

WorldCom warning

20-year-old lessons for today's tech reversal — BROOKE MASTERS, PAGE 15

Biden's Gulf mission

U-turn over Saudi ties aims at reviving energy-for-security pact — BIG READ, PAGE 13



Too much freedom

The Great Overwhelm replaces Covid anxiety — JEMIMA KELLY, PAGE 14

Three-quarter point rate rise as Fed steps up inflation fight

- First increase of its kind since 1994
- ECB seeks to head off debt concerns

COLBY SMITH — WASHINGTON
MARTIN ARNOLD — FRANKFURT

The Federal Reserve has raised its benchmark policy rate by 0.75 percentage points for the first time since 1994 as it stepped up efforts to tame the highest inflation in 40 years.

The move was an abrupt pivot from the Fed's previously telegraphed plans for a second consecutive 0.50 percentage point rate rise. It came as the European Central Bank held an emergency meeting to tackle fears the eurozone was on the cusp of another debt crisis.

With borrowing costs widening between Germany and more vulnerable member states such as Italy, the ECB said it would accelerate plans to create a "new anti-fragmentation instrument".

Analysts said the new mechanism was likely to include targeted bond-buying to counter surging borrowing costs in weaker economies.

At the end of its two-day policy meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee yesterday lifted its benchmark policy rate to a new target range of 1.50 per cent to 1.75 per cent, noting that it "anticipates that ongoing increases in the target range will be appropriate".

Esther George, president of the central bank's Kansas City branch, was the sole dissenting vote and instead backed adhering to the Fed's previous guidance.

It comes after two alarming reports released on Friday showed an unexpectedly large jump in consumer prices in May and a worrying rise in inflation expectations, suggesting that Americans are growing more concerned by the

economic outlook. "The committee is highly attentive to inflation risks," the Fed said in its statement, flagging that Russia's invasion of Ukraine had created "additional upward pressure" on inflation and weighed on economic activity.

It added that extended lockdowns in China to combat Covid-19 were further worsening supply chain disruptions.

Officials at the US central bank also yesterday sharply revised higher their rate forecasts against three months ago, when they had pencilled in the federal funds rate rising to just 1.9 per cent by the end of 2022 and 2.8 per cent in 2023.

The "dot plot" of individual interest rate projections now suggests the policy rate will rise to 3.4 per cent by December — a level that suggests the Fed will implement another 0.75 percentage point increase in July and a half-point adjustment in September, before moderating to more typical quarter-point increases for the final two meetings of the year.

Additional interest rate increases are also anticipated in 2023, with officials indicating the policy rate could reach 3.8 per cent.

The Fed also published economic projections in light of the scaling-back of its \$9tn balance sheet, which Fed chair Jay Powell admitted last month would involve "some pain". Annual growth is forecast to slow to 1.7 per cent by the end of this year and maintain that level in 2023, according to top officials' estimates. In March, they had predicted the economy would expand each year by 2 per cent or more until the end of 2024.

Old friends Xi lends Putin his loyalty as EU leaders line up behind Ukraine

MAX SEDDON — RIGA
ROMAN OLEARCHYK — KYIV
VICTOR MALLET — PARIS

President Xi Jinping of China has renewed support for Russia's security interests in his first phone call with Vladimir Putin since the early days of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

The diplomatic gesture came as the leaders of France, Italy and Germany head to Ukraine and Nato defence ministers convene in Brussels this week to beef up military help to Kyiv.

In a readout of the call

between the Chinese and Russian leaders yesterday, the Kremlin said Xi noted "the legitimacy of the actions taken by Russia to defend its core national interests in the face of challenges to its security created by external forces".

Russia said the call, held on Xi's 69th birthday, was "traditionally warm and friendly", adding relations were at "an unprecedentedly high level".

State agency Xinhua reported that Xi repeated his calls for Russia and other countries to find an end to the war but said

China was "willing to continue mutual support with Russia on issues related to sovereignty, security" and of major concern.

The comments came as the EU and Nato are set to intensify their support for Ukraine. Emmanuel Macron, Mario Draghi and Olaf Scholz are due to discuss Ukraine's prospects of joining the EU when they meet President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as early as today. Brussels will probably recommend granting Kyiv candidate status.

Berlin accuses Moscow page 2
FT View page 14

Briefing

► **US sends further \$1bn of arms to Ukraine**
Washington has pledged to send supplies including artillery, coastal defence arms and advanced missile systems after a call between Joe Biden and his Kyiv counterpart, Volodymyr Zelenskyy. — PAGE 2

► **BP buys stake in vast renewables project**
The energy company has acquired 40 per cent of a solar, wind and green hydrogen project in Western Australia that will cost more than \$30bn to develop. It did not disclose the price. — PAGE 5; LEX, PAGE 16

► **Germany hits out at Russia's gas cuts**
Berlin has said Gazprom's decision to cut exports to Europe was a "political" move. Together with reduced flows to Italy, it raised fears that Russia was starting a wider squeeze on gas supplies. — PAGE 2

► **Apple pays \$2.5bn for US football rights**
The tech group has agreed a 10-year broadcasting package with Major League Soccer. Live games will air on a dedicated streaming service available on the Apple TV app. — PAGE 6



► **Biden attacks refiners' 'wartime' profits**
The US president has rounded on seven oil refiners for not producing more petrol, saying their rising profit margins "at a time of war" were "not acceptable". — PAGE 4; OIL SUPPLY TO STRUGGLE, PAGE 8

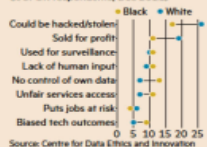
► **US group in talks for Pegasus spyware**
Defence contractor L3Harris has entered talks to buy the technology behind the Israeli spyware, a move that would put in American hands a tool the US has condemned for enabling repression. — PAGE 6

► **Something from Nothing for phone fans**
A start-up called Nothing has secured financing of more than \$200m to launch its debut smartphone, in the first attempt for years to crack a market dominated by Apple and Samsung. — PAGE 7

Datawatch

Data risks

Which is the greatest issue for society?
Of UK respondents, Dec 2021



Black Britons' concerns tend to focus on loss of control over their own data and on limitations to their access to services, as well as on bias being ingrained in new technology. White Britons are more wary of data being hacked or sold



Russians look to Iran for sanctions survival tips

Russians struggling with the west's clampdown on their businesses are turning to Iran for tips on how to keep trading under sanctions. The Islamic republic has endured years of US prohibitions. But visitors are glad to see Apple phones widely available alongside goods from companies like Philips and Bosch. [They] are far behind Iranians in terms of access to black markets to buy European and American goods, says Ali, a guide.

Flocking to Iran — PAGE 3

Hong Kong schoolbooks recast history with denial that city was British colony

CHAN HO-HIM, WILLIAM LANGLEY AND JENNIFER CREERY — HONG KONG

New textbooks sent to Hong Kong secondary schools state that the city was not a British colony but an occupied territory — a recasting of history that is part of Beijing's ideological clampdown in the city.

The textbooks seek to head off calls for self-determination in the city after anti-government protests in 2019, in which some called for independence.

"Even [though] Britain occupied Hong Kong... the Chinese government did not recognise such unequal treaties and insisted [on] her sovereignty over Hong Kong," states one book by publisher Modern Educational Research Society. "Therefore, Hong Kong did not satisfy the condition of a 'country losing sovereignty' and was not a colony."

At least five textbooks sent to Hong Kong schools stress that the Chinese government never recognised the historic treaties that ceded the territory to the UK. Several add that the UN's removal of Hong Kong from its list of non-self-governing territories in 1972 meant that the global body's support for resolution on self-rule in colonised places was not applicable to the city.

"This shows that international law confirms that the Hong Kong issue is within the scope of China's sovereign rights," reads one Chinese-language textbook from Hong Kong-based Aristo Educational Press.

The books were sent to schools as part of the city's new "citizenship and social development" course, which last year replaced a liberal studies programme that Beijing loyalists blamed for radicalising students in 2019.

Hong Kong authorities have pushed schools to take a Chinese nationalist line, which last year prompted the city's largest teachers' union to disband.

Britain occupied Hong Kong in 1841 during the first opium war and China's ruling Qing Dynasty ceded the island the following year. Other than a period of Japanese occupation during the second world war, Britain administered the city as a colony and dependent territory until 1997, when it was handed over to China.

Chan Chi-wa, a secondary school teacher for more than three decades, said that before 2019, textbooks rarely touched on the notion that the city was not a colony. "The most difficult part for teachers is to explain to students why when [Hong Kong] was viewed by many as a colony, it no longer is the case now." The publishers declined to comment.

World Markets

STOCK MARKETS				CURRENCIES				GOVERNMENT BONDS						
	Jun 15	Prev	%Chg	Pair	Jun 15	Prev	Pair	Jun 15	Prev	Yield (%)	Jun 15	Prev	Chg (bps)	
S&P 500	3773.72	3775.40	-0.04	EUR	1.041	1.041	4.8	US 2 yr	3.34	3.41	-0.06			
Nasdaq Composite	11019.95	10929.35	1.76	GBP	1.207	1.207	0.0	US 10 yr	3.41	3.43	-0.02			
Dow Jones Ind	30544.26	30364.83	0.59	CHF	0.963	0.967	-0.4	US 30 yr	3.39	3.40	-0.01			
FTSE100	1622.95	1600.49	1.40	HKD	134.575	134.625	-0.04	UK 2 yr	2.03	2.16	-0.13			
Euro Stoxx 50	3532.19	3475.19	1.64	KRW	162.391	161.811	0.36	UK 10 yr	2.46	2.59	-0.13			
FTSE 100	7273.61	7187.45	1.20	SGD	1.042	1.041	0.09	UK 30 yr	2.64	2.72	-0.08			
FTSE All-Share	4013.14	3965.54	1.20					JPN 2 yr	-0.07	-0.05	-0.01			
CAC 40	6030.13	5949.84	1.35					JPN 10 yr	0.25	0.25	0.00			
Nikkei 225	13465.29	13304.39	1.36					JPN 30 yr	1.24	1.17	0.06			
Hang Seng	26326.16	26623.95	-1.14	Bitcoin (B)	21196.90	22134.00	-4.22	ETHers	1.06	1.22	-0.16			
FTSE All-Share	21308.21	21067.90	1.14		1198.11	1209.43	-0.92		GER 2 yr	1.05	1.22	-0.16		
MSCI World	2525.88	2545.04	-0.75	COMMODITIES					GER 10 yr	1.64	1.75	-0.11		
MSCI EM	1017.87	1016.46	0.14		Jun 15 <td>Prev<td>%Chg<td></td><td>GER 30 yr</td><td>1.80</td><td>1.85</td><td>-0.05</td><td></td><td></td></td></td>	Prev <td>%Chg<td></td><td>GER 30 yr</td><td>1.80</td><td>1.85</td><td>-0.05</td><td></td><td></td></td>	%Chg <td></td> <td>GER 30 yr</td> <td>1.80</td> <td>1.85</td> <td>-0.05</td> <td></td> <td></td>		GER 30 yr	1.80	1.85	-0.05		
MSCI ACWI	583.77	587.64	-0.65		Oil WTI	117.36	118.93	-1.32						
FT Wilshire 2500	4847.53	4865.06	-0.36		Oil Brent	120.05	121.17	-0.93						
FT Wilshire 5000	37856.90	37992.75	-0.36											

Prices are subject to change without notice.

Prices are latest for which data provided by Bloomberg

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Covid Vaccines Endorsed For Youngest Americans

**Panel's Vote Sets Stage for F.D.A. Clearance
of Doses by Pfizer and Moderna**

By SHARON LAFRANIERE and NOAH WEILAND

WASHINGTON — The only Americans still not eligible for coronavirus vaccines — babies, toddlers and preschoolers — appear on the verge of finally getting cleared to receive them after an advisory panel to the Food and Drug Administration voted unanimously on Wednesday to recommend the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for the group.

The F.D.A. appears poised to authorize Moderna's vaccine for children younger than 6 and Pfizer's for those younger than 5 as soon as Friday. States have already ordered millions of doses, and White House officials have said shots could roll out as early as next week.

The committee's 21-0 votes came after a daylong review of clinical trial data and signaled the end of a process that involved months of false starts and dashed hopes for a vaccine to cover the youngest Americans. Except for

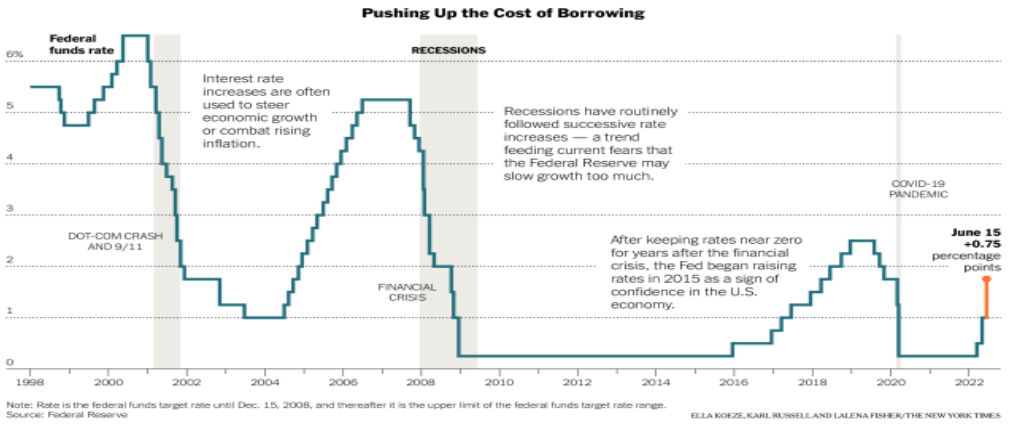
the roughly 20 million children under 5, everyone has had access to coronavirus shots for many months and is eligible now for booster shots.

The F.D.A. and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention jointly made a strong push for a positive recommendation, showing the committee with 230 pages of data that they said showed the vaccines were safe and provoked a strong immune response in children. Regulators also emphasized that even though young children are generally at low risk for serious illness from the virus, vaccinating the group would save lives.

"We have to be careful that we don't become numb to the number of pediatric deaths because of the overwhelming number of older deaths here," Dr. Peter Marks, the F.D.A.'s top vaccine regulator said. "The intervention we're talking

Continued on Page A17

WITH BIGGEST RATE INCREASE SINCE '94, FED GETS TOUGH ON SOARING INFLATION



Lawyer Is Said to Claim Justices Had 'Heated Fight' Over Election

By LUKE BROADWATER and MAGGIE HABERMAN

WASHINGTON — A lawyer advising President Donald J. Trump claimed in an email after Election Day 2020 to have insight into a "heated fight" among the Supreme Court justices over whether to hear arguments about the president's efforts to overturn his defeat at the polls, two people briefed on the email said.

The lawyer, John Eastman, made the statement in a Dec. 24, 2020, exchange with a Wisconsin lawyer and Trump campaign officials over whether to file legal papers that they hoped might prompt four justices to agree to hear an election case from Wisconsin.

"So the odds are not based on the legal merits but an assessment of the justices' spines, and I

understand that there is a heated fight underway," Mr. Eastman wrote, according to the people briefed on the contents of the email. Referring to the process by which at least four justices are needed to take up a case, he added, "For those willing to do their duty, we should help them by giving them a Wisconsin cert petition to add into the mix."

The Wisconsin lawyer, Kenneth Chesebrough, replied that the "odds of action before Jan. 6 will become more favorable if the justices start to fear that there will be 'wild' chaos on Jan. 6 unless they rule by then, either way."

Their exchange took place five days after Mr. Trump issued a call for his supporters to attend a "pro-

Continued on Page A16

U.S. to Send \$1 Billion More in Aid to Ukraine

By STEVEN ERLANGER

BRUSSELS — President Biden on Wednesday announced a further \$1 billion in weapons and aid for Ukraine, as the United States and its allies met to craft a response to Ukraine's increasingly urgent calls for advanced arms to beat back Russia's invasion.

The package, detailed by Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III after a meeting with allies at NATO headquarters in Brussels, includes more long-range artillery, antiship missile launchers and more rounds for howitzers and for a sophisticated American rocket system on which Ukrainians are currently being trained. Overall, the United States has now committed about \$5.6 billion in security assistance to Ukraine since Russia invaded on Feb. 24.

Mr. Biden said in a statement that he had told President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine

**Arms to Help Weather
'a Pivotal Moment
on the Battlefield'**

about the new weapons during a 40-minute call Wednesday morning. Mr. Zelensky and his aides have recently ramped up public pressure on the West to supply vastly more of the sophisticated armaments it has already sent, questioning their allies' commitment to the Ukrainian cause and insisting that nothing else can stop the inexorable, brutal Russian advance in eastern Ukraine.

But Western officials and arms experts caution that flooding the battlefield with advanced weapons is far slower and more difficult than it sounds, facing obstacles in manufacturing, delivery, training and compatibility — and in avoid-

ing depletion of Western arsenals.

The leaders of the European Union's largest countries — Germany, France and Italy — are expected to pay their first visit to Mr. Zelensky in Ukraine on Thursday, in a show of solidarity, but it remains unclear whether they will have much to offer. The leaders — Chancellor Olaf Scholz, President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Mario Draghi — have all expressed the desire for a more rapid conclusion of the war through peace talks with Russia, raising hackles in Ukraine.

Mr. Austin, together with Ukraine's defense minister, Oleksii Reznikov, met at NATO headquarters with defense officials from some 45 countries supporting Ukraine, to try to assess what weapons Ukraine needs right now and how its allies can best provide them.

"We can't afford to let up, and

Continued on Page A6

Could Be Followed by Similar Action Next Month

By JEANNA SMIALEK

The Federal Reserve took its most aggressive step yet to try to tame rapid and persistent inflation, raising interest rates by three-quarters of a percentage point on Wednesday and signaling that it is prepared to inflict economic pain to get prices under control.

The rate increase was the central bank's biggest since 1994 and could be followed by a similarly sized move next month, suggested Jerome H. Powell, the Fed chair, underscoring just how much America's unexpectedly stubborn price gains are unsettling Fed officials.

As central bankers drive their policy rate rapidly higher, it will make buying a home or expanding a business more expensive, restraining spending and slowing the broader economy. Officials expect growth to moderate in the coming months and years and predicted that unemployment will rise about half a percentage point to 4.1 percent by late 2024 as their policy squeezes companies and workers.

Mr. Powell acknowledged that it was becoming increasingly difficult for the Fed to slow inflation without causing a recession as outside forces, including the war in Ukraine and factory shutdowns in China, threaten to curb the supply of goods and commodities like oil. If the Fed has to quash demand to an extreme degree in an effort to bring it into line with limited supply, it could make for a slump that leaves businesses shuttered and people unemployed.

"We're not trying to induce a recession right now, let's be clear about that," Mr. Powell said, explaining that the Fed still wants to reduce inflation to its 2 percent goal while keeping the labor market strong — an outcome economists call a "soft landing."

But "those pathways have become much more challenging due to factors that are outside of our control," he said, later adding that "the environment has become more difficult, clearly, in the last four or five months."

The latest move set the Fed's policy rate in a range of 1.50 percent to 1.75 percent, and more rate increases are to come. Mr. Powell signaled that the debate at the Federal Open Market Committee's next meeting in July will be over whether to raise rates half a

Continued on Page A20

Flood Disaster At Yellowstone Is Just the Start

This article is by Jim Robbins, Thomas Fuller and Christine Chung.

GARDINER, Mont. — Before evacuating their rental cabin on the edge of Yellowstone National Park, the Mannings, who had traveled from Terre Haute, Ind., to Yellowstone with his family for a summer vacation.

"The earth off the bank was coming off in sheets," said Parker Manning, who had traveled from Terre Haute, Ind., to Yellowstone with his family for a summer vacation.

"It was crazy when the house, when the building, finally hit the water," Mr. Manning said. "It was floating down the river like a boat."

The floodwaters that raged through Yellowstone this week changed the course of rivers, tore out bridges, poured through homes and forced the evacuation of thousands of visitors from the nation's oldest national park.

It is difficult to directly connect the damage in Yellowstone to a rapidly warming climate — rivers have flooded for millenniums — but scientists are raising the alarm that in the coming years destruction related to climate

Continued on Page A24



ASHLEY GILBERTSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A log raft on the Ruki River in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Vast quantities of rainforest timber are sent downriver for export.

Ravaging the Congo Basin's Essential Rainforest, Raft by Raft

By DIONNE SEARCEY

The vast rainforest of the Congo Basin, one of the most important in the world, has long been protected by its remoteness: In many places, roads are rare.

But there is a river. The mighty Congo River has become a highway for sprawling flotillas of logs — African teak, wenge and bomanga in colors of

licorice, candy bars and carrot sticks. For months at a time, crews in the Democratic Republic of Congo live aboard these perilous rafts, piloting the timber in pursuit of a sliver of profit from the dismantling of a crucial forest.

The biggest rafts are industrial in scale, serving mostly international companies that see riches in the rainforest. But puny versions also make their way down-

**Clearing Trees for Profit
or Personal Survival**

river, tended by men and their families who work and sleep atop the floating logs.

Forests like these pull huge amounts of carbon dioxide out of the air, making them essential to

slowing of global warming. The expanded scale of illegal logging imperils their role in protecting humanity's future.

The Congo Basin rainforest, second in size only to the Amazon, is becoming increasingly vital as a defense against climate change as the Amazon is felled. However, the Democratic Republic of Congo has for several years in a row been los-

Continued on Page A11



INTERNATIONAL A4-13

Colombia's Political Chameleon
The presidential candidate Rodolfo Hernández bills himself as a savior. Critics call him a threat to democracy. PAGE A4

Confession in Disappearances

The Brazilian police said a fisherman admitted killing two men in the Amazon and led them to the bodies. PAGE A8

NATIONAL A14-21, 24

Not Waiting on Roe Decision

In many states, health care providers are making changes restricting abortion access ahead of the Supreme Court's expected ruling. PAGE A15

Charges in Buffalo Massacre

The suspect faces 26 counts of hate crimes and weapons violations, and could face the death penalty. PAGE A21

SPORTS B7-11

A Dream Team of Their Own

Cuban major leaguers are trying to form their own squad to compete in the World Baseball Classic. PAGE B7



THURSDAY STYLES D1-8

At 50, Nike Isn't Letting Up

The company has become part of the root system underlying our culture, Vanessa Friedman writes. PAGE D6

Carrying On Elsewhere

Owners of Artbag, the Madison Avenue handbag sale and repair shop, are moving their operation to Florida. PAGE D2

BUSINESS B1-6

A New Energy Powerhouse

With advances in nuclear power and natural gas production, Romania could play a big part in building Europe's energy security as nations look to cut ties with Russian suppliers. PAGE B1

392 Crashes in 10 Months

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has released data on accidents involving vehicles using autonomous-driving components. A few of them were fatal. PAGE B1

OPINION A22-23

Gail Collins

PAGE A22



ARTS C1-6

Oslo's Emergence

Officials hope the new National Museum heralds the city's transformation into a global cultural capital. Above, Karin Hindsbo, the museum director. PAGE C1



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A MEMORIAL for El Monte Police Cpl. Michael Paredes and Officer Joseph Santana at the city's Civic Center. "They're El Monte homegrown," said Mayor Jessica Ancona, who knew both officers. "They're our boys."

El Monte mourns two slain homegrown police officers

The shooter, who was also killed, was on probation for a gun charge, records show.

BY MATTHEW ORMSETH, ANDREW J. CAMPA, RICHARD WINTON AND MARISA GERBER

One a veteran officer and the other a relative rookie, they were united by a drive to serve the city that raised them.

Cpl. Michael Paredes and Officer Joseph Santana — the El Monte police officers killed in a shootout at Siesta Inn on Tuesday after responding to a call about a possible stabbing — left behind wives and children and a hometown in mourning.

"They're El Monte homegrown," said Mayor Jessica Ancona, who knew both officers, as she fought back tears. "They're our boys."

Justin Flores, 35, who allegedly fired at the officers, was on probation for a gun charge at the time of the shooting, court records show. In an interview, Lynn Covarrubias, Flores' mother, confirmed that her son had been killed by police at the motel.

Paredes, 42, started his law enforcement career as a cadet with the El Monte Police Department and in the summer of 2000 was sworn in as a full-time officer.

On Facebook, his sister had changed her profile picture to an image of a badge. No. 565. He is survived by his wife, daughter and son, according to a joint statement from the city and Police Department.

After graduating from El Monte High School, Santana, 31, worked as a maintenance employee with the city of El Monte for six years before the shooting.

[See Officers, A6]



BRIAN VAN DER BRUG, Los Angeles Times

THE WEST Branch Feather River is a tributary of Lake Oroville, which stands at 54% of capacity, a sign of the effects of the drought in the state.

Lessons learned from the last drought? Sort of

Some promises have been kept, but state may be 'gambling' with conservation efforts

By Hayley Smith

The governor of California stood in a patch of dry brown grass as he made his proclamation.

"We're in a new era. The idea of your nice little green grass getting lots of water every day — that's going to be a thing of the past," he said. "We're in a historic drought, and that demands unprecedented action."

But it wasn't Gavin Newsom speaking — it was the state's previous governor, Jerry Brown, and the year was 2015.

Seven years later, California is once again facing urgent calls for cutbacks as

heat waves, record dryness and climate change converge to create critically short supplies. But what has California learned since then? Is the Golden State really ready to do this again?

Yes and no, experts say. While some of the promises made during the previous drought — including greater investments in water capture and recycling — have been advanced or upheld, progress has been slow and conservation is slipping. What's more, a rash of well drilling is still threatening the state's groundwater supply, and fish

[See Water, A7]

Fed goes big in inflation fight but also aims to avoid recession

Central bank raises key rate by three-quarters of a point, the most in 28 years.

BY LAURENCE DARMIENTO AND SOMESH JHA

Just a month ago, the Federal Reserve raised interest rates by half a percentage point for the first time in 22 years as it stepped up its attack on accelerating inflation.

On Wednesday, the U.S. central bank raised rates by an additional three-quarters of a percentage point. It hadn't done that in 28 years since the advent of the first tech boom, reflecting a widespread sense that inflation is out of control — and, some say, beyond its control, having hit a 40-year high.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has exacerbated inflation at the grocery store. At the pumps, the conflict has driven average Los Angeles gas prices to \$6.44 a gallon for regular. Lingering pandemic-related supply snarls have caused a chip shortage and sticker shock in auto showrooms. And a nationwide housing shortage particularly acute in California has seen prices skyrocket in markets as far-flung as Boise, Idaho.

Fed Chair Jerome H. Powell had signaled in May that additional half-point hikes were likely at the bank's policy meetings this month and again in July as it sought to rein in inflation without causing a recession — a so-called soft landing. But since then, the notion that inflation was under control fell apart.

The government's latest inflation report Friday showed that consumer prices in May rose 8.6% year over year, the highest level since December 1981. The stunning figures sent the

[See Interest rate, A9]

1994

The last time the Federal Reserve announced a three-quarter-point interest rate increase.

8.6%

The inflation rate for consumer prices in May year over year, the highest since December 1981.

13%

The percentage of survey respondents who expect their incomes to rise more than inflation, the lowest share in almost a decade.



JACQUELYN MARTIN AP
FED CHAIR Jerome H. Powell said Friday's inflation report influenced the central bank's move.

Justices curb law that lets workers file suits

Ruling in California case, Supreme Court sides with employers seeking arbitration.

BY DAVID G. SAVAGE

WASHINGTON — In a victory for employers, the Supreme Court on Wednesday sharply limited a state labor law that has authorized private lawsuits on behalf of groups of workers, even if they had agreed to resolve their disputes through individual arbitration.

In an 8-1 decision, the court ruled the Federal Arbitration Act preempts or overrides the state law.

California is the only state to authorize such private suits as a means of enforcing its labor laws. But in doing so, the state has allowed employees to escape binding arbitration agreements they signed when they were hired, the court said.

The justices ruled for Viking River Cruises, which sought to block a broad private lawsuit brought on behalf of one of its former sales agents in Los Angeles.

"This is a huge win for employers and for arbitrators," said a lawyer for the company.

[See Labor law, A7]

Russia strikes weapons depot

Moscow says it targeted site in Ukraine's west because it was storing arms from NATO. WORLD, A3

Hearing to show Pence foiled plot

California's Aguilar says Jan. 6 witness will testify mob "probably would have killed" vice president. NATION, A4

Panel OKs shots for kids under 5

With FDA advisors' approval, small-dose COVID vaccines may be available as soon as next week. NATION, A12

Weather
Patchy fog, sun.
L.A. Basin: 53/63. B6

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COLUMN ONE

Cambodians remake an American city

BY DON LEE
REPORTING FROM
LOWELL, MASS.

For two centuries white men dominated this New England textile mill city, many ruling from the handsome Belvidere neighborhood overlooking the Merrimack River valley.

Lowell, Mass., sits in the cradle of the American Industrial Revolution, home to some of the nation's first large-scale factories —

powered by cascading rivers and staffed initially by thousands of young, unskilled farmers' daughters, dubbed mill girls, who captivated Charles Dickens during his 1842 visit.

In later decades, the Colonial town welcomed wave after wave of immigrants — Irish, Greek, French Canadian, Portuguese — to work its mills. Lowell earned a reputation as a gateway city for new arrivals, one that embraced immigrants, albeit not sharing the power.

[See Lowell, A12]



ANIK RAHMAN FOR THE TIMES

IN LOWELL, Mass., the Cambodian community helped transform the all-white City Council into a panel that includes three Cambodians and one Black councilor.

BUSINESS INSIDE: The Fed's interest rate hike will affect more than borrowing costs. A8

The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington

Thunderstorm 88/75 • Tomorrow: Thunderstorm 95/69 B8

Democracy Dies in Darkness

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022 • B2

Emails detail efforts of Thomas

Jan. 6 panel reportedly considering whether to highlight justice's wife

BY JACQUELINE ALEMANY, JOSH DAWSEY AND EMMA BROWN

The House committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol has obtained email correspondence between Virginia "Ginni" Thomas, the wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, and lawyer John Eastman, who played a key role in efforts to pressure Vice President Mike Pence to block the certification of Joe Biden's victory, according to three people involved in the committee's investigation.

The emails show that Thomas's efforts to overturn the election were more extensive than previously known, two of the people said. The three declined to provide details and spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive matters.

The committee's members and staffers are now discussing whether to spend time during their public hearings exploring Ginni Thomas's role in the attempt to overturn the outcome of the 2020 election, the three people said. The Washington Post previously reported that the committee had not sought an interview with Thomas and was leaning against pursuing her cooperation with its investigation.

SEE THOMAS ON A7

Jan. 6 case: Father, son convicted of obstructing lawmakers. B1

PBS: On some stations, hearings lose out to kids' shows. C1

Youngkin aide balks at racism as a health crisis

BY JENNA PORTNOY

In five months on the job, Virginia's chief public health official, Colin Greene, has rejected the state-recognized declaration that racism is a public health crisis and downplayed the role of racism in health disparities, leaving some fearful for their jobs.

The head of the office that helps vulnerable mothers and their babies said a run-in with Greene left her and her team traumatized, ashamed and uncertain the programs they shepherded through a pandemic could continue under the new administration. She said he gaslighted staffers and reduced one to tears.

Greene said he wants staff to be accountable for their work and, doubting the well-established link between structural racism and health disparities,

SEE RACISM ON A15



JULIA RENDELMAN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Awaiting trial, he was held in solitary for 16 months

BY SYDNEY TRENT

The cell was smaller than a parking space, bound by three dirty beige concrete walls and a steel door with a narrow slot to push in meals and shackles.

There was a narrow cot, a toilet, a sink. The filmy glass on the barred window allowed little sun; the always-on fluorescent ceiling light allowed no darkness. Each day brought the clanging of chains, the shuffling and shouting of guards and inmates, the threat of violence or the reality of it. Each day poured itself into the next.

For 16 months and all but a random hour every other day, Andrew Johnson languished in solitary confinement in a California jail. The first day — Nov. 12, 2014 — was hardly different from the 479th day.

"When they put you in solitary confinement, you're no longer thinking clearly," Johnson, 33, says now. "You're thinking, 'Oh, my God. Oh, my God. Oh, my God. I'm trapped.'"

Johnson, an Army veteran who had undergone Special Forces training, knew how to endure hardship. He'd carried 120 pounds in a rucksack for days; he'd overcome a lifelong fear of heights to parachute from planes; he'd fought his way back from a coma after suffering carbon monoxide poisoning. He had a military diagnosis of post-traumatic

A jury would later acquit Andrew Johnson in just two hours. But before it had judged any evidence against him, a California jail kept him in isolation and caused lasting harm.

William and Angela Johnson hug their son, Andrew, 33, who was detained in solitary confinement in Santa Clara County, Calif., while accused of attempted murder.

stress disorder and a traumatic brain injury to show for it.

But Johnson had never been isolated from the world like this before. He had grown up in a comfortable D.C. suburb, the adored only son in a deeply religious Black family. He had never been incarcerated before.

Then a nighttime encounter with two strangers in San Jose led to his arrest for attempted murder. Johnson insisted he was defending himself and had done nothing wrong. But at 26, he was sent to solitary immediately after he was booked into the jail to await trial.

No one ever explained to Johnson: his parents, William and Angela Johnson; or Johnson's criminal defense attorney why he was put in isolation, they said. The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office, which oversees the jail and was responsible for the decision, did not respond to several requests for comment.

Between 2014 and 2018, Johnson was among about 735,000 people who were being held at any given time in the nation's 3,000 jails, most of them awaiting trial, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

Yet there is no systematic attempt by the federal government to track the use of solitary in jails, experts say. The bureau's last survey on the subject was a decade ago. In a sample of 357 jails

SEE SOLITARY ON A8

Fed's largest rate hike since 1994 targets inflation

THREE-QUARTERS OF A PERCENTAGE POINT

Ramped-up fight also carries recession risks

BY RACHEL SIEGEL AND ABHA BHATTARAI

The Federal Reserve on Wednesday hiked interest rates by three-quarters of a percentage point, its most aggressive move yet to try to control inflation as it squeezes the U.S. economy.

The Fed has not enacted a hike of this size since 1994 and signaled similarly large hikes could be coming later this year in an effort to cool down the booming economy by raising the cost of lending.

For weeks, Fed leaders set expectations for an increase in interest rates of half a percentage point, as in May. But a

surprisingly bleak inflation report released last week, the war in Ukraine and growing signs that the markets and American public have lost faith in the Fed ignited a more forceful push from central bank policymakers as they wrapped up two days of meetings.

"We thought that strong action was warranted at this meeting, and we delivered on that," Federal Reserve Chair Jerome H. Powell said in a news conference following the decision. "It is essential that we bring inflation down if we are to have a

SEE RATES ON A18

FAQ: What the rate hike means for consumers, inflation and more. A18

U.S. unveils \$1 billion arms package to Kyiv

BY EMILY RAUHALA, MISSY RYAN, DAN LAMOTHE AND JOHN HUDSON

BRUSSELS — The United States will send an additional \$1 billion in military aid to Ukraine, President Biden announced Wednesday, bolstering Ukrainian forces as they are pummeled by a Russian offensive in the country's east.

The massive arms package, which will include ammunition, artillery systems and, for the first time from the United States, mobile Harpoon anti-air missile launchers, under-

scores the high stakes of Ukraine's attempt to repel a powerful Russian assault in the Donbas region and fears that the Kremlin could still target port cities such as Odessa.

"The United States, together with our allies and partners, will not waver in our commitment to the Ukrainian people as they fight for their freedom," Biden said in a statement after a call with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The scale of the assistance, the United States' single

SEE UKRAINE ON A12

Disappeared: Families say 2 U.S. veterans missing in Ukraine. A12



EDUARDO BARROS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

An officer escorts a suspect to the area where Indigenous expert Bruno Pereira and British journalist Dom Phillips vanished.

Journalist, colleague slain in the Amazon, police say

BY TERRENCE MCCOY

RIO DE JANEIRO — A fisherman has confessed to killing a British journalist and a Brazilian Indigenous expert in the Javari Valley of the Amazon rainforest, police said Wednesday evening, and led investigators to an isolated location where human remains were recovered.

The announcement appeared to bring a grim conclusion to the disappearance of journalist Dom Phillips and government official Bruno Pereira in one of the country's remotest regions, which has transfixed this nation and drawn

new attention to the ongoing criminality that is dismantling the world's largest tropical forest.

Authorities say the fisherman confessed to ambushing Phillips, a Brazil-based contributor to the Guardian and a former contract writer for The Washington Post, and Pereira, a longtime official of Brazil's Indigenous affairs agency, this month in an uninhabited stretch of a river leading to the city of Atalaia do Norte.

"He confessed the practice of this crime and told us the details of where the bodies had been buried," said Eduardo Alexandre

SEE BRAZIL ON A6

IN THE NEWS

Federal case The 18-year-old White suspect accused of killing 10 Black people at a Buffalo grocery is charged with hate crimes, possibly opening the door to the death penalty. A2

273 crashes In the past year, Tesla vehicles running its Autopilot software have been in far more wrecks than previously known. A16

THE NATION The Supreme Court dismissed an attempt by some states to defend a Trump-era immigration policy that made it harder for immigrants to obtain green cards. A2

Advisers to the Food and Drug Administra-

tion recommended use of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccines for babies and young children. A3

THE WORLD Canada and Denmark settled their decades-

long "flag war" over Hans Island, an uninhabited outcropping in the Arctic, ultimately agreeing to split the territory. A10

China's harsh policy of "zero covid" is spurring many professionals to dream of running away from their home country. A14

THE REGION The Colonians moniker used by George Washington University will be retired next year after a long outcry. B1

As D.C. Mayor Muriel E. Bowser seeks a historic third term, she'll need her enthusiastic supporters — and her more reticent ones. B1

LOCAL LIVING Modern manhood To mark this Father's Day, we asked fathers to reflect on what it means to them to be a man.

STYLE Gift, and challenge This new father, who is quadriplegic, focuses on the possible to transcend the limits of his body. C1

BUSINESS NEWS A16
COMICS C6
OPINION PAGES A19
LOTTERIES B3
OBITUARIES B6
TELEVISION C4
WORLD NEWS A10

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0 70628 21100 3

deportes

River, cuesta abajo
Preocupación: dos puntos en tres fechas

Sin poder ofensivo, el equipo de Gallardo cayó 1-0 ante Colón, en Santa Fe; el gol lo hizo Wanchope.

**A Boca le sobraron goles**
Derrotó a Tigre por 5 a 3 en la BomboneraEl equipo de Battaglia volvió al triunfo tras caer en Santiago del Estero. **Página 3****EL BARBIJO DEJA DE SER OBLIGATORIO EN LA CIUDAD**

—sociedad

A partir de hoy, no se exigirá su uso en espacios cerrados; el gobierno, sin embargo, lo recomienda en el transporte y en lugares muy concurridos. **Página 23**

LA NACION

JUEVES 16 DE JUNIO DE 2022 | LANACION.COM.AR

Ante la falta de dólares, aplicarán nuevos controles sobre las importaciones

ECONOMÍA. Definen medidas para frenar la salida de divisas; buscan fortalecer las reservas

Ante la imposibilidad del Banco Central (BCRA) de acumular reservas—en dos días se desprendió de US\$200 millones—pese a los precios récord de las commodities, el Gobierno se apresta a anunciar nuevos controles sobre el comercio exterior para “fortalecer la estabilidad”.

Así lo informó el jefe de Gabinete, Juan Manzur, en conferencia de prensa. “El ministro [de Economía]

está trabajando bajo la indicación del Presidente en determinadas acciones que se van a definir en los próximos días; él las va a formalizar ante la prensa”, dijo Manzur cuando se lo consultó sobre las subas de los dólares libres y la agitación en torno a la deuda en pesos ajustada por CER.

El Ministerio de Economía confirmó que se está trabajando en medidas para restringir lo que definen

como “importaciones especulativas” (por encima de las necesidades y para cubrirse de una eventual devaluación) y sugirió que el BCRA será el encargado de aplicarlas. “Vamos a fijar prioridades que tienen que ver con la energía y con insumos para la producción”, admitió ayer Daniel Scioli, en su asunción como ministro. **Página 16****Fed: la mayor suba de tasas en 28 años**Rafael Mathus Ruiz
Página 4**Guzmán cita a los banqueros por la crisis de la deuda**Javier Blanco. **Página 17****EL ESCENARIO**

El oficialismo se juega su futuro en charlas secretas

Carlos Pagni

—LA NACION—

El destino del kirchnerismo, en su trazo más grueso, se está jugando en sigilosas conversaciones reservadas. Son las tratativas que llevan adelante Martín Guzmán y su subsecretario de Financiamiento, Ramiro Tosi, para que los bancos renueven sus tenencias de títulos públicos en pesos. Es un problema de primera magnitud. El país tiene vedado el crédito internacional porque, dado su nivel de riesgo, la tasa que debería convalidar es impagable. Continúa en la **página 12**

LA NACION EN PARAGUAY**Hidroviía.** Un “gerente” narco avanza en la ruta fluvialGermán de los Santos
ENVIADO ESPECIAL

ASUNCIÓN.— En su mano derecha, Sebastián Marset tiene tatuada la sigla “PCU”. Significa “Primer Cartel Uruguayo”, algo que genera una contradicción, porque este hombre que hasta 2021 jugó con la 10 del club paraguayo Capiatá está acusado de ser uno de los principales operadores en Paraguay de la nueva ruta narco hacia Europa: la Hidroviía. Continúa en la **página 24**



El piloto del avión, Gholamreza Ghasemi, desayunaba ayer en el Hotel Plaza Central Canning, donde está alojado

ENRIQUE GARCÍA MEDINA

Se afirma la hipótesis del espionaje y ordenan allanar el avión

EZEIZA. Fuerzas de seguridad trabajan con la presunción de que la tripulación venía a reunir datos de inteligencia

La llegada del avión venezolano con tripulantes iraníes es investigada en reserva por fuerzas de seguridad del Estado como una operación de inteligencia. Si bien públicamente el Gobierno buscó ayer cerrar la controversia en torno al tema y asegurar que ya se habían dado todas las explicaciones, fuerzas de seguridad al tanto de la operación manejan como principal hipótesis que el vuelo encubrió una operación de inteligencia para

reunir información. Ayer, el juez federal de Lomas de Zamora, Federico Villena, ordenó inspeccionar el avión. El objetivo es buscar documentos y rastros que puedan ayudar a determinar las tareas que venían a realizar los iraníes y venezolanos en Buenos Aires.

Mientras tanto, la tripulación sigue alojada en Canning, donde ayer LA NACION encontró al piloto, Gholamreza Ghasemi (foto). **Página 8****Diputados aprobó el alivio a autónomos y monotributistas****PRIMER PASO.** Eleva un 60% los topes de ventas; beneficiaría a 5 millones de personas. **Página 14**

Pescador assume mortes no AM, diz PF

Segundo polícia, Amarildo de Oliveira indicou onde enterrou corpos do indigenista Bruno Pereira e do repórter Dom Phillips

A Polícia Federal disse ontem que o pescador Amarildo de Oliveira, um dos suspeitos do desaparecimento do indigenista Bruno Pereira e do jornalista britânico Dom Phillips, confessou participação no assassinato deles.

Segundo a polícia, ele indicou onde havia enterrado os corpos, bem como ocultado a lancha em que estavam Pereira e Phillips. O órgão aguarda laudo de perícias para saber se os restos humanos achados são dos dois.

O outro suspeito conhecido, Oseney de Oliveira, irmão de Amarildo, permaneceu em Atalaia do Norte (AM) para audiência de custódia. A investigação não descarta o envolvimento de outras pessoas no crime.

Conhecidos por seu trabalho de defesa da floresta, Pereira e Phillips desapareceram em 5 de junho, quando retornavam de barco para Atalaia do Norte, município mais próximo à Terra Indígena Vale do Javari.

Servidor licenciado da Funai, Pereira vinha sofrendo ameaças, especialmente de pescadores que atuavam ilegalmente na reserva. O caso elevou a pressão internacional sobre a política ambiental do governo Bolsonaro.

Em declaração que provocou críticas, Jair Bolsonaro (PL) disse que Dom Phillips "era malvisto na região" porque fazia reportagens contra garimpeiros e que deveria ter tido mais atenção "consigo próprio". **Política A4 e A5**

Morto aos 41, Bruno Pereira trocou dificuldades para atuar na Funai por ação direta com indígenas AS

Dom Phillips, 57, vivia havia 15 anos no Brasil e amava a Amazônia, sobre a qual estava escrevendo livro AS

Igor Gielow
Apesar de repercussão, efeito eleitoral é limitado AS



O suspeito Amarildo Oliveira é conduzido por policiais federais à região onde estariam os corpos de Bruno Pereira e de Dom Phillips; à noite, após Amarildo indicar local às margens do rio Itaquai, agentes voltam com restos mortais ensacados, que passarão por perícia para haver confirmação de que se trata dos dois. **Fotos Pedro Ladeira/Folhapress**

Mundo tem 1 a cada 88 pessoas deslocada à força
Relatório do Acnur, órgão da ONU para refugiados, registra total de 89,3 milhões de deslocados à força em 2021, 1 em 88 pessoas no planeta. A cifra representa mais que o dobro da observada há uma década e tende a crescer. **Mundo A12**

EUA registram maior alta de juro desde 1994

O Fed (banco central dos EUA) aumentou o juro básico em 0,75 ponto percentual. É a maior alta aplicada pela autoridade americana desde 1994, em posição agressiva para conter a inflação, recorde em quatro décadas.

O ajuste leva a taxa de referência do Fed para o empréstimo diário entre bancos (parâmetro para o setor de crédito) a um intervalo de 1,5% a 1,75% ao ano. É provável nova elevação de até 0,75 ponto na próxima reunião.

Jerome Powell, presidente do órgão, atribuiu a medida à intensificação de pressões inflacionárias, citando problemas na cadeia global de abastecimento devidos a mais casos de Covid na China e à Guerra da Ucrânia.

No Brasil, o Comitê de Política Monetária (Copom) elevou pela 11ª vez seguida a taxa Selic, em 0,5 ponto, para 13,25%. O colegiado indicou que na próxima reunião, em agosto, deve anunciar novo aumento. **Mercado A13 a A14**

Polícia investiga compra de armas do PCC via laranjas

A Polícia Civil de São Paulo investiga um suposto esquema usado pelo PCC para comprar armas por meio de laranjas. Armamento apreendido em operação recente era legalizado, registrado em nome de CACs (coleccionadores, atiradores e caçadores). **Cotidiano B1**

Flávia Boggio Cai no golpe do Instagram

"Vinhos com 30% de descontos. Confira nosso catálogo no link abaixo". Cliquei. Nada aconteceu. Na hora percebi que tinha caído em um golpe, mas já era tarde. Por mais que os amigos se dissessem comovidos com a situação, eu via, no fundo de seus olhos, que pensavam: "Que grande otária". **Ilustrada C5**

EDITORIAIS A2

Anticorpos eleitorais
Sobre liberdade de expressão e combate a fake news.

Ondas da Covid
Acerca de aumento do número de casos da doença.



Rubens Cavallari/Folhapress

CET ISOLA USUÁRIOS DA CRACOLÂNDIA COM CONES

A Prefeitura isolou com cones de trânsito e fitas os dependentes químicos em um dos lados da rua Helvética, no centro de São Paulo, um dia após nova operação policial no local. **Cotidiano B2**

Ilustrada C1
Novo stand-up tira oprimidos do alvo de piadas e põe homens, brancos e héteros

Guia C7
No mês do orgulho LGBTQIA+, veja filmes e séries para cada letra da sigla

Esporte B7
Copa no fim do ano dá descanso a atletas e pode ajudar times que pressionam rival

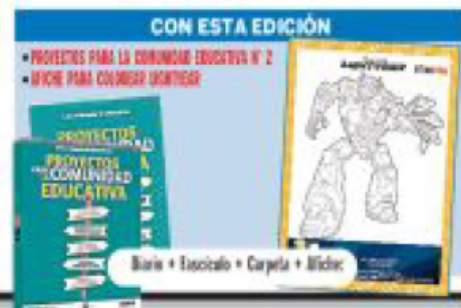
Turismo C8
Passagens caras e voos lotados viram desafio para turista que quer ir à Europa

ANÁLISE
Ricardo Balthazar
Novo documentário sobre a Lava Jato tem olhar parcial **Política A9**

Saúde pode perder 28 milhões de doses, aponta TCU

Auditoria do TCU aponta que o Ministério da Saúde pode perder até o fim de agosto quase 28 milhões de doses contra a Covid, compradas a R\$ 1,23 bilhão, caso as vacinas não sejam aplicadas até lá. Procurada, a pasta não se manifestou sobre o prazo de validade dos lotes. **Saúde B4**

Brasileiros enfrentam longas filas na imigração em Lisboa A10



Hoy vence el plazo para la inscripción de las nominaciones para las internas

Abdo fuerza la Constitución y se candidata para la ANR

El mandatario dice que la puja con Cartes será de vuelta una lucha del dinero contra el auténtico coloradismo. Se abre el mismo debate legal que se dio en la era de Duarte Frutos.

PÁGINAS 2 y 3

Bancada de HC intentó bloquearla
Diputados aprueba la intervención de la Gobernación de Guairá

PÁGINA 5

Aumento de salarios y combustibles
El economista jefe del BCP alerta que inflación puede acentuarse

PÁGINA 11

Aeronave retenida en Buenos Aires
Juez argentino ordena incautación de avión venezolano-iraní

PÁGINA 38



Contrabandistas destruyen la reserva Moisés Bertoni

Crimen ambiental. Abrieron 2 km de camino de forma irregular para transportar artículos ilegales. Reserva está a unos 40 km al sur de Ciudad del Este.

PÁGINA 20

Pretendía impedir que sean usados para el lavado de dinero
Rechazan proyecto para que Seprelad pueda controlar a tabacaleras y clubes

PÁGINA 6

Piden hasta pila alcalina para estudios cardiológicos
IPS sin antigripales en época en que arrecian cuadros respiratorios

PÁGINA 17

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« Sans la liberté de blâmer, il n'est point d'éloge flatteur » Beaumarchais



REPORTAGE
DANS LE DONBASS, AVEC LES
UKRAINIENS EN PREMIÈRE LIGNE
FACE AUX RUSSES **PAGES 10 ET 11**

ENQUÊTE
ACADÉMIE FRANÇAISE :
ET L'ÉPÉE DEVINT
UN ÉVENTAIL... **PAGE 16**



Ces Insoumis qui veulent faire trembler l'Assemblée

Forte de sa dynamique électorale, la Nupes s'apprête à débarquer en force dans l'Hémicycle pour jouer le rôle de premier opposant. Une perspective qui inquiète déjà l'exécutif.

S'il ne semble pas en position de remporter son pari de devenir premier ministre, Jean-Luc Mélenchon aura au moins gagné lors de cette campagne des législatives le statut envi-

de premier opposant. Forte de sa percée au premier tour, la Nupes entend transformer l'essai dimanche et envoyer des dizaines de députés - 180 à 210, selon les dernières esti-

mations - remplir l'Hémicycle. À eux seuls, les Insoumis pourraient obtenir une certaine d'élus et disposer du premier groupe d'opposition pour mener la fronde contre l'exé-

cutif. Un tableau qui effraie les macronistes, qui dramatisent l'enjeu du second tour en installant un bras de fer avec les mélenchonistes. Après avoir solennellement appelé au

« sursaut républicain », Emmanuel Macron s'en est pris mercredi, en Roumanie, au programme européen de Jean-Luc Mélenchon, qui défend la désobéissance aux traités.

➔ MÉLENCHON PRÉPARE UNE OPPOSITION FRONTALE ➔ MACRON ET LA GAUCHE RADICALE, CINQ ANS DE FLOU ET D'ALLERS-RETOURS ➔ LES ÉCOLOGISTES ESPÈRENT ENTRE 25 ET 30 DÉPUTÉS DIMANCHE SOIR ➔ GAEL BRUSTIER : « LES INSOUIS, C'EST NUIT DEBOUT, PLUS LES TRIBUNAUX D'INQUISITION » **PAGES 2 À 5 ET L'ÉDITORIAL**

FIGARO LITTÉRAIRE

Plus de saison pour l'édition

NOTRE SUPPLÉMENT

MIGRANTS
Londres tient à l'issue rwandaise
PAGE 8

RELIGION Les évêques de France prêts à un big bang de l'Église
PAGE 12

EXPOSITION « Végétal », aux Beaux-Arts de Paris
PAGES 30 ET 31

CHAMPS LIBRES

- Abstention : les tribunes de Robert Redeker et de Frédéric Rouvillois et Christophe Boutin
- Les chroniques d'Alexandre Devecchio, de Charles Jaigu et de Luc Ferry
- La tribune collective de 27 économistes et personnalités libérales

PAGES 17 À 19

FIGARO OUI FIGARO NON

Réponses à la question de mercredi :
Selon vous, Emmanuel Macron obtiendra-t-il la majorité absolue à l'Assemblée nationale ?

OUI 45% NON 55%

TOTAL DE VOTANTS : 210 625

Votez aujourd'hui sur lefigaro.fr
Avez-vous été convaincu par l'intervention d'Emmanuel Macron sur le tarmac d'Orly ?

ZUMA/ABACA - OLIVIER MONY

La BCE prête à intervenir pour éviter une crise financière



Alors que les taux d'intérêt se tendent fortement sur les marchés, la BCE se dit déterminée à agir pour éviter tout risque de « fragmentation » de la zone euro. Elle prépare notamment des mesures pour soutenir l'Italie. **PAGE 24**

ÉDITORIAL par Yves Thureau ythureau@lefigaro.fr

Mélenchonisation des esprits

Il paraît que le débat pour savoir s'il est acceptable de poser un signe « égal » entre la Nouvelle Union populaire écologique et sociale et le Rassemblement national en fâche beau-coup. Y compris autour du chef de l'État, où l'on ne sait pas sur quel pied danser. À entendre les gardiens de la bien-pensance, si Marine Le Pen est à la tête d'un parti d'extrême droite, la coalition formée par Jean-Luc Mélenchon ne saurait être qualifiée d'extrême gauche ! Il suffit toutefois de reprendre, une à une, les déclarations du Lider Maximo hexagonal et celles de ses camarades gauchistes pour lever tous les doutes sur la question. Wokistes, indigénistes, communautaristes, antifilcs, antisécistes, intersectionnalistes... Partisans d'une économie hyper dirigiste, les Coquel, Garrido, Panot et autres Chikirou sont aussi de tous les combats antirépublicains : « À bas l'ordre établi » est leur mot d'ordre. Face à leurs diatribes, la mansuétude des médias et de leurs adversaires politiques laisse pantois. S'il était de bon ton de condamner jadis - avec des haute-cœur - la « lepénisation des esprits », la « mélenchonisation » d'une partie de

l'opinion passe aujourd'hui comme une lettre à la poste. On n'ose à peine imaginer le tollé qu'aurait provoqué la venue de Jeremy Corbyn pour soutenir Marine Le Pen aux législatives ! Plus aucun autre sujet n'aurait existé. Pendant des jours, la polémique aurait battu son plein. L'ancien chef travailliste britannique, exclu de son parti pour antisémitisme, est bien passé à Paris, mais pour soutenir Danièle Obono et Danielle Simonnet, candidates de la Nupes. Sa visite n'a pourtant suscité aucune indignation. Où sont passés la Ligue de défense des droits de l'homme, SOS-Racisme et les chaisières de la République ? Qu'ont dit les candidats de gauche qui ont rallié la Nupes de Jean-Luc Mélenchon ? Mieux vaut perdre les élections que son âme, disait-on naguère à droite pour refuser de pactiser avec le Front national. Les donneurs de leçons de tous poils auraient-ils à ce point changé d'avis ? On se demande bien pourquoi... ■

Trois ans après, le flop de l'ouverture du train à la concurrence

Hormis l'italien Trenitalia sur Paris-Lyon et Transdev entre Marseille et Nice, aucun transporteur ferroviaire ne s'est attaqué au monopole de la SNCF sur le rail français, malgré la possibilité qui leur est offerte depuis 2018. Le coût élevé des péages et le manque de matériel ont souvent été dissuasifs pour les prétendants. De son côté, la SNCF fait feu de tout bois pour préserver son pré carré. **PAGES 22 ET 23**

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PM under pressure again as second ethics adviser quits

Lord Geidt steps down in 'frustration' after saying that Johnson may have broken ministerial code

Heather Stewart
Aubrey Allegretti
Rowena Mason

Boris Johnson's attempt to relaunch his premiership suffered a fresh blow last night when his ethics adviser, Lord Geidt, dramatically quit after conceding that the prime minister may have broken the ministerial code over the Partygate scandal.

In a statement released last night, Geidt said: "With regret, I feel that it is right that I am resigning from my post as independent adviser on ministers' interests."

The resignation, the second by an ethics adviser in less than two years, threatens to overshadow Johnson's attempts to shrug off the outcry over Partygate and the subsequent confidence vote from his own MPs last week. Geidt's predecessor, Alex Allan, quit in November 2020 after Johnson ignored his finding that Priti Patel had bullied civil servants.

Geidt faced tough questions from a cross-party committee of MPs this week, during which he conceded it was "reasonable" to suggest Johnson may have broken the ministerial code - which includes an overarching duty to act in accordance with the law.

It is understood that the robust evidence session confirmed in Geidt's mind that his position was no longer tenable. One person who had spoken to him said he was "sick of being lied to". Another said Geidt was "frustrated" at his portrayal as a "patsy".

After what one friend called a "long night of the soul", Geidt sent a strongly worded letter to Johnson yesterday.

Serious breaches of the code are meant to lead to the minister's resignation. Johnson is already facing an investigation by the House of Commons privileges committee over whether he broke it on another count - by misleading parliament about whether lockdown-busting parties



▲ Boris Johnson yesterday. Geidt's resignation will damage his hopes of drawing a line under Partygate
PHOTOGRAPH: MATT DUNHAM/AF

'The person who should be leaving No 10 tonight is Boris Johnson himself'

Angela Rayner
Labour deputy leader

had taken place. The Liberal Democrat chief whip, Wendy Chamberlain, said: "When both of Boris Johnson's own ethics advisers have quit, it is obvious that he is the one who needs to go."

"For the good of Britain, the next resignation we should be hearing about is that of Boris Johnson."

The deputy Labour party leader, Angela Rayner, said: "The prime minister has now driven both of his own hand-picked ethics advisers to resign in despair. If even they can't defend his conduct in office, how can anyone believe he is fit to govern?"

She added: "The person who should be leaving No 10 tonight is Boris Johnson himself. Just how long does the country have to wait before Tory MPs finally do the right thing?"

Geidt's resignation came as Johnson's team were nursing hopes that they had heard the last of Partygate for a few months, after he survived last week's vote of no confidence by backbench Tory MPs.

His exit will raise fresh questions about how Johnson has conducted himself throughout the Partygate furore. Rebel MPs hoping to force the prime minister

Patel faces outcry over Rwanda 'shambles'

Aubrey Allegretti
Rajeev Syal
Diane Taylor

Priti Patel has been accused of participating in a "government by gimmick" in the aftermath of Tuesday's 11th-hour cancellation of the inaugural flight taking asylum seekers to Rwanda.

As the home secretary entertained demands from Conservative backbenchers to pull out of Europe's human rights framework after the policy was scuppered by a court ruling, Labour said the plan to transport refugees 4,000 miles away was never a "serious policy". The criticism came as the Guardian learned that Patel was seeking to curb the number of modern slavery claims from refugees hoping to stay in the UK.

Government sources said a number of "spurious" claims were partly responsible for migrants being removed from deportation flights.

On Tuesday, up to seven people who had come to the UK seeking refuge had been expected to be removed to Rwanda. But a ruling granting a temporary injunction by the European court of human rights (ECHR) on one of the seven cases allowed lawyers for the other six to make last-minute applications.

Appearing in the Commons, Yvette Cooper, the shadow home secretary, said the waste of public money on the policy was "a shambles and it is shameful". "This is not and never has been a serious

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**American heatwave
100m told to stay at home amid soaring temperatures**

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