



The Art Of the Grazing Board OFF DUTY

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What's News

World-Wide

Russian shelling in south-tern Ukraine sparked a fire at Europe's largest nu-clear-power plant before Russian troops took control of the area, according to lo-cal authorities and interna-tional observers, raising fears that Moscow's increas-ingly indiscriminate war could cause a global environ-mental disaster. AI, A6-10

- ◆ The U.S. can continue to expel migrant families at th expermigrant ramines at the southern border under Title 42 but can't send them back to countries where their life or freedom will be in danger an appeals court ruled. A3
- ◆ New York City will drop requirements for people to wear masks in schools and for patrons of restaurants and other businesses to show proof of vaccination. A3
- ♦ The Supreme Court re-instated the death sentence for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, convicted in the 2013 Bos-ton Marathon bombing. A3
- The Biden administration completed rules that would speed up federal procure-ment policies to require a higher level of American-made products. A4
- A GOP-led bill banning most abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy in Flor-ida moves to Gov. DeSantis's desk after the state Senate approved it Thursday. A3

Business & Finance

- ◆ Employers added 678,000 workers to their payrolls in February, the biggest gain in seven months, the Labor Department said, and the jobless rate fell to 3.8% from 4.0% a month earlier, edging closer to the 50-year low of 3.5% hit just before the pandemic. Al ◆ U.S. wage growth slowed slightly in February but remained near his-
- ary but remained near his-torically high levels. **A2**
- ◆ China set an economic growth target for the year of around 5.5%, the lowest level in more than a quarter-cen-tury of economic planning, re-flecting heightened domestic and global uncertainties. A11
- ◆ Markets capped a week that saw giant swings across currencies and stocks around the world and commodities prices souring the most in de-cades. The S&P 500 and Dow both fell 1.3% for the week, while the Nasdaq lost 2.8%. B1
- while the Nassau ruse comments of the survival of the survival
- ♦ Honda and Sony said they are teaming up to build electric vehicles. B3
- ◆ Walt Disney said it would roll out a cheaper, ad-sup-ported Disney+ subscription in the U.S. in late 2022. B3

NOONAN Ukraine's Peril Stirs the West's Humanity A15

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Ukrainian troops took cover Friday as the Russian army shelled Horenka on the outskirts of Kyiv. Ukraine's armed forces have fought Russia to a standstill near the capital even as the invaders made progress in the southern part of the country.

Ukraine Special Forces Stymie Russia on Kyiv's Front Lines

IRPIN, Ukraine—Every day for the past week, Russian forces have tried to fight their way through this suburb of Kyiv to reach the Ukrainian capital. And every day, Ukrainian troops have forced them to retreat, leaving burning tanks and armored personnel carriers behind.

"We go out to hunt and destroy them," said Volodymyr, a Ukrainian special-forces team

leader, as his squad, armed with a British...308 sniper rifle and British-made antitank weapons, waited for the latest Russian attack. "They certainly didn't come here expecting that, expecting that we know how to fight."

The front lines here have largely held fast since the first day of the war, on Feb. 24, when a Russian column pushed in from Belarus to the north. In some places, including the neighboring town of

Bucha, the Russians have been pushed back. "Ukraine is fighting in a way nobody expected, not the Russians and not our Western partners," said Mykhailo Podo-Russians and not our Western partners," said Mykhailo Podolyak, a Ukrainian presidential adviser and member of Kyiv's delegation at cease-fire talks with Russia. "Kyiv was supposed to have fallen in three days."

days."

In part, that is because
Ukraine has deployed elite
special-forces units, trained by

the U.S. and allies over the past several years, to defend kyiv. Armed with British NLAW and American-made Javelin antitank weapons and Stinger antiaircraft missiles, they have helped blunt the Russian advantage in aviation and long-range missiles and artillery.

But Kyiv is also holding because the Russian forces here seem to have stuck to Soviet-

cause the Russian forces here seem to have stuck to Soviet-style large maneuver tactics, Pleaseturn to page A6

Nuclear Plant's Seizure Sparks Alarm

Russia's shelling of a power facility draws criticism as Zelensky pleads for NATO's help

By Yaroslav Trofimov And Laurence Norman

AND LAURENCE NORMAN

KYIV, Ukraine—Russian shelling in southern Ukraine sparked a fire at Europe's largest nuclear-power plant before Russian troops took control of the area, according to local authorities and international observers, raising fears that Moscow's increasingly indiscriminate war could cause a global environmental disaster. The fire, extinguished Friday morning, erupted at the Zaporizhzhia power plant's training facility. Ukraine's emergency service said. None of the plant's six reactors were affected, and no radiation leaked, officials said.

Both sides said Russian troops at the complex weren't interfering with the plant's Ukrainian staff.

Still, the skirmish provoked international condemnation and fanned fears of a repeat of

Still, the skirmish provoked international condemnation and fanned fears of a repeat of the 1986 nuclear disaster at Chernobyl, which sent a vast plume of radioactive steam across Europe and rendered the region surrounding the plant uninhabitable.

Russian forces pushing from the south reached Enerhods where the Zangrishzhia

rom the south reached Enern-odar, where the Zaporizhzhia plant is located, on Wednes-Please turn to page A7

Far From the Battles, A City Is Set to Fight

LVIV, Ukraine—After the fall of the Soviet Union, the blue spires and cobblestone streets of its old town made this city a hub for tourists and lovers of Austro-Hungarian architecture.

Today, the Russian on-slaught on Ukraine has transformed Lviv into a fallback capital for the beleaguered government in Kyiv—and a desperate conduit for those who want to flee.

Lviv is also emerging as a supply hub for weapons and

materiel that the West has ferried into Ukraine in hopes of
stopping the Russian onslaught. That has raised some
worries that it could be a target of Russia, which has
warned the West that its aid
to Ukraine could lead to war.
Hastily welded tank traps
and improvised road blocks
have sprouted on Lviv's outskirts, manned by locals in cirilian garb toting hunting rifles. Cars from throughout
Ukraine choke the narrow
streets as families seek shelter
from the fighting further east.

Please turn to page A9

In One Week, the West **Cut Off Putin's Economy**

By LIZ HOFFMAN

Two weeks ago, Russia's companies could sell their goods around the globe and take in investments from overseas stock-index funds. Its citizens could buy MacBooks and Toyotas at home, and freely spend their rubles abroad.

Now they are in a financial bind. Soon after Russia invaded Ukraine, another war began to isolate its economy and pressure President Vladi-

China's banks unlikely to rescue Russia A8

mir Putin. The first move was made by Western governments to sanction the country's banking system. But over the course of the past week, the financial system took over and severed practically every artery of money between Russia and the rest of the world, in some cases going further than what was required by the sanctions.

Visa Inc. and Mastercard Inc. stopped processing foreign purchases for millions of

Russian citizens. Apple Inc. and Google shut off their smartphone-enabled payments, stranding cashless travelers at Moscow metro stations. International firms stepped back from providing the credit and insurance that underpin trade shipments. This unplugging of the world's 11th-largest economy opens a new chapter in the history of economic conflict. In a world that relies on the fi-

U.S. and NATO reject direct intervention A6

The Fruit Company? The Big A?

Why the maker of iPhones Must Not Be Named

By YANG JIE

TOKYO—It is the dominant American maker of smartphones, a household name to billions and for many makers of high-tech parts their most important customer ever.

Just don't ask who it is. In Asia, it's surreptitiously referred to as "the fruit company" or sometimes "Fuji," referring to the variety of the specific fruit in question that's Please turn to page A12



How Abbott cornered the market for at-home Covid diagnosis.

Invasion strains
U.S. strategic ties with India

A9

Media outlets assess
Moscow's new reporting law
A10

EXCHANGE

Food shortages trigger global response A7

Strong Hiring Suggests Shift To a Post-Pandemic Jobs Market

By Josh Mitchell

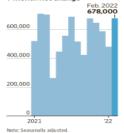
The U.S. labor market is pivoting toward a post-pan-demic world, with a steady stream of adults joining the la-bor force and employment ap-proaching levels before Covid-19 began its rapid

Covid-19 began its rapid spread.
Employers added 678,000 workers to their payrolls in February, the biggest gain in seven months, the Labor Department said Friday. The jobless rate fell to 3.8% from 4.0% a month earlier, edging closer to the 50-year low of 3.5% hit just before the pandemic.
More than 300,000 people joined the workforce, and the ranks of those reporting being unable to work because of

Covid-19 fell by 1.8 million.
Wage growth cooled, a sign that a nationwide labor shortage might be easing as employers fill lower-wage positions that had long been dormant. rmant. Hotels, restaurants, amuse

ment parks and other hospi-tality industries led the way in hiring as firms sought to ac-commodate a growing number Please turn to page A2





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SATURDAY 5 MARCH / SUNDAY 6 MARCH 2022



Russia in 'reckless' nuclear site strike

World leaders condemn attack
 More than 1.2mn refugees flee Ukraine
 Nato rejects no-fly zone

JOHN REED AND GUY CHAZAN — LVIV
DEMETRI SEVASTOPULO — WASHINGTON
HENRY FOY — BRUSSELS

Russian president Vladimir Putin's "barbaric" combat tactics in Ukraine triggered global alarm yesterday after his forces captured Europe's largest nuclear plant in an assault that briefly set fire to a building in the complex. World leaders condemned the "reck-

World leaders condemned the "reck-less" attack on the Zaporizhzhia nuclear site in south-eastern Ukraine, which came during another day of flerce Rus-stan bombardments across the country. More than 1.2mn refugees have fled Ukraine as Russia's nine-day invasion has become increasingly destructive, bringing siege warfare to frontline cities and launching close to 500 missiles, according to US estimates. Josep Borrell, the EU's chief diplomat, said that Russia's "barbaric" invasion

was "the ugly face of war . . . The Russians are bombing and shelling everything – hospitals, houses, schools."
Jens Stoltenberg, Nato's secretary-general, warned: "The days to come are likely to be worse."
The blaze at Zaportzhzhia beightened anxiety over Russian tactics. The fire did not spread, no nuclear reactors or essential equipment were damaged and radiation levels were unaffected, according to the International Atomic Energy Agency. But Ukrainian authorian Energy Agency. But Ukrainian authori-ties warned of the risks to operating the plant in battlefield conditions.

plant in battlefield conditions. Russia's defence ministry, meanwhile, accused Ukrainian forces of staging a "monstrous provocation". The plant's Ukrainian staff continue to run the facil-ity but under Russian control. The US Pentagon said that it had not managed to obtain a clear account of

what happened. "While we see no radio-active leakage... that doesn't excuse the move at using combat power to try to take a nuclear power plant over," the official sald. "It's just another indication that underscores the recklessness of this Russian linvasion."

Ukraine's urban centres also faced heavy bombing, including a siege of the port city of Mariupol, whose population of almost half a million is lacking food,

of almost half a million is lacking food, water and electricity.

Diana Berg, a resident who fled this week, said: "Ifed like the Russians are planning to just smash the city... not take the city... just destroy it." Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky's office warned of a "humanitarian catastrophe" and said it had asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to help evacuate civilians and deliver emergency aid. As global con-

cern grew, Nato discussed whether to launch a no-fly zone in Ukraine but agreed that it should not be undertaken, the alliance's secretary-general said.
"Allies agree that we should not have Nato planes operating in Ukrainian airrspace or Nato troops on Ukrainian territory," Stoltenberg said after a crisis meeting with foreign ministers from the 30 Nato allies in Brussels.

But in yearted avanid that he had "no

Putin yesterday said that he had "no ill intentions" towards Ukraine. He told German chancellor Olaf Scholz in a one-

- War reports & analysis Pages 2-6
 Notebook: Zelensky dinner Page 12
 Microsoft halts Russia sales Page 14
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hour telephone call that Russia had scheduled a third round of talks with Ukraine this weekend.

Scholz demanded that there would be access for humanitarian aid in embattled areas, while the two leaders agreed to hold more talks "in a timely manner."

Invoking the "global catastrophe" of Chernobyl in 1986, Zelensky contacted half a dozen world leaders in the early hours of yesterday, accusing Russia of deliberately targeting the reactors. Boris Johnson, Uk prime minister, condemned Putin's "reckless actions" while Justin Trudeau of Canada called for the "horrificattacks" to cease immediately. Rafael Mariano Grossi, head of the L&A, noted the threat that the fighting posed to Ukraine's four nuclear stations as well as the inactive Chernobyl plant. "I am extremely concerned that the situation is very fragile and unstable."

A hybrid war

The west's financial. cultural and sporting boycott

BIG READ, PAGE 10

London's laundromat

Can the UK wean itself off Russian money?

ANALYSIS, PAGE 6

'I put down the pen and took up a gun' Oleksandr Mykhed

LIFE & ARTS

Putin's loyal banker

Russian governor Elvira Nabiullina

PERSON IN THE NEWS, PAGE 13

Chrystia Freeland

Courageous Ukrainians are fighting for us all

OPINION, PAGE 13



They are trying to exterminate us'

Mariupol under siege

ANALYSIS, PAGE 3

as EU sanctions take toll

Petr Aven and Mikhail Fridman are perhaps the most western-integrated of Russia's oligarchs. After receiving a \$14bn windfall in 2013 from selling their stake in oil major TNK-BP, the billionaires built a London-based Europe-wide empire. But their inability to shake off their image as close associates of Vladimir Putin has landed them with EU sanctions and forced them to resign from their

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Wheat hits record high as war halts exports from Europe's bread basket

EMIKO TERAZONO

Wheat prices have hit record highs on intensifying fears over a supply short-age owing to the war in Ukraine, raising the spectre of soaring global food infla-tion

tion.

Russia and Ukraine account for about 50 per cent of the world's traded wheat and still have crops from last year to ship. "There is no end in sight to the upswing because 50 per cent of the world's wheat exports have been cut off from the global market," said Carsten Pritsch analyst at Commerzbank.

from the global market," said Carsten Pritsch, analyst at Commerzbank. Wheat traded in Chicago, the interna-tional benchmark, has soared more than 50 per cent since Russia Invaded Ukraine, Prices rose to \$1.340 a bushel yesterday while European milling wheat in Parish it a record of €406 pertonne. Food and agricultural experts are con-

cerned about food security, particularly in poor countries, as well as high food inflation globally. In January, average food inflation around the world hit 7.8 per cent, the highest in seven years, according to the IMF.

The big price increases were already curtailing the ability of grain-importing countries to purchase wheat. Turkey, a leading buyer of Russian wheat, was this week forced to cut its volumes for an international tender from a target of 570,000 tonnes to 285,000 tonnes.

Demand was also shifting to other grains, said Commerzbank, leading to a big rise in the price of corn, which has increased almost 10 per cent since the

big rise in the price of corn, which has increased almost 10 per cent since the invasion began. The disruption to global grain and energy markets would hurt poorer food-importing countries the most, Caitlin Welsh at US think-tank Center for Strategic and International

Studies, said, adding that the war had "the potential to exacerbate food insecurity around the world". Grain exports have been halted by a lack of transport because of port closures, while paying Russia has become more complex because of sanctions. Leading agricultural traders including Archer Damiels Midland and Bunge, which buy and sell grains, have closed their operations in Ukraine. Analysts and traders are concerned about the planting of this year's spring crop, including wheat, corn and barley. The winter wheat planted during the European autumn may not be harvested in the summer.

European autumn may not be nar-wested in the summer.
For farmers, expectations of a stop-page in fertiliser exports from Belarus and Russia would also have an impact on production, analysts warned.
FT View page 12

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURREN	CIES					INTEREST RATES			
	Mar 4	prev	%chg		Mar 4	prev		Mar 4	prev		price	yield	chg
S&P 500	4297.88	4363.49	-1.50	S per €	1.092	1.106	£ per\$	0.757	0.750	US Gov 10 yr	146.29	1.71	-0.13
Nasdaq Composite	13266.59	13537.94	-2.00	\$ per £	1.322	1.334	€ per £	1.211	1.206	UK Gov 10 yr		1.21	-0.09
Dow Jones Ind	33357.12	33794.66	-1.29	£ per €	0.826	0.829	¥ par €	125.373	127.922	Ger Gov 10 yr		-0.07	-0.09
FTSEurofirst 300	1651.90	1713.80	3.61	¥ per \$	114,815	115.635	£ index	82.858	82.654	Jpn Gav 10 yr	110.79	0.15	-0.03
Euro Stoxx 50	3564.50	3741.78	-4.74	¥ per £	151.763	154.262	SFr per £	1.214	1.228	US Gov 30 yr	110.29	2.14	-0.07
FTSE 100	6987.14	7238.85	3.48	SFr per €	1.003	1.018				Ger Gov 2 yr	104.01	-0.74	-0.10
FTSE All-Share	3884.43	4023.90	-3.47	€ per \$	0.916	0.904							
CAC 40	6061.66	6378.37	4.97										
Xetra Dax	13094.54	13898.40	4.41	соммо	OTTES						price	prev	chg
Nikkei	25985.47	26577.27	-2.23							Fed Funds Eff	0.08	0.08	0.00
Hang Seng	21905.29	22457.34	-2.50			1	Mar 4	prev	%chg	US 3m Bills	0.38	0.34	0.04
MSCI World \$	2942.45	2964.24	40.74	OH WTI \$		1	11.16	107.67	3.24	Euro Libor 3m	-0.58	-0.58	0.00
MSCI EM \$	1172.56	1158.41	0.36	Oil Brent	S	1	13.69	110.46	2.92	UK 3m	0.95	0.87	0.00
MSCI ACWI \$	690.75	894.98	-0.61	Gold \$		19	29.60	1928.50	0.06	Prices are latest for edition	Data pro	rided by Mo	omingsta

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VOL. CLXXI . . . No. 59,353

TAKING NUCLEAR SITE, RUSSIA MARCHES ON

The Situation on Friday POLAND Russian rockets have bombarded the second-largest city, Kharkiv, devastating residential areas and business districts. Russian forces pushing toward Kyiv fought with Ukrainians northwest of the city on Friday. Additional forces aim to advance on the capital from the east. HUNGARY Russian troops have surrounded and are shelling Mariupol, a key port city In the south, Kherson fell to the Russian military on Wednesday. Russian troops continue to push west, threatening Ukraine's situated between two areas already under Russian control. access to the sea

nstitute for the Study of War with American Enterprise Institute's Critical Threats occupied areas) | Note: Occupied areas are as of 3 p.m. Eastern on March 4.

Soviet Diaspora in U.S. Speaks A Common Language of Fear

By MIRIAM JORDAN

LOS ANGELES — Outside Babushka Grandma's deli in the heart of Hollywood, immigrants from Russia, Ukraine and other countries that were part of the former Soviet Union sipped coffee and nibbled on piroshkis during a recent warm, sun-drenched afternoon.

"We have never asked each other where we are from," said Mark Goren, 75, sitting at a patie of the sun and Moldova. "The Russian language unites us," said Mr. Goren, who arrived in the United States from Kyiv, Ukraine, more than four decades ago.

From New York to Chicago to Los Angeles to Seattle, whether Jewish, Christian or Muslim, members of the diaspora from the former Soviet Union have long bonded over Russian language and history, a testament to a grants from more than a dozen nations that dissolved in 1991. Americans,

Wary of Backlash 'I Don't Want to Be Called Russian'

too, have lumped them together as Russians

too, have lumped them together as Russians.

But as President Vladimir V. Putin unleashes Russia's military might on Ukraine, killing civilians, causing a refugee crisis and drawing worldwide repudiation, boycotts and sanctions, generations of immigrants here are refugentiated. Some, fearing how they will be perceived by the public at large, are shifting from accepting being broadly painted as Russians to explicitly identifying with their countries of origin.

"Today I brought my car to mechanic, they heard my accent, and the first question was, 'Are you Russian?" said Eugene Levin, publisher of two Russian-larguage weeklies in California, who immigrated from Ukraine more

immigrated from Ukraine

Continued on Page A14

Volunteer Hackers Join Conflict, Scrambling a Digital Battlefield

By KATE CONGER and ADAM SATARIANO

By KATE CONGER and ADAM SATARIANO
The hackers came from around the world. They knocked Russian and Ukrainian government websites offline, graffitied antiwar messages onto the home pages of Russian news media and leaked data from rival hacking operations. And they swarmed into chat rooms, awaiting new instructions and egging one another on.
The war in Ukraine has presentated they swarmed to have a subject of the subject of

conflict among nations. There are going to be participants that are not under the strict control of any

Determining Blame for Online Attacks Gets Even Tougher

government."

The online battles have blurred the lines between state-backed hackers and patriotic amateurs, making it difficult for governments to understand who is attacking them and how to retailate. But Ukraine and Russia appear to have embraced tech-savvy volunteers, creating channels on the chat app Telegram to direct them to larget specific websites.

Hackers have inserted them to larget specific websites. Before in places like Syria. But experts said that those efforts attracted fewer participants. The hundreds of hackers now racing to support their respective governments represent a drastic, unpredictable expansion of cyberwarfare.

The involvement of the volunters and the support them.

The involvement of the volun-

as Crowds Try to Flee Kyiv

By ANDREW E. KRAMER

KYIV, Ukraine — The crowds of
exhausted, frightened women and
children at Kyiv's central train
station on Friday suddenly surged
in a near-stampede to a station
platform where a train heading to
safety in western Ukraine was rumored to be arriving soon.
"Hurry! Hurry!" a mother
shouted at her children. One couple ran along holding a small boy
by the hands between them, so
that his feet touched the ground
only every few steps.
An employee in a train comAn employee in a train comdonly every few steps.
An employee in train comfrom the companion of the conminutes later, the people."
But no train turned up. A few
minutes later, the people were on
the move again, clambering over
the tracks, dragging suitcases and
holding babies, trying to reach another platform before the others
did.

As Russian troops mass outside

As Russian troops mass outside

As Russian troops mass outside the city, there is a growing sense of a slowly tightening vise and, in some quarters, rising panic. Kyiv, a city of 2.8 million before the war, is slowly being encircled by Russian troops and armor. Most of the fighting so far has where a miles-iong column of Russian armored and military vehicles remains stalled to the northwest.

and heat, and shelling neighborhoods.

Since the war began eight days ago, tens of thousands of people have fled Kyiv, heading west to Lviv and then on to Poland and other destinations in Europe. But tens of thousands more had remained behind, and as the avenues of escape have inexorably narrowed, they are growing increasingly desperate to get out. Roads and rail lines remain open to the city's southwest. But trains for evacuees, so packed that only children get seats, have bedy, continued as But take the control of the contr

Panic and Terror No Signs of Letup as Troops Push Along Coast

This article is by Andrew E. Kra-mer, Michael Schwirtz and Michael Levenson.

mer, Michael Schwirtz and Michael Levenson.

KYIV, Ukraine — Russian forces in Ukraine seized Europe's biggest nuclear power plant on Friday, tightened their noose around the capital and threatened more southern cities in their march to control the Black Sea coast, intensifying the deadly destruction and chaos from the eight-day-old invasion.

The Russian military advance, punctuated by a firefight with Ukrainian forces at the nuclear plant and shelling of other areas, came as the Kremlin strengthened its own crackdown at home on how the invasion was reported, including enacting stiff prison facebook and other social media restrictions. At least four major Western news outlets suspended operations in Russia.

The developments all pointed to aworsening crisis for Europe and

restrictions. At least four major Western news outlets suspended operations in Russia. The developments all pointed to a worsening crisis for Europe and a worsening crisis for Europe and the suspension of the s

STIFLING NEWS Russia cut off access to Facebook and the BBC and criminalized contradicting the official narrative on Ukraine. PAGE A12



A train out of Kviv to Lviv, where a lawmaker estimated about 100,000 people would arrive Friday.



Elsewhere in Kviv, female volunteers received weapons training as the city braced for an attack

Unemployment Falls to a Pandemic Low of 3.8%

By BEN CASSELMAN

By BEN CASSELMAN
Falling coronavirus caseloads
brought a flood of new jobs and
new workers last month, signs
that the pandemic's vise grip on
the economy may be loosening.
U.S. employers added 678,000
jobs in February, the Labor Department said Friday, continuing
a streak of strong job growth that
persisted even during the latest

678,000 Positions Were Added in February

wave of coronavirus cases. The unemployment rate fell to 3.8 per-cent, its lowest level since the pan-demic took hold.

Demand for workers has been strong for months. Now there are

signs that constraints on the supply of workers may be easing as
well. More than 300,000 people rejoined the labor force in February,
a sign that improving public
health conditions, more predictable school schedules and abundant job opportunities are drawing people back to the job market.
The share of people working
from home or missing work be-

Continued on Page A17

By ALAN RAPPEPORT
WASHINGTON — At the Internal Revenue Service's sprawling
Kansas City, Mo., processing center, teams of clerks earning \$15
per hour work through the night,
trying to help the agency clear a
backlog of more than 20 million
tax returns that are a year overdue.

The conditions are subpar:

Agency Sputters After Decades of Neglect

Tax Seasons Collide in Chaos of I.R.S. Backlog

Scanners sputter, forcing workers to enter data by hand, staplers are scarce and piles of tax documents overflow from carts. "The general theme for the time I've been there has been chaos,"

ceipt and operations group at the I.R.S. who started working at the facility in Kansas City last June and is moving toward becoming a

tax examiner.

What's happening in Kansas
City provides a window into the
problems plaguing the I.R.S.,
which is mired in a political and logistical mess that has frustrated

NATIONAL A15-19

Bomber Death Penalty Upheld

The Supreme Court reinstated the sentence for Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, who helped carry out the Boston Marathon attacks in 2013. PAGE AIS

New York City Lifts Mandates

Mayor Eric Adams eased mask and proof of vaccination requirements, despite concerns that it's too soon to end such broad restrictions. PAGE A19

Trade Did Not Buy Peace

Russia invaded Ukraine despite eco-nomic ties with Europe, straining the long-held idea that shared business interests can deflect conflict. PAGE BI

Order in N.F.L. Settlement

A judge approved a race-neutral plan on scoring dementia tests that could help thousands of Black former players who submitted claims. PAGE B8

OPINION A20-21

Farhad Manjoo



West rejects Ukraine no-fly zone

Where does one hide a 500-foot vacht?

Sanctions aimed at Russian oligarchs set off game of hide-andseek on the high seas.

By Andrea Chang

It's one thing to stuff cash

It's one thing to stuff cash under your mattress or move millions into an off-shore bank account. Hiding a mega-yacht from multiple governments and a global mob of private citizens is a bit trickier.

To intensify sanctions on Russia and further throttle the finances of the Kremlin's uber-wealthy allies, the Biden administration this week announced a "KleptoCaptressively targeting Russian oligarchs by seizing real estate and other prized assets. "We're coming for you," Deputy Atty. Gen. Lisa Monaco told Bloomberg. "We're coming for your yacht. We're coming for your yacht. We're coming for your jet."
Other countries are imposing similar measures, setting off a global game of hide-and-seek on the high hastily attempt to move their boats to havens such as the Seychelles and the Maldives, where at least one oligarch-owned super-yacht has already arrived; tracking data show several others on their way.
On Friday, Italian police

has already arrived; tracking data show several others on their way.

On Friday, Italian police said they had impounded Lady M Yacht, owned by Alexei Mordashov, Russia's richest man, in Liguria as part of the European Union's sanctions against him. A day earlier, French authorities said they had selzed a yacht linked to igor Sechin, a Russian oil tycoon and ally of President Vladimir Putin. The vessels named Amore Vero, was docked in the coastal town of La Clotat for repairs. When French customs officials French customs officials [See Yacht, A5]



Photographs by MARCUS YAM LOS Angels IN IRPIN, outside the capital of Kyiv, civilians try to evacuate on crowded trains Friday as the sounds of gunfire and bombing draw closer. The U.N. says 1.3 million people have fled Ukraine in the last nine days.

City is evacuated as battle nears

A once charming suburb of Kyiv becomes a place of dread and grief

By Nabih Bulos

IRPIN, Ukraine — The last minutes before the train pulled out were chaos: A mass of people pushed toward the carriage doors as uniformed men carrying machine guns screamed at slow-moving babushkas, teary-eyed girls and the many, many children straggling onto the platform.

No many were slip past the guards with his dog in tow, but a crush of soldiers pounced on him. They chased him, raised their ri-fles at his dog and shoved him onto the tracks. A soldier grabbed the phone of a bystander filming the fracas, smashed it on the ground, then stomped on it twice.

Finally, slowly, the train

twice.
Finally, slowly, the train
began to move toward Kyiv.
A woman glued her face
to the carriage window,
[See Irpin, A4]



OXANA ROMANSCHUK, 43, prays before she and her family managed to escape Irpin, Ukraine, by car Friday. A nearby shelling had roused them from a shelter.

Leaders decry Russian cluster bombs, seizure of nuclear plant — but cite risk of larger war.

By Nabih Bulos, Henry Chu and Tracy Wilkinson

KYIV. Ukraine — Russian forces pressed their offensive against key Ukrainian cities Friday in a heavy bombing and shelling campaign that has led to a ballooning humanitarian disaster, spurred a growing exodus of people and raised fears of a wider calamity after Europe's biggest nuclear power plant was set ablaze.

A chorus of international condemnation and outrage followed Moscow's capture ofthe nuclear complex, amid indications Russian forces would continue to go after such facilities.

And in Ukraine's south,

of the nuclear complex, amid indications Russian forces would continue to go after such facilities.

And in Ukraine's south, Russian troops besieged the city of Mykolaiv in an apparent march toward Odessa, Ukraine's most important city on the Black Sea.

In urgent meetings of U.S. and European leaders at NATO headquarters in Brussels, the alliance's commander confirmed Russia was attacking Ukrainass with cluster bombs, a munition outlawed by over 120 countries. But NATO also rejected Ukraine's pleas to establish a no-fly zone over the battered country. The battered country of State Antony J. Blinken said grinly after the meetings. He said a no-fly zone would require NATO aircraft over Ukraine's NATO aircraft over Ukraine's NATO aircraft over Ukraine in potential conflict with Russian fighter jets, leading to "a full-fledged war in Europe."

The Biden administration, which has joined most of Europe in enacting severe

Tracking assets will prove elusive

Putin's riches are dis-guised under names of relatives, oligarchs and others. PERSPECTIVES, A2

Pro-Putin in Latin America

Cuba, Venezuela and Nicaragua stand out for their refusal to condemn invasion. world, A3



DICK SCHULZE took up snowboarding in his 50s, became hooked and now competes and instructs and plans on shredding until he's at least 100.

Snowboarder's gnarliest trick is defying his age

At 76, he 'still rips,' says his grandson — titanium knee and all

p he goes, toward the blue sky, scalling the bank of snow before a hop and quick pivot sends him sailing back down again.

Down he glides, across the slope like a knife smoothing butter on toast, before pinwheeling through a series of small turns.

pinwheeling through a series of summaturns. You can have your Shaun White, your Lindsey Jacobellis, your Chloe Kim.

Sure, they're Olympic gold medalists and, in White's case, a snowboarding legend. But they're kids — even the 35-year-old White — compared with Dick Schulze, who at age 76 defles both age and gravity.

He is the country's oldest competitive snowboarder, a relative late bloomer who didn't take up the sport until his 50s and plans, despite a titanium knee and a fall that crumpled his helmet and blacked him out, to keep going until he hits at least 100. [See Snowboarder, A12]

Big fines for public health plan

State levies historic penalties over delays in care spotlighted in a Times report.

By Jack Dolan and Brittny Mejia

A cancer patient enrolled in a health insurance plan serving Los Angeles Coun-ty's poorest and most vul-nerable residents was left

untreated as their health rapidly deteriorated, according to state regulators. Another enrollee was left "suffering extreme pain" for the was while waiting for the treatment for a third patient, diagnosed with lymphoma and given less than a year to live, was delayed for more than two months. That patient left the plan, L.A. Care, for other insurance in a desperate attempt to save their life.

All three cases stem from "deep-rooted" failures that continue to threaten the health of patients whom LeA. Care emusted to be a continued to the continued of the continued of the continued state announced \$55 million in fines against the publicly operated health plan that insures more than 2 million Medi-Cal patients and other low-income recipients. It is by far the largest such penalty in state history, [See Fines, A8]

Masks come off in L.A. County

By Jaimie Ding, Jeong Park and Marisa Gerber

Ana Arriaga spent her shift at a Larchmont Village juice shop admiring the re-turn of a small joy she'd learned to live without. "Finally," she said, "we get to see people's smiles." It was midday Friday —

half a day since Los Angeles County health officials had lifted the mask mandate for many indoor locations, in-cluding shopes, gyms and Arriaga, a manager at Kreation Organic Juicery, felt that this was a reassur-ing step toward a state of normalcy she had long been craving. L.A. County's decision to

iving. L.A. County's decision to

lift the mandate came a day after the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevotion released data showing that levels of coronavirus in the region had dropped into the "low" category.

On Friday, L.A. City Council President Nury Martinez introduced a proposal to stop requiring many indoor businesses, including [See Masks, A8]

inesses, including [See **Masks,** A8]

UC Berkeley tries to hit student cap Campus will reduce out-of-state enrollment and add online options to satisfy a court order. CALIFORNIA, BI

High court stalls

mosque lawsuit
Orange County Muslim
men had claimed the
FBI spied on their
places of worship after places of worship after Sept. 11. NATION, A7

Weather A shower in spots. L.A. Basin: 58/41 B8



BUSINESS INSIDE: Robust job growth in February signals strong economic recovery. A10

Bleak conditions spread in Ukraine

another battle to count, and bury, the dead

BY SUDARSAN RAGHAVAN IN KYIV, UKRAINE

Even as the boom of outgoing artillery shells sounded every minute, Oksana Shlonska was determined to bury her husband. He was killed by gunfire last Sunday, but the war had prevented his

was killed by gummer was killed by gummer but the war had prevented me final rites.

First, the autopsy took days due to the numerous corpses arriving at the morgue. Then, on Thursday, a Grad missile crashed near the more than the first of the state of

Shlonska, 52. "They fear even our dead."

On Friday, despite the danger, she was going to try again to pay her last respects to her 54-year-old husband, Volodymyr Nezhenets, a child psychologist who signed up last week to fight against Russia and was fatally shot in a gun battle not too far from the cemetery.
"It is important for me to bury him today," she said as she waited in the morning at the morgue to claim his remains. In her arms, she clutched a portrait of him.

As Ukraine's war intensifies and spreads into multiple cities, and spreads into multiple cities in the spreads in the spreads in the



Nuclear plant has close call; Zelensky again pleads for help

BY DAVID L. STERN, ALEX HORTON, KAREEM FAHIM AND GRIFF WITTE

AND GRIFF WITTE

MUKACHEVO, UKRAINE — A top
U.S. official said Friday that a
Russian assault at a major Ukrainan nuclear facility had nearly
caused devastating consequences
for the word, even as the mayor of
for the word, even as the mayor of
city was "on the verge of a humanitarian catastrophe."

West of Mariupol in Kherson, a
regional capital and the first major city to fall to Russian forces, a
city council member said Russian
equipment and soldiers were "absolutely everywhere" as supplies
of food and other necessities begin to dwindle.

And in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, Russian troops
have fired cluster munitions into
at least three residential neighborhoods, according to a Human
Rights Watch report released Priday.

The grim conditions on the
night fact of Russian invasion
with fact of Russian invasion

day.

The grim conditions on the ninth day of Russia's invasion spawned an urgent appeal late Friday from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who urged Europeans to "take to the streets" SEE UKRAINE ON A9

Russia's business ties to the West fracture in the blink of an eye

In the summer of 2003, Vladi-mir Putin flew to London on a special mission: cementing Rus-sia's business ties with the West. He donned a white the and tails to dine with Queen Elizabeth II. He sipped iced vodka with 700 bankers and business executives. And during an energy conference with Prime Minister Tony Blair, he watched the British company BP sign a commitment to invest \$6 billion in a Russian oil and gas venture.

venture.
"Our priority is the step-by-step integration of Russia into the European and world economy," Putin told the conference, stress-ing Russia's desire to double its economy and attract investment

Odessa: Historic city girds for a Russian push up the coast. A12

in high-tech and aerospace sectors, too. Such cooperation, he said, three years into his presidency, would be "a great investment in strengthening Europe's stability."

Nearly 20 years on, those deals and plans lie in ruins as Western governments and companies isolate Russia over its invasion of Ukraine. BP, Sheil and Exon-Mobil have said they will abandoble have said they will abandoble have said they will abandent in the said they will abanded the said they will abandoble have been said to be said

Fighting words: Ukrainians have salty messages for Russia. C1



People walk in the rubble of a residential building in Chernihiv. The United Nations' top human rights body voted to set up a commission to investigate alleged rights violations by Russia.

The siege of Mariupol may be a grim sign

Scenes from the city of Mari

Scenes from the city of Mariupol, under heavy attack in Ukraine's southeast, have been as grim as they get. No water. No electricity. No heat.

Officials in the encircled city say they can't offer ab accurate to the say they can't offer ab accurate on the safety of the safety of the safety of wherever they've taken shelter to go out and find the dead.

Mariupol, a heavily fortified city of 430,000, may be a dismal harbinger of things to come for other Ukrainian critics, as Russian forces — unable to capture the country quickly — carry out siege tactics and mass shelling to take over major metropolitan areas.

A senior Western intelligence official, speaking on the condition official, speaking on the condition

Director of group raising funds for convoy is sought after fraud plea

BY STEVE THOMPSON ELLIE SILVERMAN AND ERIC BERGER

At a rally point near the Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo, Tex, as the wind whipped Ameri-can flags atop an 18-wheeler behind her, a Southern Califor-nia lawyer and anti-vaccine ac-tivist named Leigh Dundas ex-horted a crowd to make dona-tions.

"We're going to be doing a little altar call up here. A hun-

dred percent of that cash is going back into the boys' pockets for the next fuel stop," Dundas told onlookers and live-stream viewers, encouraging them to give online to the "People's Convoy," a U.S.-based group of activists opposed to vaccine mandates and inspired by the self-styled "Freedom Convoy" that occupied Canada's capital for weeks.

The group set a goal of \$5 milion to fuel its fight and claimed to have collected \$1.5 million by SEE CONVOY ON A4

Job growth puts full recovery in sight

BY ABHA BHATTARAI AND ANDREW VAN DAM

The U.S. economy created a blockbuster 678,000 jobs in February, adding momentum to a robust recovery that is rapidly returning the labor market to its pre-pandemic boom.

As the omicron variant of the novel coronavirus receded, the unemployment rate fell to a new pandemic low of 3.8 percent last month, from 4 percent in January, the Labor Department said Friday. Average hourly wages for

U.S. labor market looks more like pre-covid picture as 'fear is fading'

private-sector workers, mean-while, held steady, climbing by a mere one cent. Annual wages have risen 5.1 percent, although they have not kept up with infla-tion.

The rosy picture caps off 10 straight months of strong

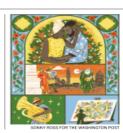
growth, with the economy pick-ing up a record 7 million jobs over the past year and setting the stage for a full recovery by this summer, a little more than two years after the pandemic plunged the country into reces-sion.

IN SUNDAY'S POST



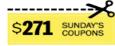
Democracy may depend on a new partisan battleground: races for state secretary of state. The once-sleepy elected office has suddenly become one of the most vital roles in the nation. Magazine

See you later Alligators at Florida's Everglades park can be spotted by bikers, hikers and tram riders. Travel



Spring Arts Previous

This season's best offerings in classical music, pop music, theater, dance and museums. More events are finding their vay back to stages, to the delight of fans. Arts & Style



INSIDE

REAL ESTATE Spooked by bad karma

Murder. Divorce. Some buyers run away from homes haunted by dark energy. Others see a bargain.

An explosion in Silver Spring n have been caused by worker of that released natural gas. **B1**

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Help wanted at the IRS The agency seeks to hire 10.00 The agency seeks to hire 10,000 workers to help tackle a backlog of tens of millions of tax returns. **A6**

THE WORLD A 'once-in-a-lifetime' find

Archaeologists have discovered a rare, Roman-era mosaic floor at South London construction site. A7

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FOLHA DE S.PAULO

DESDE 1921



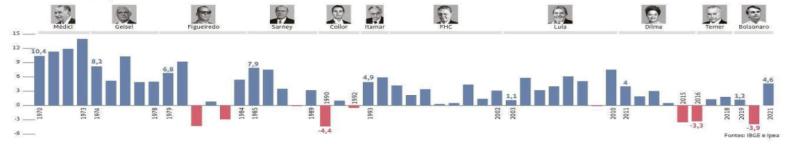
UM JORNAL A SERVIÇO DA DEMOCRACIA

ANO 102 * Nº 33.939

SÁBADO, 5 DE MARCO DE 2022

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PIB do Brasil cresce 4.6% em 2021



Após tombo, PIB sobe 4,6% em 2021

Retomada do patamar econômico anterior à pandemia ocorre de forma desigual entre setores e tem fôlego curto

ceu 4,6% ao longo de 2021 e, depois de um tombo histó-rico com a pandemia, reto-mou o patamar do Produto Interno Bruto anterior à chegada do coronavírus ao país, em 2020, informou o IBGE.

A reação se mostra desi-gual entre os setores. A in-dústria de transformação encolheu 3% no período. Também têm desempenho aquém daquele do fim de acua a gestão mública e que 2019 a gestão pública e ou-tras atividades de serviços.

Na rubrica estão setores que dependem de contato social, como o turismo e os restaurantes, especialmen-te prejudicados. As indús-trias extrativas e de eletricidade, água e esgoto tampouco compensaram as perdas.

Economistas alertam que o consumo das famílias, maior motor da economia, não se recuperou ainda. A isso se somam o cenário de ren-da baixa com juros e inflação altos previsto para 2022 e as incertezas geopolíticas.

"Ainda é complicado falar dos efeitos da guerra [en-tre Rússia e Ucrânia], mas um dos possíveis reflexos é a diminuição do crescimen-to global", disse o economis-ta Luca Mercadante, da Rio Bravo Investimentos

O salto de 4,6% é o maior desde os 7,5% de 2010 e suce-de queda de 3,9%, a pior nos 26 anos da série. Mercado A17

Análise V. Torres Freire Renda por cabeça ainda é 8% menor que a de 2013 A20



Mulher se afasta de uma casa em chamas, atingida por um bombardeio em Irpin, perto de Kiev; capital ucraniana e seu entorno têm sido alvo constante de ataques russos Aris Messinis/AFF

PT gasta R\$ 6 mi para defender Lula e outros alvos da Lava Jato

O PT deu, ao longo de 5 anos, R\$ 6 milhões a firmas de advocacia que defenderam o ex-presidente e os ex-tesou-reiros João Vaccari, Delúbio Soares e Paulo Ferreira. Um dos escritórios foi pago com fundo partidário. Política AS

Doria prepara fim da obrigação do uso de máscaras em SP saúde B6

FDITORIAIS A2

Sem retomada Acerca do PIB de 2021 e perspectivas para este ano. Perdido na Esplanada Sobre a passagem de Marcos Pontes pelo governo.

33939

Moro indica romper com Arthur do Val por áudios sexistas Política A9

ATMOSFERA

São Paulo hoje 20°

Demétrio Magnoli Ultradireita e petistas por Putin

Se Lula já ocupasse a cadei-ra de Bolsonaro, o Brasil da esquerda também daria amparo às mentiras de Moscou. No lugar do res-peito à soberania e à auto-determinação, ultradireita e esquerda petista subor-dinam relações internacio-nais à ideologia. Política AS

Maior usina nuclear ucraniana está sob controle inimigo

Mundo A12

Ilustrada C1 e C2 Russos viram párias nas artes, e punições acendem alerta sobre 'macarthismo'

Embaixador chinês lamenta vítimas. mas critica Ocidente

De saída do Brasil, o em-baixador chinês, Yang Wanming, Jamenta a per-da de civis na Ucrânia, mas diz à Folha que os países "devem fazer uma reflexió" sobre a causas reflexão" sobre as causas do conflito, em crítica à expansão da Otan e em apoio à Rússia. Mundo A15

Ataque a instalação atômica derruba mercados globais

Mercado A25

Folhinha C10 Só se fala da guerra, e ler 'Os Meninos da Rua Paulo' ajuda a entender conflitos

Putin liga escalada da guerra a sanções; Otan nega zona de exclusão

A Otan (aliança militar oci-dental) rejeitou um pedido da Ucrânia de estabelecer

da Ucrània de estabelecer uma zona de exclusão aé-rea sobre o território de seu país, invadido pela Rússia. O presidente Volodimir Zelenski fez duro ataque à decisão. "Pessoas vão mor-rer por causa da fraqueza da Otan. Ela deu sinal verde para a Rússia nos bom-bardear." Segundo ele, a aju-da ocidental é insuficiente.

Para a aliança, estabele-cer uma zona de exclusão significaria declarar guer-ra a Moscou, pois coloca-ria sistemas de defesa an-tiaérea e pilotos de ambos os lados frente a frente.

Do lado russo, o presiden-te Vladimir Putin pela primeira vez associou as sanções a que seu país tem si-do submetido a uma "esca-lada da situação" do confli-to com o vizinho. Mundo A12

Moscou pede a fabricantes que parem de exportar fertilizantes

Medida deve afetar agricultura brasileira, grande compradora do insumo russo, e constrange governo Bolsonaro. A24

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El ex parlamentario es ahora un recluso más en el penal de Emboscada

Fiscalía: Ozorio usaba dinero de narcos para préstamos

Aprovechó su condición de presidente del Consejo de Administración de la Cooperativa San Cristóbal para lavar el dinero del narcotráfico, según sostiene el acta de imputación.

PÁGINA 2

Aplicarán a los grupos de riesgo

Salud habilitará una cuarta dosis de la vacuna contra Covid

PÁGINA 15

Cambio en el protocolo de retorno

Educación elimina los grupos burbuja en las escuelas

PÁGINA 17

USD 1.000.000 están en juego

RGD intenta cobrar en connivencia con socio CDA incautado

PÁGINA 44



Camiones sospechosos en una unidad de la Armada Nacional

Envuelven a hermano de Velázquez en un escandaloso contrabando

PÁGINA S

Acusó a 4 diputados de haber sido financiados por traficantes

Amarilla se retracta tras amenaza de ser demandada por sus colegas

PÁGINA 4



LA SUV FÁCIL DE CONDUCIR PARA UNA VIDA FÁCIL DE VIVIR.







