocation and disinformation we can see escalation."

As Ukraine and Russia accused each other of shelling in the Ukraine region of Donbas, the separatists fighting Kyiv said they would evacuate women, children and the elderly to Rostov in southern Russia, the nearest big city.

Denis Pushilin, head of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, claimed in a video that Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelensky, had given the Ukrainian army orders to attack the separatists "in the next few hours". But Dmytro Kuleba, Ukraine's foreign minister, "categorically" denied what he called "Russian disinformation". "Ukraine does not conduct or plan any such actions in the Donbas," he said.

Ukraine said ceasefire violations in the war-torn region, including 43 artillery salvos in the past 24 hours, were

attempts by Russia and its proxies to trigger a pretext for further aggression.

Although the Kremlin said the annual nuclear exercises — which were not held in 2020 or 2021 because of the pandemic — were long planned, the last time the exercises were moved to February was shortly before Russia invaded Crimea in 2014.

Dmitry Peskov, Putin's spokesperson, said the exercises were regular and should not "give anyone cause for questions and concern".

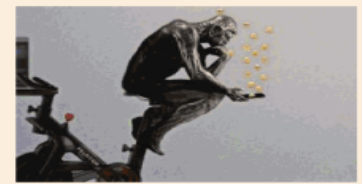
Kaja Kallas, Estonian premier There is 'naivety over Moscow'

LUNCH WITH THE FT



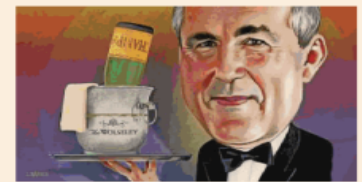
The parable of Peloton A cautionary tale

LIFE & ARTS



Maitre d' for the world Jeremy King of the Wolseley

PERSON IN THE NEWS



Seasonal notes

The diaries of Darwin's father

HOUSE & HOME



Teenage skater's turmoil cuts into Olympic legacy

The sight of a distraught 15-year-old skater being harangued by her coach after her calamitous routine will cast a long shadow over a Winter Olympics that was controversial even before the first event. After failing a drugs test, in the biggest scandal since Russia's Sochi doping scheme, Kamila Valieva's very participation raised questions. But Beijing will also be remembered for a strict Covid regime and tensions over the treatment of Xinjiang's Uyghurs.

Doping scandal ► PAGE 3

Illegal crossings from Hong Kong pose threat to mainland's 'zero-Covid' drive

PRIMROSE RIORDAN AND
CHAN HO-HIM — HONG KONG
TOM MITCHELL — SINGAPORE

China's rigorous "zero-Covid" policy is facing an unexpected threat in the form of illegal border crossings by people fleeing the worsening outbreak in Hong Kong.

Some mainland cities have offered rewards for information about people smuggling after 15 individuals illegally entered Zhuhai, in Guangdong province, by boat from Hong Kong. At least four had Covid-19 and travelled to other parts of China, according to reports.

The cases come days after President Xi Jinping said containing the outbreak must be Hong Kong's top priority. The city is weighing mandatory testing for its entire population followed by quarantine for anyone found to be infected.

Anyone arriving in China from overseas or Hong Kong must spend two weeks in a hotel or quarantine centre before continuing their journey.

Fences and fortifications along Hong Kong's long land border with Shenzhen, Guangdong's second-largest city, were originally built to stop illegal immigration from China into the territory. But it is relatively easy to travel by boat into Guangdong, whose long coastline and river networks are difficult to police.

"Mainland cities are concerned about arrivals from Hong Kong," said Tam Yiu-chung, Hong Kong's most senior representative in China's National People's Congress. "They are worried that cases might get into their community."

One Hong Kong resident, who asked not to be identified, told the FT that his family was considering fleeing to Fujian province. "I've been in Hong Kong for

nearly seven years and I've never seen [anything like this]," he said.

Hong Kong reported 5,629 Covid cases yesterday. Its zero-Covid strategy, with some of the toughest curbs in the world, has prevented mass deaths but heightened business concerns that the financial centre is being hurt by being, in effect, cut off from the outside world.

The curbs have prompted some companies to base executives outside the city. Mark FitzPatrick, interim boss of insurer Prudential, said its next chief executive could be forced to start the role outside Hong Kong because of the "friction" of Covid rules.

Meanwhile, HSBC closed six branches in the city yesterday, including floors of its head office, after staff tested positive. Additional reporting by Ian Smith and Tabby Kunder

Australia reopens page 2

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				INTEREST RATES			
	Feb 18	prev	%chg		Feb 18	prev	%chg		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4340.46	4360.26	-0.51	\$ per €	1.134	1.137	-0.23%	US Gov 10 yr	141.33	1.50	-0.04
Nasdaq Composite	13225.09	13716.72	-1.40	£ per \$	1.358	1.362	-0.29%	UK Gov 10 yr		1.30	-0.05
Dow Jones Ind	34058.93	34912.03	-0.73	¥ per \$	0.005	0.005	0.00%	Ger Gov 10 yr		0.19	-0.04
FTSEurofirst 300	1802.85	1816.83	-0.76	₩ per \$	115.145	114.965	0.16%	Japan Gov 10 yr	109.96	0.22	0.00
Euro Stoxx 50	4071.75	4113.19	-1.01	₹ per \$	156.407	156.563	-0.10%	US Gov 30 yr	101.16	2.25	-0.04
FTSE 100	7513.02	7537.37	-0.32	SFr per \$	1.044	1.046	-0.19%	Ger Gov 2 yr	103.90	-0.48	-0.05
FTSE All-Share	4195.45	4212.87	-0.41	€ per \$	0.882	0.880	0.23%				
CAC 40	6929.63	6946.82	-0.25								
Xetra Dax	15942.51	15267.83	-1.47								
Nikkei	27122.07	27232.87	-0.41								
Hong Kong	24327.71	24792.77	-1.86								
MSCI World \$	3089.09	3090.29	-1.87	US WTI \$	89.77	90.04	-0.30	Feed Funds EFF	0.98	0.08	0.00
MSCI EM \$	1242.92	1244.16	-0.10	US Brent \$	92.90	92.97	-0.08	US 3m T-bill	0.36	0.36	-0.02
MSCI ACWI \$	709.39	720.10	-1.49	Gold \$	1893.45	1892.60	1.66	Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.58	0.00
								UK 3m	0.96	0.87	-0.01

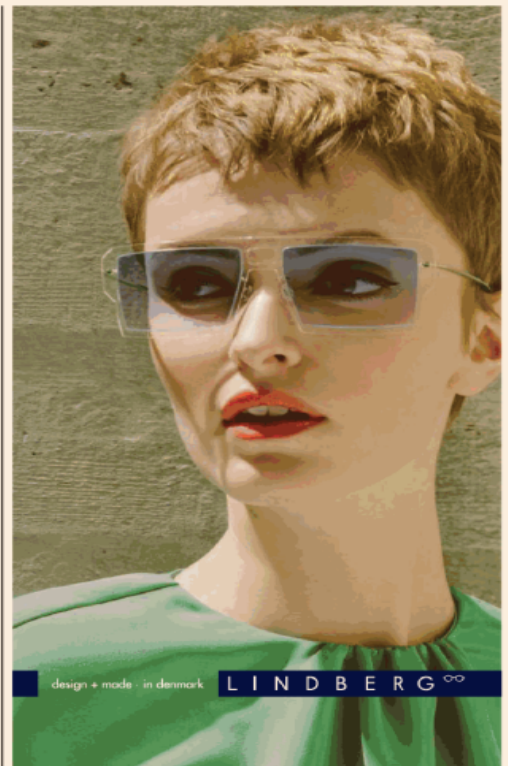
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Prices are listed for addition
Data provided by Morningstar



An emergency camp set up in Avilo-Uspenka, Russia, on Saturday for people evacuating a separatist-held area in eastern Ukraine.

Scheme to Reinstall Trump Opens Schism in Wisconsin's G.O.P.

By REID J. EPSTEIN

MADISON, Wis. — First, Wisconsin Republicans ordered an audit of the 2020 election. Then they passed a raft of new restrictions on voting. And in June, they authorized the nation's only special counsel investigation into 2020.

Now, more than 15 months after former President Donald J. Trump lost the state by 20,682 votes, an increasingly vocal segment of the Republican Party is getting behind a new scheme: decertifying the results of the 2020 presidential election in hopes of

reinstalling Mr. Trump in the White House.

Wisconsin is closer to the next federal election than the last, but the Republican effort to overturn the election results here is picking up steam rather than fading away — and spiraling further from reality as it goes. The latest turn, which has been fueled by Mr. Trump, bogus legal theories and a new candidate for governor, is creating chaos in the Republican Party and threatening to undermine its push to win the contests this year for governor and the Senate.

The situation in Wisconsin may be the most striking example of

A Vocal Segment Keeps Pushing False Claims

the struggle by Republican leaders to hold together their party when many of its most animated voters simply will not accept the reality of Mr. Trump's loss.

In Wisconsin, Robin Vos, the Assembly speaker who has allowed vague theories about fraud to spread unchecked, is now struggling to rein them in. Even Mr. Vos's careful attempts have turned election deniers sharply

against him.

"This is a real issue," said Timothy Ramthun, the Republican state representative who has turned his push to decertify the election into a nascent campaign for governor. Mr. Ramthun has asserted that if the Wisconsin Legislature decertifies the results and rescinds the state's 10 electoral votes — an action with no basis in state or federal law — it could set off a movement that would oust President Biden from office.

"We don't wear tin foil hats," he said. "We're not fringe."

Although support for the decer-

Continued on Page 17

As Virus Eases, Economic Blow Keeps Rippling

By BEN CASSELMAN

The pandemic's grip on the economy appears to be loosening. Job growth and retail spending were strong in January, even as coronavirus cases hit a record. New York, Massachusetts and other states have begun to lift indoor mask mandates. California on Thursday unveiled a public health approach that will treat the coronavirus as a manageable long-term risk.

Yet the economy remains far from normal. Patterns of work, socializing and spending, disrupted by the pandemic, have been slow to readjust. Prices are rising at their fastest pace in four decades, and there are signs that inflation is creeping into a broader range of products and services. In surveys, Americans report feeling gloomier about the economy now than at the height of the lockdowns and job losses in the first weeks of the crisis.

In other words, it may no longer be that "the virus is the boss" — as Austan Goolsbee, a University of Chicago economist, has put it. But the changes that it set in motion have proved both more persistent and more pervasive than economists once expected.

"I — totally naively — thought that once a vaccine was available, that we were six months away from a complete re-evaluation of the economy, and instead we're just grinding it out," said Wendy Edelberg, director of the Hamilton Project, an economic policy arm of the Brookings Institution. "A switch didn't get flipped, and I thought it was going to."

Continued on Page 14



Lt. Col. Susana Corona working as a substitute teacher in a third-grade class in Estancia, N.M.

Why Some Teachers in New Mexico Wear Camo

By ERICA L. GREEN

ESTANCIA, N.M. — The chorus of small voices ringing from a third-grade classroom on a recent morning signaled how far Estancia Elementary School had come in resuming a sense of normalcy after the latest coronavirus surge.

Students in the small, remote community of Estancia, N.M., were enthusiastically engaged in a vocabulary lesson, enunciating words with a "bossy r," as well as homophones and homonyms, and spelling them on white boards.

But there was also a sign of how far the district, about an hour outside Albuquerque, still had to go.

National Guard Fills In Amid Pandemic

The teacher moving about the classroom and calling on students to use the words in a sentence was clad in camouflage. "My substitute is wearing gear," one student responded.

"Yes," Lt. Col. Susana Corona replied, beaming. "The superintendent allows me to wear my uniform. I'm wearing a pair of boots."

For the last month, dozens of soldiers and airmen and women in the New Mexico National Guard have been deployed to classrooms

throughout the state to help with crippling pandemic-related staff shortages. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham has also enlisted civilian state employees — herself included — to volunteer as substitute teachers.

New Mexico has been the only state to deploy National Guard troops in classrooms. But since the fall, when districts around the country began recruiting any qualified adult to take over classrooms temporarily, several other states have turned to uniformed personnel. National Guard members in Massachusetts have driven school buses, and last month, police officers in one city in Okla-

Continued on Page 16

UKRAINE TENSIONS MOUNT AS RUSSIA FLEXES ITS POWER

NEWS ANALYSIS

Reigniting Cold War Despite Its Risks

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI

MOSCOW — Vladimir Pozner was an English-language Soviet propaganda editor in Moscow in 1962, a job that gave him rare access to American newspapers and magazines. That allowed him to follow the Cuban Missile Crisis outside the Soviet media filter, and sense a world at the brink of war.

Mr. Pozner, a longtime Russian television journalist, says he now feels something similar. "The smell of war is very strong," he said in an interview on Friday, a day when shelling intensified along the front line in eastern Ukraine. "If you talk about the relationship between Russia and the West — and in particular, the United States — I feel that it is as bad as it was at any time in the Cold War, and perhaps, in a certain sense, even worse."

Unlike 1962, it is not the threat of nuclear war but of a major land war that now looms over Europe. But the feeling that Russia and the United States are entering a new version of the Cold War — long posited by some commentators on both sides of the Atlantic — has become inescapable.

President Biden hinted at it on Tuesday in the East Room of the White House, pledging that if Russia invaded Ukraine, "we will rally the world to oppose its aggression." President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia drove the matter home on Saturday, when he oversaw a test launch of nuclear-capable hypersonic missiles that can evade American defenses.

"We are entering a new stage of confrontation," said Dmitry Suslov, an international relations specialist at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow. "After this crisis, we will naturally be much more explicit and open in ac-

Continued on Page 6

Missile Testing and Evacuations Stoke Fears of Invasion

By STEVEN ERLANGER

Artillery fire escalated sharply in eastern Ukraine on Saturday and thousands of residents fled the region in chaotic evacuations — two developments rife with opportunities for what the United States has warned could be a pretext for a Russian invasion.

Russian-backed separatists, who have been fighting the Ukrainian government for years, have asserted, without evidence, that Ukraine was planning a large-scale attack on territory they control.

Western leaders have derided the notion that Ukraine would launch an attack while surrounded by Russian forces, and Ukrainian officials dismissed the claim as "a cynical Russian lie."

But separatist leaders on Saturday urged women and children to evacuate, and able-bodied men to prepare to fight. And the ginned-up panic was already having real effects, with refugees frantically boarding buses to Russia and refugee tent camps popping up across the Russian border.

At the same time, the firing of mortars, artillery and rocket-propelled grenades by separatist rebels along the front line roughly doubled the level of the previous two days, the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs said. Two Ukrainian soldiers were killed and five wounded, the ministry said.

Ukrainian officials said the shelling came exclusively from the separatists, who are seen as a proxy for Russia.

New York Times reporters at the scene witnessed shelling from separatists and saw no return fire from the Ukrainian forces, although residents in the separatist regions said there was shelling from both sides.

"I have a small baby," said Nadya Lapygina, who said her town in the breakaway region of Luhansk was hit by artillery and

Continued on Page 6

MISINFORMATION Moscow uses false claims of genocide to justify its actions, and to burnish its imperial identity. The Interpreter. PAGE 9

OBEDIENT President Aleksandr G. Lukashenko of Belarus once skillfully managed Moscow. Now he is doing the Kremlin's bidding. PAGE 7

UNDER FIRE A seemingly routine tour of journalists in eastern Ukraine suddenly turned frantic as shells began to explode around them. PAGE 8

'Q' Is Anonymous No Longer: Study Finds Two Likely Scribes

By DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK

"Open your eyes," the online post began, claiming, "Many in our govt worship Satan."

That warning, published on a free-wheeling online message board in October 2017, was the beginning of the movement now known as QAnon. Paul Furler was its first apostle.

The outlandish claim made perfect sense to Mr. Furler, a South African software developer and tech journalist long fascinated with American politics and conspiracy theories, he said in an interview. He still clung to "Pizzagate," the debunked online lie that liberal Satanists were trafficking children from a Washington restaurant. He was also among the few who understood an obscure reference in the message to "Operation Mockingbird," an alleged C.I.A. scheme to manipulate the news media.

As the stream of messages, most signed only "Q," grew into a

sprawling conspiracy theory, the mystery surrounding their authorship became a central fascination for its followers — who was the anonymous Q?

Now two teams of forensic linguists say their analysis of the Q texts shows that Mr. Furler, one of the first online commentators to call attention to the earliest messages, actually played the lead role in writing them.

Sleuths hunting for the writer behind Q have increasingly overlooked Mr. Furler and focused their speculation on another QAnon booster: Ron Watkins, who operated a website where the Q messages began appearing in 2018 and is now running for Congress in Arizona. And the scientists say they found evidence to back up those suspicions as well.

Mr. Watkins appears to have taken over from Mr. Furler at the be-

Continued on Page 20

INTERNATIONAL 4-11

Syria's Shriveling Farms

A prolonged drought and a decade of war have brought failing crops and poverty to a region once known as the country's breadbasket. PAGE 4

Energy Bills Soar in Turkey

Hit by spiraling inflation, electricity costs have doubled for households and businesses in just a month — eclipsing the price of rent in some areas. PAGE 10

Macron vs. the Right

President Emmanuel Macron of France, not even a formal candidate yet, seems to benefit from standing above the anti-immigrant fray. PAGE 5



NATIONAL 12-21

Lobbyists Pave the Way

Special interests pushed for infrastructure dollars. The asphalt industry may have been the most successful. PAGE 12

For Afghans, No Fast Escape

Few applications for U.S. entry on urgent humanitarian grounds have been processed. Most have been denied. PAGE 18

ARTS & LEISURE

That's Funny. Isn't It?

For a cultural critic, a sense of humor is integral to his Jewish identity. But these dark times raise hard questions about comedy and its uses. PAGE 14

METROPOLITAN

Hoop Dreams Denied Again

Connie Hawkins, a playground basketball legend from Brooklyn, was long denied his due. An effort to honor him is running into obstacles, too. PAGE 1

SUNDAY REVIEW

Matthieu Aikins PAGE 4

SUNDAY BUSINESS

When Small Places Get Pricey

Spokane, Wash., was once considered an affordable city. But home prices have jumped 60 percent in the past two years. What happens now? PAGE 1

Intel C.E.O. Has Big Plans

The chip maker has lost its luster over the past few years. Patrick Gelsinger has faith that he can fix that. PAGE 1

SUNDAY STYLES

Tough Clothes Live On

Carhartt has adapted to new dynamics, selling its work clothing to baristas as well as farmers and loggers. PAGE 10



SPORTS 1-9

Coach Suing N.F.L. Is Hired

Brian Flores, who has accused the league of discriminatory hiring practices, joined the Pittsburgh Steelers as a defensive assistant. PAGE 9





PEOPLE from eastern Ukraine's disputed Donbas region arrive in Russia. Separatists backed by Russia ordered the evacuations, claiming the Ukrainian government was preparing an onslaught to retake the region.

Shells fall on east Ukraine, increasing the fear of war

Zelensky seeks more than Harris' stern warning to Kremlin

BY ELI STOKOLS AND NABIH BULOS

MUNICH, Germany — Vice President Kamala Harris stood beside Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Saturday, vowing U.S. support for a nation on the brink of war shortly after warning in a speech that the U.S. and allies would punish Russia if it invades its neighbor.

"The United States stands with Ukraine," Harris said at the outset of a meeting between the two leaders and a small group of aides. "Any threats to your country, we take seriously, and we have rallied our allies and our partners to speak with one voice."

Zelensky, speaking through an interpreter, told [See Harris, A4]



PUTIN'S REAL LONG GAME

The Russian offensive has been underway for a while now, Doyle McManus writes. Above, a Ukrainian soldier listens to artillery shots.

PERSPECTIVES, A2

Separatists' atypical barrage creates a fraught situation

BY NABIH BULOS

NOVOLUHANSK, Ukraine — At the first bang of the artillery shell, the troops scattered. Some sprinted inside a dilapidated tractor repair depot nearby. Mikhail, a 25-year-old Ukrainian soldier, crouched beside a wall. He paused for a moment, waiting for the thud of another shell to subside before he raced to a bunker, leaped down the stairs and slammed a heavy metal door shut behind him.

"It happened again," he said, wrenching off his helmet and panting with an adrenaline-fueled mix of fear and exertion. Sitting at a desk with a phone to his ear was 20-year-old Sasha, a baby-faced [See Ukraine, A4]

A TIMES INVESTIGATION

Pregnancy drug still prescribed despite doubts

Makena doesn't reduce risk of preterm birth, FDA says. But its maker won't pull it from market.

BY MELODY PETERSEN

American babies are at far higher risk of dying before their first birthdays than those in almost any other wealthy country. A big reason for those deaths, more than 21,000 each year, is that too many are born too soon.

For more than a decade, a pharmaceutical company has said it holds the key to helping those infants: a drug called Makena, which is aimed at preventing premature birth.

But the drug doesn't work, according to the Food and Drug Administration. A recent large study "unequivocally failed to demonstrate" that Makena reduced the risk of preterm birth, agency scientists explained in a 2020 memo. They recommended it be taken off the market.

The company has refused.

Instead, Covis Pharma, a Luxembourg company owned by private equity firm Apollo Global Management Inc., has continued to promote Makena, emphasizing a need by Black women, who are most at risk of preterm births.

Covis dismisses the results of the recent study since it included more white European women than Black Americans. It points to favorable older trials also disputed by the FDA, and it's asking for more time to prove to authorities that Makena works.

The company's continuing [See Makena, A8]

Escape from L.A.? Nah, most say

Majority of Angelenos seem to like living here, even with the city's flaws, poll finds.

BY THOMAS CURWEN AND JONAH VALDEZ

Not long after Rams defensive tackle Aaron Donald threw Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow to the ground, guaranteeing victory in the Super Bowl, the PA system started blaring the city's go-to victory song.

Few compositions better express the allure of Los Angeles than Randy Newman's 1983 ode to the city, its music, sunshine and boulevards, and although "I Love L.A." is nearly 40 years old, the message still plays well for Angelenos.

In a slightly more prosaic manner, they registered their affection for the city in a poll recently conducted by the Institute of Governmental Studies at UC Berkeley and co-sponsored by The Times.

A little more than 2,100 of them were asked to weigh in on California (crime, schools, Newsom), the country (Biden, Harris, Feinstein), the coronavirus (better or worse?) and schools (better or worse?), and among its 40 or so questions, No. 22 leaps out like a roller-skater on the Venice boardwalk.

Some people have a great attachment to Los Angeles, while others don't like it at all. Taking everything into account, how would you describe Los Angeles as a place to live?

Nearly three-quarters of respondents rated their city as either "one of the best places to live" or "nice but not an outstanding place to live," and although it may be hard to put those responses to music, they hit the high notes for many who would [See L.A., A14]



THE ORIGINAL SNAKE DOCTOR, left, and Louis Benton, both of Los Angeles, play a game of chess on Degnan Boulevard in Leimert Park.

COLUMN ONE

Can these owners save the heart of Leimert Park?

ERIKA D. SMITH

The ceiling leaks when it rains. The floor is a little uneven. The lights don't always work. And termites are chewing their way through the cracked walls.

But never mind all of that. This low-slung, mural-covered building on Degnan Boulevard in the heart of Leimert Park is valuable. So valuable that it and the land on which it sits could help determine the future of Black Los Angeles.



On most days, Akil West remembers this and treats the commercial building — home to his clothing store, Sole Folks, and neighborhood institution Eso Won Books — with an almost hopeful reverence.

For months, he has been trying to prod his six fellow tenants into working together on a deal to buy all 11,708 square feet of it from its owner, Bar Kochba "BK" Botach.

The price tag? An are-you-insane \$6 million. That's roughly double what Botach, a firearms dealer who has long irked activists in South L.A., wanted for it only a few years [See Smith, A12]

BEIJING OLYMPICS

Athletes' bubble not just toil and trouble

Chinese state media working to promote positive stories about the village experience.

BY NATHAN FENNO

BEIJING — Lime-green buses, temporary buildings and volunteers braced against zero-degree wind whipping off the Xiaohaituo Mountain Area are scattered around the desolate parking lot that served as an

important waystation for new arrivals at the Winter Olympics.

On one side of the sprawling lot, cordoned off by waist-high barriers and assisted by workers in white hazmat suits, athletes changed buses from Beijing Capital International Airport for the final leg of their journey into the mountains.

When the last athlete boarded the bus at the Banquan Service Area, workers methodically sprayed the entire lot with disinfectant. [See Olympics, A6]

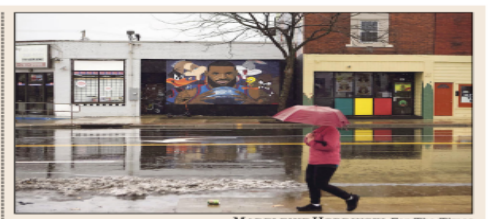
Still clearing Ottawa protests

Authorities say it is too early to declare an end to Canada's weeks-long blockade. WORLD, A3

Deputy tells of 'inking parties'

Sheriff's officer says he has attended 7 events linked to a gang-like group. CALIFORNIA, B1

Weather Cloudier, cooler. L.A. Basin: 68/53. B10



MADELINE HORDINSKI For The Times

HOMETOWN HERO

LeBron James is from Akron, not Cleveland, he often reminds people. His work to save it transcends his achievements on the court. SPORTS, D1



The Washington Post

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Students stressed over mask rules in Va.

Children speak out as Youngkin order makes facial coverings optional

BY HANNAH NATANSON

Alexandra Swan, 17, believes it is wrong to make snap judgments about other people.

But these days, when the senior walks through the doors of her high school in Louisa County, Va., she finds it hard to follow her own rules. Whenever she sees another student — friend, foe or stranger — her eyes jump to the same place: their mouth and nose, which might or might not be covered by a mask, now that Louisa County Public Schools has complied with Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin's (R) controversial order that made masking optional.

"I see these people just not wearing a mask, or wearing one pulled down, like, under their chin," said Swan, "and my brain just immediately goes, 'That person does not share the same ideals as me. We won't get along.'" She added: "They may not be a bad person. They may just be thinking the same things as their parents."

Youngkin issued his mask-optional order, which aims to give Virginia parents choice over masking in both public and private schools, on his first day in office. A fierce fight ensued: Seventy of 131 Virginia school districts refused to comply and kept their mask requirements, according to a Washington Post analysis, and parents and school officials filed a flurry of lawsuits for and against the order. Last week, the Virginia General Assembly narrowly passed — along largely party lines — a law that requires all schools to go mask-optional on March 1, ensuring every one of Virginia's more than 1.8 million public and private schoolchildren will face masking decisions and tensions at school in the days to come.

As the adults battle over the merits of masking, Virginia students have been forced to navigate

SEE STUDENTS ON A6

Zelensky scolds allies as vise tightens



MICHAEL ROBINSON CHAVEZ/THE WASHINGTON POST

A Ukrainian soldier takes shelter from Russian-backed separatist positions that had shelled the area in Novoluhanske in eastern Ukraine. Attacks along the border of Kyiv-controlled Ukraine and the separatist regions have increased sharply in recent days.

In eastern Ukraine, life grinds on amid shelling

BY ISABELLE KHURSHUDYAN AND STEVE HENDRIX

STANYTSLA LUHANSKA, UKRAINE — The work to repair the roof from Thursday's shelling continued even as Saturday's booming thuds, edging closer and closer, signaled a new round of artillery fire nearby. An elderly woman riding a bicycle didn't flinch as the shock from the bombardment rattled off the already-broken windowpanes.

"Don't be scared," said Diana Levenets, who lives on the street where two houses were hit by shells two days ago.

She then counted the seconds between the rumbles, to tell whether this was shelling from a

War-weary region still fears fallout of Russian provocation to country

mortar or a howitzer, which launches artillery farther and more viciously. This is a survival tip everyone in this war-battered eastern Ukrainian village of Stanytsia Luhanska knows, but before last week, they hadn't had to use it in years. Their village hadn't experienced major shelling in six years before this latest wave.

"I don't want to believe there will be some new military ac-

tion," Levenets said. "But I don't believe whatever Russia is saying. I don't believe their peaceful statements or supposedly peaceful intentions."

President Biden warned Friday that Russia could launch a military attack on Ukraine "in the coming days." For the Ukrainians living in the eastern Donbas region, where conflict between Ukrainian government forces and the separatists they say are Russian proxies has been a daily reality since 2014, the threat of a fresh invasion didn't faze them much.

But the sharp upswing in firing from the separatists' side over the past three days has shaken even the war-weary.

They now fear that the Russian-backed forces will continue to hammer their homes as a way to provoke Ukrainian troops, who are under instruction not to open fire. U.S. officials have warned that Russia could stage an attack from Kyiv's forces on the separatist-held territories to justify Moscow's invasion.

Separatist officials have accused Ukraine on the social media and messaging app Telegram of firing on the territories that their forces control and said they had to respond accordingly. On Friday, the leaders of the two self-proclaimed republics announced a mass evacuation, claiming that Ukraine is planning

SEE DONBAS ON A22

UKRAINIAN LEADER: 'ACTION IS NEEDED'

Pace of shelling points to imminent conflict

This article is by Souad Mekhennet, Karoun Demirjian, Ellen Nakashima, John Hudson and Shane Harris

MUNICH — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky forcefully demanded stronger actions from world leaders as the threat of full-scale attack by Russia intensifies amid increased shelling in the eastern separatist regions of his country.

"The security architecture of our world is brittle, it is obsolete," Zelensky said Saturday during a defiant speech at a security conference in Munich. He accused governments of "egotism," "arrogance" and "appeasement" as he urged Western leaders to publicly state their plans for sanctions on Russia, saying that after the war begins would be too late.

"Action is needed," he insisted, adding that "this is not about war in Ukraine, this is about war in Europe."

Zelensky's sharp rebuke of Kyiv's allies comes as the United States sounds its most dire warnings yet about the likelihood of a resumed Russian invasion of Ukraine, and as fresh shelling prompts new turmoil — and finger-pointing — in the country's east.

The Biden administration has been warning of imminent attacks for days. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on Saturday said Russian forces "are now poised to strike," bolstering President Biden's warning Friday that Russian President Vladimir Putin had "made the decision" to attack Ukraine. The White House said Biden would convene a rare Sunday meeting of the National Security Council to assess the developing situation in Ukraine.

However, some high-level European officials have expressed frustration that the United States had not shared the intelligence that led it to surmise Russia's intentions with such certainty. U.S. intelligence that provided Biden with the confidence to make the assertion came from an

SEE UKRAINE ON A24

A 3,000-mile trek over 'the veins of Mexico'

18 pairs of sneakers — up mountains, across desert, over narco land — to show nation's true face

BY KEVIN SIEFF
IN SIERRA GORDA BIOSPHERE RESERVE, MEXICO

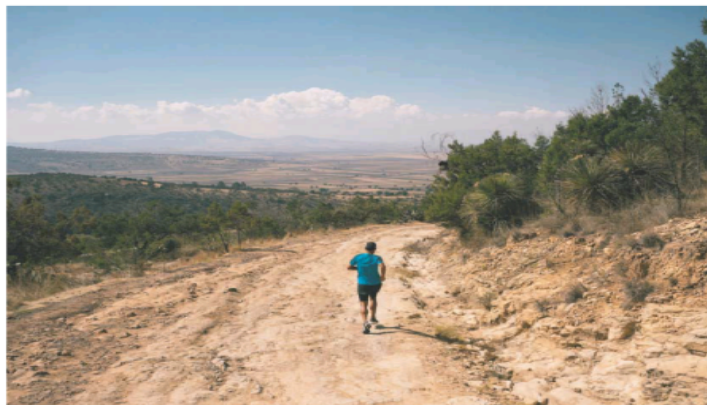
By early January, Germán Silva had run half way across Mexico: 30 miles a day through the Sierra Madre, past befuddled cartel gunmen and bemused road crews, across vast stretches of ranch land where the cows, too, seemed to look at him askance.

There were moments when even Silva, one of the best long-distance runners in Mexico's history, thought he might be nuts. Days when he couldn't tell whether the greater threat to his four-month, 3,134-mile run was the terrain or his own, failing body.

He was 54. His two New York City Marathon victories were almost three decades behind him. His toenails were falling off. His left calf hurt. And his right hamstring. And basically everything else.

He was 1,574 miles into the journey, deep in the mountains of

SEE RUNNER ON A16



LUIS ANTONIO ROJAS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Two-time New York City Marathon champion Germán Silva runs in Tlaxcala on Jan. 18. The journey, he says, is meant as a pivot away from Mexico's narco-tequila-and-beaches caricature.

Starbucks union was more than coffee talk for barista

Rhodes scholar led one store to the milestone. Dozens more may follow.

BY GREG JAFFE

BUFFALO — The omicron variant was racing through the Starbucks on Elmwood Avenue so fast that by early January one-third of the store's 30-person workforce was sick or isolating at home.

The worried, angry and exhausted workers who remained had asked Starbucks for KN95 masks, better protocols to inform them when co-workers tested positive for the coronavirus, and the right to deny service to customers who refused to comply with their county's mask mandate.

Their concerns were no different from those of many of the other 383,000 Starbucks employees stuck laboring through the latest wave of the pandemic. The Elmwood baristas, though, believed that they had leverage that others lacked.



LIBBY MARCH FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Jaz Brisack helped organize the first Starbucks union in the United States, in Buffalo.

Three weeks earlier, they had voted to become the first unionized Starbucks in the country, an improbable victory that overcame stiff resistance from the coffee giant and caught the attention of baristas in Boston, Chicago, Knoxville, Seattle and Baltimore, who were requesting their

SEE STARBUCKS ON A18

deportes

Facundo Campazzo

"Estos días fueron una montaña rusa"

El base relata cómo vivió la incertidumbre sobre si seguiría o no en Denver, su equipo de la NBA.



LA ODISEA DE ALQUILAR EN UN MERCADO DESTRUIDO

—el berlinés

Los cambios de reglas, que terminan por perjudicar a inquilinos y propietarios, llevaron a una crisis en el sector.

CÓMO EVITAR UNA CUARTA OLA DE LA PANDEMIA

—coronavirus

Los especialistas advierten que, ahora que empiezan a bajar los casos, deben mantenerse los protocolos de higiene y no relajarse con la vacunación. Página 30

LA NACION

DOMINGO 20 DE FEBRERO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

Fernández ratifica a Guzmán y lo avala en su plan para subir las tarifas

FMI. Prepara un sistema de quita de subsidios distinto al que promueve el kirchnerismo

El presidente Alberto Fernández sostendrá a Martín Guzmán al frente del Ministerio de Economía luego de que se cierre el acuerdo con el FMI, pese a las críticas del kirchnerismo y de otros miembros del gabinete por la forma como negoció la deuda. Así lo ratificaron a LA NACION altas fuentes

de la Casa Rosada. En busca de apoyo político, Fernández apostó a los gobernadores y a gestos de reconciliación con La Cámpora para garantizar la aprobación parlamentaria del entendimiento con el Fondo.

Pero, ante la necesidad de reducir el déficit, analiza con Guzmán una

nueva segmentación de tarifas, diferente a la que propusieron los funcionarios de Energía que militan en el kirchnerismo. Las fuentes indicaron que pretende que se eliminen los subsidios, en diferentes proporciones, a cerca del 65% de la población, según sus propiedades e ingresos. Página 12

Cristina, hermética, tiene en vilo a la Casa Rosada

Cecilia Devanna Página 13

Diatriba contra una "progresía" cómplice

Jorge Fernández Díaz Página 38

EL ANÁLISIS

El Gobierno confunde peras con bananas

Joaquín Morales Solá

—LA NACION—

Un rumor confundió todo. La habladuría circuló entre dirigentes de La Cámpora y aseguraba que el Gobierno estaba haciendo pactos secretos con el Fondo Monetario. Se comprometía, aseguraban, a tomar decisiones "impopulares" que los discípulos de Cristina Kirchner no estaban dispuestos a avalar. La versión se publicó en medios que acceden al parloteo de los camporistas. Rápido como un rayo, el ministro de Economía, Martín Guzmán, salió a aclarar que se enviaría al Congreso todo el eventual acuerdo con el organismo. Todo: nada sería secreto. Continúa en la página 39



CORRIENTES, BAJO FUEGO

La batalla desigual contra un infierno que se lo lleva todo

La provincia vive escenas trágicas, con pobladores que combaten las llamas en una precariedad desoladora

Tierra arrasada: un paisaje apocalíptico en la ruta provincial 5, que une la capital de Corrientes y los Esteros del Iberá

Germán de los Santos
ENVIADO ESPECIAL

SAN MIGUEL, Corrientes.—La franja de fuego que mide unos cinco kilómetros avanza a una velocidad estrepitosa desde la mañana del sábado. Nada la puede detener

en Lomas de Vallejos, una zona rural a 100 kilómetros de la ciudad de Corrientes. Del otro lado, quienes se oponen a esa línea interminable de llamas son tres pobladores sin armas para la pelea. Solo portan ramas verdes de pichana, un arbusto que crece en esta zona cercana a los

Esteros del Iberá, que azotan con bronca para apagar el suelo encendido. A la par, un grupo de peones tira baldazos de agua a la base de los postes de luz para evitar que las llamas corten los cables. Todo parece imposible, desigual, precario. Continúa en la página 24

Iberá: la amenaza para el hábitat de especies únicas

Jorgelina Hiba Página 26

El gobernador pide auxilio a Estados Unidos
Página 28

Recrudece la violencia en el este de Ucrania

ALARMA. PARÍS (De nuestra corresponsal).—Mientras recrudece la violencia en las regiones separatistas prorrusas del este de Ucrania, con ataques, evacuaciones y movilización de reservistas, la OTAN advirtió ayer que "todas las señales indican que Rusia planea un ataque total" contra el país vecino. El presidente Vladimir Putin supervisó ayer ejercicios militares de gran magnitud. Página 4

Llamativo plan mapuche para reclamar un predio militar

BARILOCHE. Varias comunidades se coordinan para exigir partes del terreno. Página 14

MARCELO MANERA/ENVIADO ESPECIAL



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INDÍGENAS SÃO ALICIADOS POR FAZENDEIROS PARA ABRIREM PICADAS EM FLORESTA NO PARÁ

Crianças da aldeia Pararupituna, da terra indígena Apytawewa, onde índios atuam sob vigilância armada; STF havia autorizado negociação para reduzir área, mas voltou atrás. **América 36**

Internação infantil por Covid sobe quase 8 vezes

Levantamento da Folha com dados do Ministério da Saúde mostra que o número de crianças internadas com complicações da Covid saltou de 284 em dezembro para 2.232 em janeiro — uma alta de 696%. O país não havia visto tantas internações pediátricas em um só mês desde o início da pandemia. **Saúde 31**

A pandemia em 19.fev
Dados dos 30s

POPULAÇÃO VACINADA	
No Brasil	
Do zero a uma dose (dez. início de 1920s)	81,89%
Tríplice completa (dez. início de 2020s)	71,69%
Dose de reforço	27,89%

ESTADO DA DOENÇA

Óbitos	
Média diária	831
Variação em relação a 14 dias	11,2%

Diplomados que atuam por conta própria são recorde
O efeito da Covid no mercado de trabalho levou número recorde de brasileiros com curso superior a aderir ao trabalho por conta própria. No 3º trimestre de 2021, o grupo chegou à maior cifra para julho a setembro em série histórica desde 2015. **Mercado A17**

Sexu sem ser vulgar
Etiqueta de nudes na rede reflete medo do pênis na história da arte e cultura pop. **Arte 14**

EDITORIAIS A2

Centrão na balança
Sobre o protagonismo custoso do bloco legislativo.
Tragédia recorrente
Acerca de mortes causadas pela chuva em Petrópolis.

ATMOSFERA



MÔNICA BERGAMO
Juventude e dinheiro não são garantia, afirma Gloria Pires, que vira produtora. **Ca**

Esporte B6

Arana e Gabigol
duelam para levar Supercopa e ganhar pontos com Tite

mpme p. 1

Envelhecimento
abre espaço para empresas ligadas à longevidade

Telegram tem representante no Brasil há 7 anos e evita TSE

Cobrada por fake news, empresa nomeou escritório no RJ para lidar com governo

Embora não responda aos pedidos do Tribunal Superior Eleitoral sobre desinformação, o Telegram, aplicativo de mensagens usado pela militância bolsonarista onde circulam falsas alegações sobre urnas, tem representante no Brasil há sete anos.

Documentos a que a Folha teve acesso mostram que o empresário russo Pavel Durov, cofundador e CEO da empresa, deu ao escritório Anrípe & Associados poder de representar o Telegram ante autoridades administrativas e judiciais do Brasil.

As procurações tratam de "direitos relativos a propriedade industrial" e são datadas a partir de 2015, quando o registro da marca tramitava no INPI (Instituto Nacional da Propriedade Intelectual). O Anrípe & Associados tem sede no Rio de Janeiro.

À Folha o escritório se limitou a confirmar a existência de contrato vigente para atuar em nome do aplicativo "exclusivamente" em assuntos de propriedade intelectual. Afirmou que, por razões legais, não pôde divulgar detalhes da relação. **Política A4**

Ocidente se dobra a blefe de Putin, diz analista russo

Influente comentarista da política russa, Flódor Lukianov diz à Folha que Vladimir Putin está dobrando o Ocidente com "grande blefe" na crise da Ucrânia, ao se dizer pronto para uma invasão. Se Putin decidir fazer algo, diz ele, não terá oposição real. **Mundo A13**

Vinicius Torres Freire Guerra na Ucrânia afetaria preços

A Ucrânia vende 17% do milho do mundo. Com Rússia, exporta 30% do trigo. Qual o impacto da guerra nos preços? Mercados financeiros estão nervosos, e, nos EUA, Biden e mídia parecem achar que a "guerra iminente" agora é inevitável. **Mercado A19**

Nível de risco em Petrópolis teve escalada brusca

Na tempestade de terça em Petrópolis, os níveis dos alarmes de risco subiram de moderado a muito alto em menos de duas horas. Com 146 mortos e 165 desaparecidos contados até a noite de ontem, foi o temporal mais letal registrado na cidade. **Catástrofe A22**

ENTREVISTA Tarcísio Vieira
Excesso é normal na democracia; prefiro verborágia
Contratado como advogado da campanha de Jair Bolsonaro, ex-ministro do TSE minimiza atritos com Judiciário. "Acho mais positiva a verborágia do que a mudex." **Política A6**



Produtor Arnilton Rosa observa sua lavoura de soja afetada pela seca em Espumoso (RS)

Presidenciais começam no rádio a campanha
Política A9

Equipe de economia cresce, mas rumo depende de Lula
Mercado A20

Pior estiagem em dez anos no RS seca lavouras
A estiagem mais severa desde o verão 2011/2012 faz as lavouras grãos de milho e soja secarem, e sementes até cozinharem no solo com o calor. **A23**

Jorge de la Caballería, encargado de los aportes para Latinoamérica

Preocupa a la UE el avance del crimen organizado en Paraguay

Alto comisionado señala que con la institucionalidad floja y la corrupción este mal permea fácilmente. Destaca la importancia de una buena gobernanza y de estabilidad política.

PÁGINAS 8 y 9

Políticos con serias denuncias se refugian en HC



- Pacto entre Llano y el cartismo se afianzó a lo largo de los años
- Sandra Quiñónez, cuestionada y protegida, enfrenta tercera crisis

PÁGINAS 6-7 y 10



DOMINGO

Luis Fretes, experto en seguridad
"La formalización y el empleo deben ser las vías para frenar la inseguridad"

PÁGINA 18



Diseñada para refuerzo anual
Vacuna anti-Covid
investigada en el país da 30 veces más anticuerpos

PÁGINA 2

Ronald Acevedo en *La Lupa*
Gobernador dice
que manipularon evidencias del crimen de su hija

PÁGINA 54

Amenazan con movilización
Retraso en obras
de Tres Bocas asfixia comercio de la zona

PÁGINA 20

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