

Ukraine Allies Ponder Options As Cities Falter

Russia's Gains in East Raise Big Questions

By THOMAS GIBBONS-NEFF and MATINA STEVIS-GRIDNEFF

LYSYCHANSK, Ukraine — With Russia about to encircle Sievierodonetsk, a city critical to its goal of seizing Ukraine's east, and with a neighboring city squarely in Moscow's sights, the question of how realities on the ground will shape the next phase of the war became still more pressing Sunday for Ukraine's Western allies.

"The Russians are making every effort to cut off Sievierodonetsk," the regional governor, Serhiy Haidai, said Sunday on Telegram, the messaging app. "The next two or three days will be significant."

Across the river, Ukrainians trying to hold fast against the Russians in Lysychansk had the advantage of good terrain — but dwindling weaponry to defend it with.

"If there is no help with military equipment, of course they will drive us out," said Oleksandr Voronenko, 46, a military police officer stationed in Lysychansk. "Because every day the equipment is destroyed. You have to replace it with something new."

Ukrainian officials have been imploring NATO allies for faster delivery of longer-range weapons, and the urgently needed replenishment of still more basic supplies, including ammunition.

But with the momentum of the war shifting more decisively in Russia's favor, Ukraine's allies, their economies threatened and their resolve tested, may soon find themselves forced to confront far more fundamental questions than what sort of weapons to provide, including whether to put pressure on Ukraine to reach a peace agreement with Russia or risk Russian escalation with more aggressive military support.

"There was always a sense that, when the center of gravity shifted to the south and east, there would be the potential for greater Russian gains based on greater mass and their existing territorial acquisitions," said Ian Lesser, a former American official who heads the Brussels office of the German Marshall Fund.

"But it does raise more serious longer-term questions about the nature of the conflict, Ukraine's aims and Western aims in relation to those," he said.

As Ukrainians wait, they are suffering horrific losses in the Donbas region, where the fight for Sievierodonetsk is playing out. By Ukraine's own assessment, it is losing between 100 and 200 people a day as the bloodshed there worsens, in part because of Russian material superiority and in part because of Ukraine's determination to fight on despite the increasingly bleak picture in the east.

Those Western supplies that have made it through to the front

Continued on Page A9



TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Families in the eastern city of Lysychansk, Ukraine, waiting to be evacuated on Sunday amid bombing by Russian forces.

Pregnant in Poland, Where Abortion Is Banned

By KATRIN BENNHOLD and MONIKA PRONCZUK

PSZCZYNA, Poland — It was shortly before 11 p.m. when Izabela Sajbor realized the doctors were prepared to let her die.

Her doctor had already told her that her fetus had severe abnormalities and would almost certainly die in the womb. If it made it to term, life expectancy was a year, at most. At 22 weeks pregnant, Ms. Sajbor had been admitted to a hospital after her water broke prematurely.

She knew that there was a short window to induce birth or surgically

A Woman's Well-Being Can Be Sacrificed for Her Fetus's Health

remove the fetus to avert infection and potentially fatal sepsis. But even as she developed a fever, vomited and convulsed on the floor, it seemed to be the baby's heartbeat that the doctors were most concerned about.

"My life is in danger," she wrote in a string of distressed text messages to her mother and husband

that was shared with The New York Times by her family's lawyer. "They cannot help as long as the fetus is alive thanks to the anti-abortion law," she wrote only hours before she died. "A woman is like an incubator."

Abortion has seized the United States' attention anew with the prospect that, as early as this month, the Supreme Court could overturn Roe v. Wade, the decision that has made the procedure terminating a pregnancy legal for nearly 50 years. If Roe is overturned, half of American women may lose legal access to abortion.

Continued on Page A6

Behind Attack In California, Rift in Taiwan

This article is by Amy Qin, Jill Cowan, Shawn Hubler and Amy Chang Chien.

David Chou and Pastor Billy Chang spent their whole lives forging parallel paths. They were born in early 1950s Taiwan, grew up just miles apart during martial law and later rebuilt their lives in the United States.

But over several decades, they carried with them vastly different memories — and views — of the island of their birth.

Mr. Chou was the son of parents who fled mainland China following the 1949 Communist revolution, part of a mass exodus of Chinese who established an authoritarian government-in-exile in Taiwan. Though he was born on the island, he and his parents were "mainlanders" devoted to the Chinese motherland and saw Taiwan as forever part of China.

Pastor Chang's relatives were local Taiwanese who had spent centuries on the island. At home, he spoke Taiwanese Hokkien, a language that for decades was banned in public spaces. Pastor Chang grew to believe that despite Beijing's longstanding claims, the self-ruled island had its own identity, separate from China.

In May, the lives of the two men collided in a quiet retirement community in Southern California. Authorities say that Mr. Chou, 68 — armed with two guns, four Molotov cocktails and a deep-seated

Continued on Page A17



ANNA LIMINOWICZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Barbara Skrobol with her niece. The girl's mother, Izabela Sajbor, died at 22 weeks pregnant.

Brazil Leader Enlists Military as Election Skeptic

By JACK NICAS

RIO DE JANEIRO — President Jair Bolsonaro of Brazil has for months consistently trailed in the polls ahead of the country's crucial presidential race. And for months, he has consistently questioned its voting systems, warning that if he loses October's election, it will most likely be thanks to a stolen vote.

Those claims were largely re-

Many Fear He's Setting Stage for Coup

garded as talk. But now, Mr. Bolsonaro has enlisted a new ally in his fight against the electoral process: the nation's military.

The leaders of Brazil's armed forces have suddenly begun raising similar doubts about the integ-

egrity of the elections, despite little evidence of past fraud, ratcheting up already high tensions over the stability of Latin America's largest democracy and rattling a nation that suffered under a military dictatorship from 1964 to 1985.

Military leaders have identified for election officials what they say are a number of vulnerabilities in the voting systems. They were given a spot on a transparency

Continued on Page A12

A Retired Architect, and a Tower Using His Seal

By MATTHEW HAAG

Amid the glittering geometric towers that dot the Manhattan skyline, the hotel on 11th Avenue in Hudson Yards was designed to stand out. At 642 feet tall, the building soars above the Hudson River, featuring jagged sets of floor-to-ceiling windows that shimmer in the sun.

To all outward appearances, Warren L. Schiffman, who is in his

Firm Kept Listing Him on Design Plans

mid-80s and retired, was the architect of record on the project. His professional seal and signature were stamped on its design and those of two other large-scale projects in New York City, a hotel near La Guardia Airport and dual

high-rise residences in Queens. All share the same developer, Marx Development Group.

But Mr. Schiffman said he had no active role in those projects, a statement that raises questions about whether the buildings were approved for construction without the oversight and involvement of a registered architect — a requirement in New York State to ensure that buildings are properly de-

Continued on Page A18

NATIONAL A13-18

Trump Campaign Chief Is Next

Bill Stepien is expected to appear at the Jan. 6 hearing to detail what he and the former president knew about the false claims of election fraud.

PAGE A14

BUSINESS B1-6

A Data-Driven Way to Date

From her Oakland commune, Logan Ury has used her approach to modern romance to coach those looking for love and has created a big business.

PAGE B1

SPORTS D1-8

She Just Wants to Play Ball

Kelsie Whitmore, a pitcher and outfielder for the Staten Island FerryHawks in pro baseball's Atlantic League, doesn't want to feel like an outlier.

PAGE D1

ARTS C1-8

Winning Broadway Comeback

The Tony Awards celebrated the return of audiences to theaters and a season in which 34 new productions were mounted despite challenges.

PAGE C1

OPINION A20-21

Pamela Paul

PAGE A21



NEW BLOCK OF TICKETS ON SALE TODAY!
NOW THROUGH NOV 27
MUSICMANONBROADWAY.COM