

# The Washington Post

Prices may vary in areas outside metropolitan Washington.

SU V1 V2 V3 V4

Mostly sunny 70/55 • Tomorrow: Partly sunny 69/46 B6

Democracy Dies in Darkness

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 • \$3

## ELECTION 2024

### Trump's militaristic tendencies spur alarm

Ex-advisers recall 2020 protests, warn he could deploy troops within U.S.

BY ISAAC ARNSDORF, JOSH DAWSEY AND DAN LAMOTHE

As protests swept the nation after the murder of George Floyd and some rioting broke out in Washington, President Donald Trump demanded in a White House meeting in June 2020 that 10,000 troops deploy to the capital, according to people familiar with the matter. The number, one of them said, seemingly was "pulled out of thin air" as he sought to counter any perception that he was weak.

The incident prompted a study in which Pentagon officials and others in the Trump administration reviewed how to address the president's demand. They came back with a proposal to supplement federal police already based in Washington with a few thousand National Guard members; a battalion from the 82nd Airborne Division that could be summoned on short notice from North Carolina; and several hundred soldiers with the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, a unit at nearby Fort Myer whose role is mostly ceremonial at Arlington National Cemetery.

SEE TRUMP ON A6

**Education Dept.:** GOP hopefuls echo calls to close the agency. A3

**Accuser:** Former model claims that Trump groped her in 1993. A5

**Michigan:** The Arab American community is split over Harris. A7

### Dozens killed in the Philippines in fierce tropical storm



ZALRIAN SAYAT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Residents in Naga City waded through a flooded street Thursday after Tropical Storm Trami slammed into the country's northeast, triggering widespread flooding and landslides. At least 24 died, mostly due to drowning.

### Health sidelines D.C.'s Gray

FORMER MAYOR SAYS HE HAS DEMENTIA

Ward 7 council member will stop casting votes

BY PAUL SCHWARTZMAN

Vincent C. Gray, a pillar of District politics for more than two decades whose deteriorating health kept him from seeking another D.C. Council term, said Thursday he would no longer vote on legislation because of "age-related dementia," an announcement that followed a Superior Court judge's ruling to appoint a guardian and conservator for him.

Gray's pronouncement came after his two adult children, Jonice Gray and Carlos Gray, asked Judge Leslie Meek to appoint an overseer for their 81-year-old father, whom they described in a petition as "extremely fragile" after suffering "at least four strokes since November 2021."

Douglas Gansler, the attorney representing Gray's children, said a court-appointed social worker who evaluated Gray at his home Oct. 18 concluded that the council member isn't able to live independently because of his physical condition and impairments, which prevent him from making decisions about his health care and finances.

Gansler said the social worker also reported that Gray has trouble evaluating information and qualifies as "incapacitated."

Gray attended the five-hour SEE GRAY ON A20

### Battered Hezbollah still a 'formidable foe'

BY SUSANNAH GEORGE, SUZAN HAIMAMOUS AND STEVE HENDRIX

BEIRUT — After a series of staggering losses, Hezbollah is putting up a stiff fight against Israeli forces in Lebanon's south while continuing to rain down rockets across the border, underscoring the group's resilience and the limitations of Israel's ground campaign.

When Israel sent troops across

Flexible command setup, aid from Iran prove key in withstanding Israel

the border on Oct. 1, officials estimated that military operations would last for a few weeks. More than three weeks later, officials have said they will probably need a few weeks longer, raising con-

cerns over the kind of mission creep that has defined Israel's past wars in Lebanon. A resurgent Hezbollah damaged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's home in a drone attack over the weekend and has warned that a "new escalatory phase" is coming.

The militant group has bounced back from its unprecedented setbacks — including the penetration of its electronic devices and the assassination of most of its senior leadership —

thanks to a flexible command structure, help from Iran and years of planning for an Israeli invasion, current and former Lebanese officials said. Israeli officials, for their part, contend that the group remains significantly weakened and that operations on the ground in Lebanon are going according to plan.

SEE HEZBOLLAH ON A11

**North Gaza:** U.N. says people are exhausting means to survive. A10

### Musk could see boom for Starlink if Trump wins

CEO spends big in race with billions at stake in contracts and subsidies

BY EVA DOU

Elon Musk's fast-growing satellite business Starlink could be poised to gain billions of dollars more in federal contracts and subsidies under a Donald Trump presidency, industry experts say, in a reflection of the world's richest individual's deepening financial stake in Washington politics.

Trump has cast himself as a space patron, pledging to unleash funds for national-security installations in orbit and slash red tape for Musk. Other Republicans have also telegraphed business upsides for Starlink, including pushing for the company to get a slice of a \$42 billion pot of federal internet subsidies.

A presidential vote of confidence could help the standing of Starlink and its parent company, SpaceX, as they vie for billions of dollars in national-security contracts against rivals like Amazon in the coming years. Musk has struggled to reassure parts of the defense community that he is a trustworthy partner, even as in-

SEE STARLINK ON A16



#### THE MONEY WAR

### AS SANCTIONS SURGE, AN INFLUENCE INDUSTRY IS BOOMING

BY JEFF STEIN, FEDERICA COCCO AND PETER WHORISKEY

A sharp increase in U.S. sanctions has spawned a new lobbying industry in Washington, as businesses and governments around the world attempt to shape these economic penalties by hiring former U.S. officials to leverage their connections, a Washington Post investigation has found.

An avalanche of cash from abroad has flowed to former lawmakers and aides from both parties with experience at some of the highest levels of American government. One firm founded by several former senior Treasury Department officials has reaped tens of millions of dollars from the United Arab Emirates, which several watchdog groups, including Transparency International, describe as a hub of money laundering. Regimes

accused of human rights abuses have turned to former members of Congress for help with sanctions. And a raft of foreign business entities — Kremlin oligarchs, Chinese tech firms, a Serbian arms dealer — has hired lobbyists to try to roll back economic penalties, or have them imposed on rivals.

Foreign spending on sanctions-related lobbying has surged from roughly \$6 million in 2014 to at least \$31 million in 2022, the last year for which complete records are available, The Post found in reviewing Justice Department filings — a more

SEE SANCTIONS ON A12

**Sanctions how-to:** A Russian oligarch's yacht. A14

ILLUSTRATION BY ELENA LACEY/THE WASHINGTON POST; ISTOCK

### Documents link American's Harris deepfakes to Russia

Researchers call Moscow network a potent source of election disinformation

BY CATHERINE BELTON

A former deputy Palm Beach County sheriff who fled to Moscow and became one of the Kremlin's most prolific propagandists is working directly with Russian military intelligence to pump out deepfakes and circulate misinfor-

mation that targets Vice President Kamala Harris's campaign, according to Russian documents obtained by a European intelligence service and reviewed by The Washington Post.

The documents show that John Mark Dougan, who also served in the U.S. Marines and has long claimed to be working independently of the Russian government, was provided funding by an officer from the GRU, Russia's military intelligence service. Some of the payments were made after fake news sites he created

SEE RUSSIA ON A8



NATIONAL ARCHIVES/AP

### U.S. apology for Indian boarding schools

President Joe Biden will apologize Friday for the atrocities suffered by generations of Native American children who were forced to attend the boarding schools, like these children seen in an undated photo at a Nebraska school. Story, A2

## IN THE NEWS

**Key Bridge collapse settlement** The owner and operator of the Dali, the ship that crashed into and felled the span, will pay \$103 million to resolve a Justice Department lawsuit. B1

**Avian angels** A billion-plus birds die in the U.S. each year when they slam into buildings, but volunteers are trying to aid their cause. B1

**THE WORLD** Putin presented himself as a champion of the Global South at a multinational summit. A11  
**Canada will limit** immigration after years of betting big on welcoming newcomers. A20

**THE ECONOMY** The EPA finalized a rule to tighten lead dust standards to better protect children. A15  
**Glitches and delays** with a retooled FAFSA have left a sting for students and schools. A16

**THE REGION** In his bribery case, D.C. Council member Trayon White Sr. opted for a public defender over private counsel. B1  
**Experiences of those** who gave birth while detained in the D.C. jail have spurred legislation to expand the rights of incarcerated mothers. B1

**STYLE** CNN commentator Scott Jennings makes a point to defend Donald Trump at every turn. C1

**WEEKEND** Music, parties, bar crawls and museum events are some of the D.C.-area attractions to enliven (or deaden?) your Halloween.

**SPORTS** The World Series opens tonight in Los Angeles, with the star-studded Dodgers and Yankees renewing a generational rivalry. D1  
**Colorado's NIL** machine is thriving when it comes to football — especially for those close to Coach Deion Sanders. D1

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