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MIDDLE EAST

Intel chiefs doubted regime fall

U.S. assessment found war in Iran wasn't likely to change leadership

By Michelle L. Price and Mary Clare Jalonick
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A U.S. intelligence assessment completed shortly before the United States and Israel launched a war in Iran had determined that American military intervention was not likely to lead to regime change in the

Islamic Republic, according to two people familiar with the finding.

The National Intelligence Council's assessment in February concluded that neither limited airstrikes nor a larger, prolonged military campaign would be likely to result in a new government taking over in Iran, even if the current leadership was killed, according to the

two people, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe the classified report.

The determination undercuts the administration's assertion that it can complete its objectives in Iran relatively quickly, perhaps in a matter of weeks. The administration has asserted that it was not seeking regime change in Iran, even as the strikes have taken out many figures in the Iranian leadership and President Donald Trump

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People wave Iranian flags as they hold posters of the late Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, showing him at different ages, during a rally to support his son, Ayatollah Mojtaba Khamenei, who succeeds his slain father as the new supreme leader, in Tehran, Iran, on Monday. VAHID SALEMI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

RV shows set to test consumer sentiment



Kris Hobbs, 73, of Wildomar checks out towable RVs at the Ultimate RV Show at the Pechanga RV Resort in Temecula on Wednesday. Camping World, which runs the largest recreational vehicle network with more than 200 stores, organized the five-day Temecula event, which ended Sunday. PHOTOS BY ANJALI SHARIF-PAUL — STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Inflation and high interest rates have put a crimp in sales in recent years

By Pat Maio
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The circuit to showcase RVs is coming to life this month in Southern California as anxious dealers wait to see if consumer sentiment is shifting their way after four years of flagging sales.

Camping World, which runs the largest recreational vehicle network with more than 200 stores, on Wednesday rolled out hundreds of new and used RVs for its Ultimate RV Show at a campground behind the Pechanga Resort Casino in Temecula.

Most of the lookie-loos were curious, but few were buying. Wildomar resident Kris Hobbs,

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Potential customer Liz Hutsell explores RVs on display at the Ultimate RV Show at the Pechanga RV Resort in Temecula on Wednesday. Prices of RVs can range from \$10,000 to \$500,000 or higher.

MALIBU

Sanctuary's animals help fire survivors find comfort

Big Heart Ranch hosts families and volunteers to connect with rescues

By Julianna Lozada
CORRESPONDENT

Seven-year-old Felix Koch quickly gravitated toward the chickens.

For Felix, the chickens at Malibu's Big Heart Ranch this weekend reminded him of life before the disaster hit — before the giant Jan. 7, 2025, Palisades fire took his family's home and thousands of others. A few weeks prior to losing his home, his own pet chickens died.

"It just coincidentally reminds them of happy times in the home," said his father, Arno Koch. "He basically grew up with chickens. All his life, he was around chickens."

Felix wasn't the only one reflecting on Sunday at the ranch, a wellness center and sanctuary stretching along the Pacific Coast Highway, populated with rescued farm animals.

Big Heart Ranch welcomed nearly 50 volun-

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ANTITRUST LAWSUIT

Live Nation reaches tentative deal with Justice Department

AGs for 26 states signal they will not accept proposed settlement

By Alanna Durkin Richer and Larry Neumeister
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Justice Department said Monday it has tentatively settled its antitrust lawsuit against Ticketmaster and parent company Live Nation Entertainment, striking a deal to ultimately lower ticket prices for consumers and end an illegal monopoly over live events in America.

But some states, including California, signaled they won't join the deal and will continue an ongoing trial.

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