



**Kentucky's Flooding Toll**  
Storms on Sunday hindered recovery efforts in places like Knott County. At least 37 are dead, and hundreds are missing. Page A16.

**U.S. Warns China Not to Cause A 'Crisis' if Pelosi Visits Taiwan**

WASHINGTON — The United States warned China on Monday not to respond to an expected trip to Taiwan by Speaker Nancy Pelosi with military provocations even as American officials sought to reassure Beijing that such a visit would not be the first of its kind nor represent any change in policy toward the region.

With tensions rising on the eve of Ms. Pelosi's anticipated arrival in Taipei, the White House said it was concerned that China might fire missiles into the Taiwan Strait, send warplanes into Taiwan's air defense zone or stage large-scale naval or air activities that cross traditional lines.

"There is no reason for Beijing to turn a potential visit consistent with longstanding U.S. policy into some sort of crisis or conflict, or use it as a pretext to increase aggressive military activity in or around the Taiwan Strait," John F.

**Ukraine's Grain Gets Moving, But Food Disaster Still Looms**

By Declan Walsh  
NAIROBI, Kenya — In the Horn of Africa, villagers trek for days across dust-blown wastelands to escape drought-induced famine. In cities from Syria to Central America, families go to bed hungry. In Afghanistan, starving children stream into hospitals.

On Monday, a ship carrying that grain left the Ukrainian port of Odesa, the first since Russia invaded Ukraine in February, also carried fragile hopes that it might stem a global tide of hunger.

Ukraine's bagging stores hold 29 million tons of grain — a trillion of calories trapped, until a diplomatic deal was brokered by Turkey and the United Nations last month. Sixteen more grain ships are expected to leave in the coming days, navigating mined waters in the Black Sea.

But experts say that getting Ukrainian grain exports moving again will barely make a dent in a

**Abortion Chaos: Are They 'Going to Let Me Die?'**

By NEELAM BOHRA  
CHATTAHOOGA, Tenn. — Madison Underwood was lying on the ultrasound table, nearly 19 weeks pregnant, when the doctor came in to say her abortion had been cancelled.

Nurses followed and started wiping away lukewarm sonogram gel from her exposed belly as the doctor leaned over her shoulder to speak to her fiancé, Adam Queen.

She recalled that she went quiet, her body went still. What did they mean, they couldn't do the abortion? Just two weeks earlier, she and her fiancé had learned her fetus had a condition that would not allow it to survive outside the womb. If she tried to carry to term, she could become critically ill, or even die, her doctor said.

Now, she was being told she couldn't have an abortion she didn't even want, but needed.

"They're just going to let me die?" she remembers wondering.

In the blur around her, she heard the doctor and nurses talking about a clinic in Georgia that could do the procedure now that the legal risks of performing it in

**Wealthy Friends May Be Ticket Out of Poverty**

This article is by Claire Cohn Miller, Josh Katz, Francesca Paris and Antiah Bishop.

Over the last four decades, the financial circumstances of kids which children have been born have increasingly determined where they have ended up as adults. But an expensive new study, based on billions of social media connections, has uncovered a powerful exception to that pattern that helps explain why certain places offer a path out of poverty.

For poor children, living in an area where people have more friendships that cut across class lines significantly increases how much they earn in adulthood, a new research found.

The study, published Monday in *Nature*, analyzed the Facebook friendships of 73 million people, amounting to 84 percent of U.S. adults aged 25 to 44.

Continued on Page A15

**U.S. DRONE STRIKE KILLS KEY PLOTTER OF 9/11, BIDEN SAYS**

**Leader of Al Qaeda After Bin Laden — Kabul Attack Ends 21-Year Hunt**

This article is by Peter Baker, Hillel Cooper, Julian E. Barnes and Eric Schmitt.

WASHINGTON — An American drone strike killed Ayman al-Zawahiri, a key plotter of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks who took over as the leader of Al Qaeda after Osama bin Laden's death, at an urban safe house in Afghanistan, President Biden announced on Monday night.

The early-morning strike in the heart of downtown Kabul over the weekend capped a 21-year manhunt for an Egyptian radical who more than anyone besides Bin Laden was deemed responsible for the deadliest foreign attack on the United States in modern times and never gave up targeting Americans.

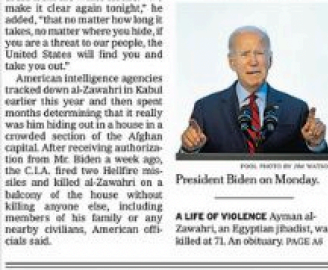
"Now justice has been delivered and this terrorist leader is no more," Mr. Biden said in a seven-minute nationally televised address from the White House. "We make it clear again tonight," he added, "that no matter how long it takes, no matter where you hide, you are a threat to our people, the United States will find you and take you out."

American intelligence agencies tracked down al-Zawahiri in Kabul earlier this year and then spent months determining that it really was him hiding out in a house in a crowded section of the Afghan capital. After receiving authorization from Mr. Biden a week ago, the C.I.A. fired two Hellfire missiles and killed al-Zawahiri on a balcony of the house without killing anyone else, including members of his family or any nearby civilians, American officials said.

The scale of the crisis — fueled by wars, the economic devastation of the Covid-19 pandemic and extreme weather often worsened by climate change — is so immense that no single advance would be a silver bullet.

As many as 50 million people in 45 countries are teetering on the brink of famine, according to the U.N.'s World Food Program. In the 20 worst-hit countries, the situation is likely to worsen substantially by the end of the summer, it said.

That suffering is the extreme end of an expanding spectrum of



President Biden on Monday.

**Big Cities Talk Return to Office. Rest of U.S. Is Already There.**

By Emma Goldberg  
GOLDEN in the car (currently, a biography of Winston Churchill) is a relief, he said, to feel the "aspiration of church and state" that came from leaving the house each day.

"Almost everybody I know is in an office most of the time here," he said. "The headlines that I read about as far as people dragging their feet going back to the office are about select companies and select cities."

More than two years into the pandemic, American corporate workplaces have splintered. Some are nearly as full as they were before Covid-19 struck; others sit empty.

For people whose goal had just won the country's first major soccer trophy in 56 years, was midway through an on-field interview when the decided she'd had enough. Any moment, she expected answering questions was a moment spent not celebrating England's triumph at soccer's European Championship.

So Ms. Kelly ditched the BBC microphone and headed away. In that moment, what she needed more than anything was to see "three car lines" at the top of her lungs as millions on housing, child-care

**What's News**

**Business & Finance**

Merger activity slowed dramatically through July after a record surge from a drop in 2021, hampered by lack of clarity about the direction of the economy and its markets, and some deal makers are bracing for an even quieter rest of the year. A1

Amgen is in a pitched battle with the IRS over the company's international tax strategy and \$10.7 billion in back taxes and penalties that the agency says it is owed. A1

Growth at U.S. manufacturing companies was its weakest in two years in July, but inflationary pressures showed signs of cooling as commodity prices eased. A2

British investors aren't buying into hopes that July's rapid pace for stocks heralds the start of a new bull market. B1

U.S. stocks closed slightly lower, with the S&P 500, Nasdaq and Dow slipping 0.5%, 0.2% and 0.1%, respectively. B1

Eske Lander is in talks to buy luxury fashion brand Tom Ford in what could be a \$3 billion or more deal. B1

Toronto-Dorland bank is close to a move that is \$1 billion deal to acquire investment bank Cowi. B1

A group led by Apollo Global Management is in advanced talks to buy airline company Alaska. B1

Evergrande said one of its units has been told to honor a \$1.1 billion guarantee, re-opening yet another large financial obligation that it previously disclosed. B10

**World-Wide**

The White House said that a U.S. missile launched from a drone in Afghanistan killed al-Qaeda leader Zawahiri, a founding member of the jihadist movement and one of the key strategists behind an international campaign of terror that culminated in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. A1, A7

Pelosi is planning to visit Taiwan and meet with investment officials this week, defying warnings from Beijing not to do so until it was clear the potential for increased tensions between the U.S. and China. A1

Ukraine dispatched its first grain shipment since the start of Russia's invasion, with a vessel leaving Odesa, under a deal aimed at easing global food shortages. A7

The first Jan. 6 defendant to go to trial was sentenced to more than seven years in prison, the longest sentence given so far over the attack on the U.S. Capitol. A4

Senators returned to work Monday, with Democrats defending their climate, pension drug and tax plan while Republicans stepped up criticism of the package. A4

A state appeals court in Michigan opened the door to county prosecutors to enforce the state's dormant 1931 law on abortion. A2

Rockwell raised the death toll from the state's historic flooding to 265 people, as rescue workers continued searching for the missing. A3

Diehl, Mo. Oct. 9, 9, influenza virus outbreak. A6

**INSIDE**

**SPORTS**  
Deshaun Watson gets six-game suspension over sex-misconduct allegations. A12

**Women Show Countrymen How to Win**

U.K. goes gaga for England's Lionesses

By JOANNA ROSSIGNOL

England striker Chloe Kelly, the woman whose goal had just won the country's first major soccer trophy in 56 years, was midway through an on-field interview when the decided she'd had enough. Any moment, she expected answering questions was a moment spent not celebrating England's triumph at soccer's European Championship.

So Ms. Kelly ditched the BBC microphone and headed away. In that moment, what she needed more than anything was to see "three car lines" at the top of her lungs as millions on housing, child-care

**U.S. Strike Kills al Qaeda's Leader**

Zawahiri, who served as No. 2 to bin Laden and oversaw 9/11, is targeted in Afghanistan

By Jessica Dowrick, Nancy A. Fossort and Warren Strobel

WASHINGTON — The White House said Monday that a U.S. missile launched from a drone in Afghanistan killed al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri, a founding member of the jihadist movement and one of the key strategists behind an international campaign of terror that culminated in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

The U.S. strike targeted a safe house in a residential area in central Kabul on Sunday morning, in what was the first known counterterrorism operation in the country since U.S. forces withdrew last year. The Biden administration said the Taliban were aware that Zawahiri was hiding in Kabul, the closest ally of the continuing alliance between al-Qaeda and the group now ruling Afghanistan.

Zawahiri, 71, was an Egyptian national and longtime deputy of al-Qaeda's founder, Osama bin Laden. In the build-up to 9/11, Zawahiri was the

most important of bin Laden's advisers as they oversaw the operation in which hijackers crashed airliners into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field, killing nearly 3,000 people. He was also instrumental in shaping how the terrorist group used the 2001 attacks to recruit members, often through propaganda letters and videos, speaking from a White House balcony Monday, President Biden announced the strike, describing Zawahiri as a terrorist leader who for decades "saw the mask behind the attacks against Americans." Besides 9/11, those attacks included the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed 224 people, and the 2000 attack on the USS Cole, which killed 17 sailors, including his eight-month-old son.

**Kyiv, Moscow Prepare for Clash in South as Attacks Intensify**



ABLAZE: A firefighter battles flames at a hospital hit by a Russian missile strike in the southern city of Mykolajiv on Monday. The Ukrainian and British military said Russia is repositioning troops ahead of a Ukraine offensive in the south. A7

**Pelosi To Visit Taiwan in Challenge To China**

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is planning to visit Taiwan and meet with government officials this week, defying warnings from Beijing not to do so until it was clear the potential for increased tensions between the U.S. and China.

By Jess Wang in Taipei, Hsin-Ping in Hong Kong and Alex Leary in Washington

People whom Mrs. Pelosi (D, Calif.) is planning to see in Taiwan have been informed of her imminent arrival, a person familiar with the matter said, though some details remain in flux. Some meetings were scheduled for Tuesday evening, but most were set for Wednesday, the person said. "She's definitely coming," the person said. "The only variable is whether she spends the night in Taipei."

A visit by Mrs. Pelosi would make her the first House speaker to go to Taiwan in 25 years and put her in the center of a longstanding flap about U.S.-China relations. American

**Market Woes Slow Deal Activity**

By Lucas Goossa

Merger activity slowed dramatically through July after a record surge from a drop in 2021, hampered by lack of clarity about the direction of the economy and its markets, and some deal makers are bracing for an even quieter rest of the year. A1

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Higher interest rates have raised the cost of financing deals and made bond loans harder to come by. The end of a boom in deals involving special purpose acquisition companies also has taken a toll on merger activity.

"Uncertainty is never helpful for M&A," said Sam Alvarez, global co-head of mergers and acquisitions at JPMorgan Chase & Co.

Deals are happening, including last week's agreement between JetBlue Airways Corp. and Spirit Airlines Inc., and on Monday the Wall Street Journal reported potential deals including Bole Lander Co.'s talks for fashion brand Tom Ford. Still, Mr. Alvarez expects deal activity in U.S.-China relations to be lower

**Amgen Battles With the IRS Over Its \$10.7 Billion Tax Bill**

By Jeffrey Walker and Richard Rubin

Biotech Amgen Inc. is in a pitched battle with the Internal Revenue Service over the company's international tax strategy and \$10.7 billion in back taxes and penalties that the agency says it is owed.

The IRS says that Amgen underreported its taxable income by nearly \$20 billion from 2010 to 2021 by inappropriately

could rise significantly going forward if the IRS prevails.

Amgen has king of one of the lowest tax rates in the pharmaceutical industry, reporting a median 12.5% effective tax rate over the past decade, compared with an 18% median rate across the 10 largest pharma companies, according to FactSet data.

The low tax burden is driven largely by Amgen's manufacturing the first that its tax rate

**Company Remakes Town to Woo Workers**

Window maker in rural Iowa spends millions on housing, amenities to aid hiring

By QUINN L. SCOTT

PELLA, Iowa—Pella Corp. has offered more than 100 new housing plants in more than 30 cities across the U.S. and Canada.

But one of the toughest jobs, say executives at this closely held maker of window and doors, is convincing workers to locate here in its hometown, a rural city of about 10,000 residents 45 miles southwest of Des Moines.

The company and its controlling shareholders—members of the founding Ruppert family and its descendants—set out to change that. They have spent tens of millions of dollars in the past three years on housing, child-care

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