



Swing-state Democrats split on trans rights

NEWS, 3A

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ICE secretly tracking protesters

Records reveal ‘Agitator Log’ kept in Minnesota

Nick Penzenstadler
USA TODAY

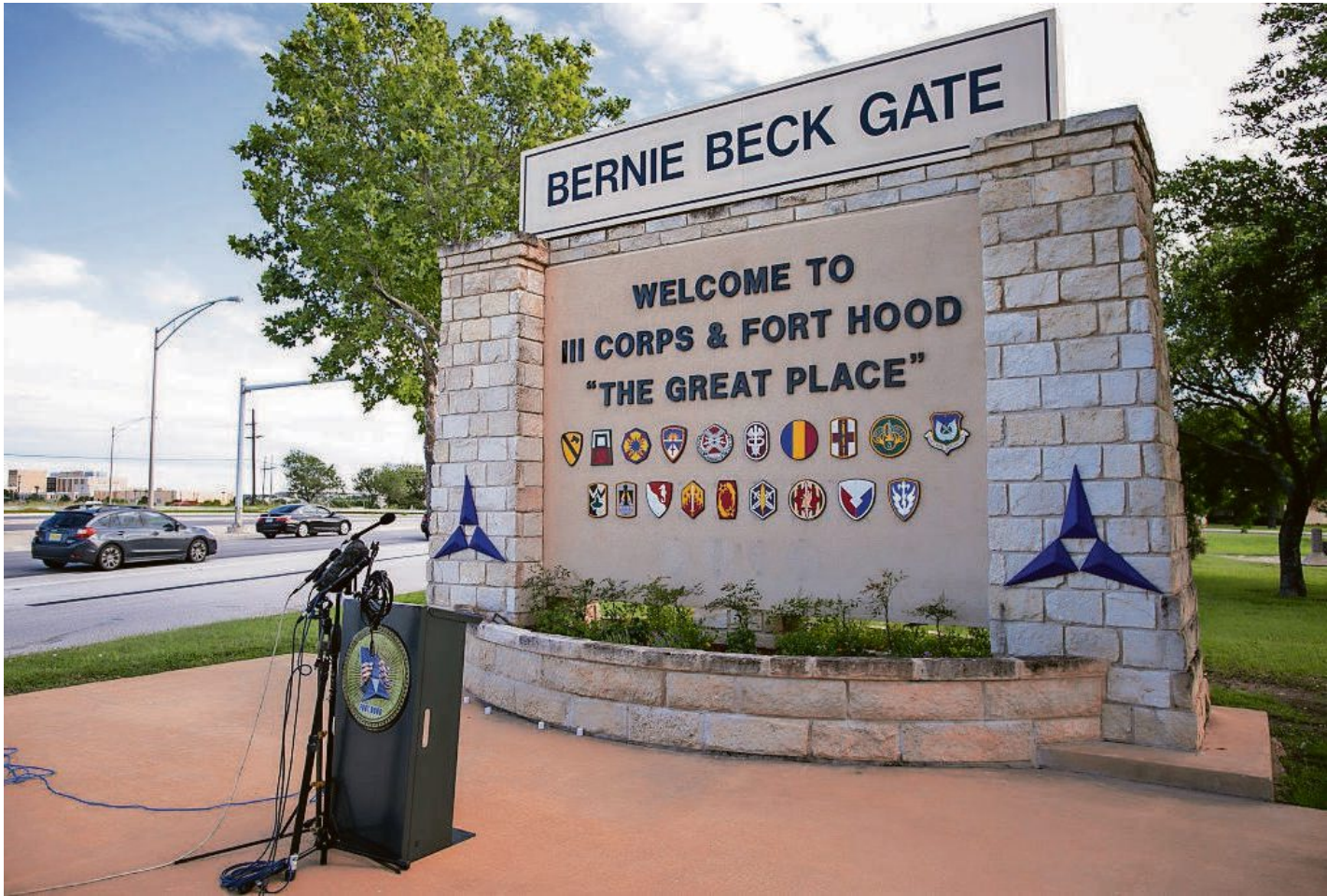
Michael Khalili always suspected his work tracking federal immigration officers in Minneapolis would land him on the federal government’s radar. The photos agents took of his car and face had to go somewhere. Those fears became real when his

status with Global Entry, a prescreened flyer program, was revoked a day after an exchange in March with Immigration and Customs Enforcement. He then faced secondary airport screening when returning to the United States from an international trip this fall. Now he has proof. USA TODAY sued ICE under the Freedom of Information Act and obtained a

St. Paul, Minnesota, field office database that reveals what legal observers feared: Protesters are being tracked and logged into a secret database for what they argue is exercising protected First Amendment speech. The document, titled simply “Agitator Log,” contains 60 instances of ICE officers in Minneapolis logging their interactions with protesters and legal observers around the Whipple Federal Building in the spring of 2026. “I am in no way surprised. It was clear

they were tracking us and trying to find reasons to crack down on us,” Khalili told USA TODAY. “I try to keep this in perspective. I wasn’t physically harmed, but American democracy cannot operate this way.” Each incident includes an ICE officer’s brief description of the interaction, along with information about the protester’s vehicle, license plates, a photo of the car, and whether the officer

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Nidal Malik Hasan, a former U.S. Army major who committed a mass shooting at Fort Hood in Texas in 2009, is scheduled to be executed on Dec. 3. DREW ANTHONY SMITH/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hegseth: Execution to be live streamed

Vance says he’s unsure Pentagon’s plans will proceed

Fernando Cervantes Jr.,
Amanda Lee Myers and James Powell
USA TODAY

Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth said the firing squad execution of former Army Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan will be available for the public to see in what would be an unprecedented development in the history of the death penalty. However, Vice President JD Vance told reporters on Oct. 9 he is unsure whether the Penta-



Hegseth



Hasan

gon will proceed with the live stream. Hasan, who carried out a mass shooting at Fort Hood in Texas in 2009, will be getting a “firing squad of soldiers,” Hegseth said in comments to Real America’s Voice on Oct. 8. “We’ll make sure that people are able to watch it, that it’s public,” he said. “Because people need to understand that there are serious consequences for these types of things.” Hegseth confirmed that the execu-

tion would be live streamed by replying to a CBS News report on X and saying, “correct.” Acting Secretary of the Army Adam Telle previously announced that Hasan’s execution would take place at Fort Hood on Dec. 3. Reuters reported that the Pentagon would announce further details. But Vance is uncertain the plans will proceed as intended. “I don’t know that that’s actually going to happen,” Vance told reporters in Cincinnati. Vance added that if a livestream does occur, he is “not going to be

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Poll: Most blame Trump for high prices

Howard Schneider, Ann Saphir
and Jason Lange
REUTERS

WASHINGTON – Some 78% of Americans blame President Donald Trump’s policies for rising prices that are outpacing their earnings, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll that found majorities of Republicans and Democrats citing the cost of living as their top concern ahead of next month’s midterm elections. Fifty-seven percent of Trump’s Republicans said that costs have been growing faster than their paychecks, a stark example of how his pursuit of import tariffs, war with Iran and other policies have clashed with a central 2024 campaign promise to kill inflation and lower prices “on day one.”



Trump

Inflation instead has increased, to the point where the Federal Reserve has pivoted to rate hikes to quell price increases policymakers have attributed to a variety of factors, including rising global energy costs following the start of the Iran war, and the administration’s imposition of aggressive import duties. Concerns about the economy and the war have driven Trump’s public approval to record lows and have been weighing on support for his party ahead of the Nov. 3 election that will determine control of Congress for the next two years. About one in four Republicans disapproved of Trump’s handling of the economy, a view shared by 63% of independents and 92% of Democrats. Disapproval was even sharper when it came to inflation, with 68% of all respondents and 40% of Republicans dissatisfied. Jeffrey Talley, 65, a retired bank examiner from Mission Hills, Kansas, is a

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