



ALLEN J. SCHABEN Los Angeles Times

VETERANS say they have not been consulted on the housing plan for the VA campus in West Los Angeles.

Secrecy surrounds Trump’s plan for West L.A. veterans housing

By DOUG SMITH

President Trump’s executive order calling for a National Center for Warrior Independence to house thousands of veterans in West Los Angeles has gained widespread support, including among his political opposition.

But as a deadline approaches for an action plan to be submitted to the president, supporters of the order have become alarmed that potentially radical change for land donated as a home for disabled veterans more

than a century ago is being drafted behind a wall of secrecy.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has required everyone associated with the planning — employees, contractors and other government officials — to sign nondisclosure agreements and has denied both congressional staffers and veterans and their advocates the opportunity to review or comment on the plan, they say.

“I am thankful for President Trump’s executive order,” said Iraq war veteran Rob Reynolds, speaking at a

roundtable on the executive order last week. “This is the first time I’ve seen or read anything where the president of the United States has taken a position that this is a Soldiers’ Home.”

But Reynolds, who has become an unofficial advocate for veterans trying to obtain housing and services on the West L.A. campus, said the VA has blown an opportunity to build trust with veterans.

“I’ve seen over the years how it goes when you have meetings behind closed doors and you don’t consult with people affected by the

plan,” he said. “There’s going to be problems with that plan.”

The three-hour session in the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall near downtown was convened by Rep. Mark Takano (D-Riverside), ranking member of the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

“Although I disagree with the president on almost everything, I am as eager as he is to see the Soldiers’ Home become a community for veterans and to see us establish a Center for Warrior Independence in West L.A.,” Takano said.

[See Veterans, A7]

Justices uphold ‘roving patrols’ by feds in L.A.

Immigration agents may question people based on language, race or their work.

By DAVID G. SAVAGE AND SONJA SHARP

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court ruled Monday for the Trump administration and agreed U.S. immigration agents may stop and detain anyone they suspect is in the U.S. illegally based on little more than their working at a car wash, speaking Spanish or having brown skin.

In a 6-3 vote, the justices granted an emergency appeal and lifted a Los Angeles judge’s order that barred “roving patrols” from snatching people off Southern California streets based on how they look, what language they speak, what work they do or where they happen to be.

The decision is a significant victory for President Trump, clearing the way for his oft-promised “largest Mass Deportation Operation” in American history.

The court’s conservatives issued a brief, unsigned order that freezes the district judge’s restraining order indefinitely and frees immigration agents from it. As a practical matter, it gives immigration agents broad authority to stop people who they think may be here illegally.

Although Monday’s order is not a final ruling, it strongly signals the Supreme Court will not uphold strict limits on the authority of immigration agents to stop people for questioning.

The Supreme Court has been sharply criticized in recent weeks for handing down orders with no explanation. Perhaps for that reason, Justice Brett M. Kavanaugh wrote a 10-page opinion to explain the decision.

He said federal law says “immigration officers ‘may briefly detain’ an individual ‘for questioning’ if they have ‘a reasonable suspicion, based on specific articulable facts, that the person being questioned ... is an alien illegally in the United States.’”

He said such stops are [See Justices, A8]

Endgame of troop buildup unclear

Trump’s deployments in L.A., D.C. have left Americans divided about what his aim is.

By JENNY JARVIE

Over the weekend, President Trump shared a doctored AI image of himself as Lt. Col. Bill Kilgore, the crazed cavalry commander in the 1979 Vietnam War film “Apocalypse Now,” crouched in a black Stetson hat in front of a flaming Chicago skyline abuzz with black helicopters.

“I love the smell of deportations in the morning,” Trump wrote on Truth Social. “Chicago about to find out why it’s called the Department of WAR.”

Trump has long promis-

Plan for Chicago heightens tension

President wants to send in troops, but governor disputes that crime is the reason. **NATION, A6**

ed to deploy the National Guard to America’s major urban hubs. But his unprecedented push this summer to deploy military convoys into Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. — and drumbeat of threats to send yet more into cities from Baltimore to San Francisco — has left Americans divided on whether his administration is trying to protect people in Democrat-controlled cities or wage war on them.

When Trump first sent troops into L.A. in June, he argued federal immigration agents needed protection from locals who tried to obstruct them from fulfilling their mission. In August, he deployed the National Guard to Washington, D.C., seizing on instances of violent crime to claim a public emergency.

And now he has paired the issues of crime and immigration as he threatens Chicago, deploying militaristic imagery and rhetoric that break long-standing American norms.

As Trump goads Democrat-led cities, dubbing them poorly run “hellholes,” Americans are grappling with a fundamental question in American democracy: Is Trump simply fulfilling his election mandate to [See Troops, A14]

State sues over L.A. County jail deaths

Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta seeks major reform, calling conditions for inmates ‘deplorable.’

By SANDRA McDONALD AND CONNOR SHEETS

The California Department of Justice will sue Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna and his department for what Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta called a “humanitarian crisis” inside the county jails.

Inmates lack basic access to clean water and edible food, and are housed in



BRIAN VAN DER BRUG Los Angeles Times

THE LAWSUIT says 36 deaths have been reported so far in L.A. County jails this year, about one a week.

unsafe, dirty facilities infested with roaches and rats, Bonta said in a news conference Monday. “More alarming, people are dying,” he said.

There have been over 205 in-custody deaths in four years, Bonta said, with 40% caused by suicide, homicides and overdoses. Men’s Central Jail is currently on track to see the highest number of in-custody deaths in at least two decades.

Bonta called for comprehensive reform, and said the county forced his hand by refusing to comply with changes voluntarily.

[See Jails, A8]

Murdochs strike a \$3.3-billion deal to end succession rift

Agreement follows legal drama between mogul, 3 of his children

By MEG JAMES

The closely watched Murdoch succession drama has ended with a \$3.3-billion settlement that gives Lachlan Murdoch control of the family’s influential media assets, including Fox News, the New York Post and the Wall Street Journal.

Fox Corp. on Monday announced the “mutual resolution” of the legal wrangling that had clouded the future direction of the television company and the Murdoch-controlled publishing firm News Corp. The dollar figure was confirmed by a person familiar with the matter who was not authorized to comment publicly.

The succession dispute flared into public view last year after three of Murdoch’s children attempted to block proposed changes that patriarch Rupert Murdoch wanted to make to his trust to cement his oldest son Lachlan’s grip on power. In December, a Nevada pro-



DREW ANGERER Getty Images
LACHLAN MURDOCH is Rupert’s eldest son.

bate commissioner rejected Rupert Murdoch’s request to amend his trust amid the opposition by three of his adult children.

The 94-year-old mogul wanted to ensure the conservative leanings of his media empire would carry on and felt that Lachlan Murdoch, 54, who serves as chairman and chief executive of Fox, was the most ideologically compatible with his own point of view.

Until now, Rupert’s four [See Murdoch, A11]

California joins alliance with 12 U.S. states, Canadian areas to fight fires

By HAYLEY SMITH

Days after California announced that it will form a “West Coast health alliance” with Oregon and Washington, officials on Friday said the Golden State will also join a collaborative agreement with 12 other states, provinces and territories geared toward the prevention and suppression of wild-

fires.

The Northwest Wildland Fire Fighting Compact enables its U.S. and Canadian members to share firefighting resources and technology when blazes exceed the capacity of a single jurisdiction. The partnership comes as California grapples with larger, faster and more frequent fires fueled by climate change — and as the Trump administration cuts the staff

and budget of the U.S. Forest Service, the largest federal firefighting entity in the nation.

“While the Trump administration retreats from firefighting, California is proud to join forces with our northwestern neighbors to fight catastrophic wildfire,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a statement. “We’re all on the front lines of this worsening [See Compact, A14]



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DODGERS STILL HAVE BELIEF IN RELIEF

Despite the bullpen’s season-long struggles and an epic collapse last weekend, the club is counting on corps to improve in the stretch run. **SPORTS, B10**

Cold front will bring comfort

After weeks of heat, temps will drop 10 to 20 degrees below average in parts of the Southland. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Is Howard Stern staying or going?

The veteran radio personality, now 71, had listeners guessing about his return to SiriusXM. **BUSINESS, A10**

Weather

Fog to sunshine. L.A. Basin: 82/64. **B6**

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