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Trump confirms Pompeo-Kim meeting

The Washington Post

CIA Director Mike Pompeo made a top-secret visit to North Korea as an envoy for President Donald Trump to meet with Kim Jong Un, and plans for a possible summit between the leaders are underway, Trump confirmed Wednesday.

The extraordinary meeting between one of Trump's most trusted emissaries and the authoritarian head of a rogue state was part of an effort to lay the groundwork for direct talks between Trump and Kim about North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

The clandestine mission came late last month, soon after Pompeo was nominated to be secretary of state. The Pompeo mission was first reported Tuesday by *The Washington Post*, citing two people with direct knowledge of the trip.

On Wednesday, Trump acknowledged the outreach and said "a good relationship was formed" that could lead to a landmark meeting between the president and Kim.

"Mike Pompeo met with Kim Jong Un in North Korea last week," Trump tweeted. "Meeting went very smoothly and a good relationship was formed. Details of Summit are being worked out now. Denuclearization will be a great thing for World, but also for North Korea!"

Trump did not give further details of the talks, which took place over Easter weekend, according to the two people who first described the Pompeo trip to *The Post*. It was unclear why Trump referred to "last week" in his tweet.

"I'm optimistic that the United States government can set the conditions for that appropriately so that the president and the North Korean leader can have that conversation [that] will set us down the course of achieving a diplomatic outcome that America so desperately — America and the world — so desperately need," Pompeo told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last week during his confirmation hearing.

Speaking at his Mar-a-Lago resort Tuesday, Trump appeared to allude to the extraordinary face-to-face meeting between Kim and Pompeo when he said the United States has had direct talks with North Korea "at very high levels." The president didn't elaborate at the time.

Trump said that he probably would sit down with Kim in early June, if not sooner.

Pompeo has taken the lead on the administration's negotiations with Pyongyang. His

meeting with Kim marks the highest-level contact between the countries since 2000, when then-Secretary of State Madeleine Albright met with Kim Jong Il, the current leader's late father, to discuss strategic issues. Then-Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper Jr. visited the country in 2014 to secure the release of two American captives and met with a lower-level intelligence official.

'Meeting went very smoothly and a good relationship was formed. Details of Summit are being worked out now.'

President Donald Trump

had opened a new communications channel ahead of the summit meeting and that the administration believed North Korea was serious about holding a summit.

"We have had direct talks at very high levels, extremely high levels with North Korea," Trump said Tuesday during a bilateral meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla.

Trump also said he has given his "blessing" to planned discussions between South Korea and North Korea about bringing a formal end to the Korean War as fast-moving diplomatic developments surrounding nuclear-armed North Korea came into view.

Hostilities in the Korean War, which involved the United States, ended 65 years ago, but a peace treaty was never signed. A top South Korean official was quoted Tuesday as saying that a formal end to hostilities was on the agenda for the summit between Kim and South Korean President Moon Jae-in next week in the demilitarized zone between the countries.

Yet such a deal would be complicated and would require direct U.S. participation and agreement. The United States signed the armistice agreement on South Korea's behalf, and any peace treaty would have to be between the United States and North Korea.

A big part of the reason a peace treaty has never been signed is because Pyongyang has long insisted that if one were attained, U.S. troops would no longer be required in South Korea, a demand the United States has rejected.

On Tuesday, Trump said the summit with Kim is likely to happen by early June if all goes well. He added a caveat: "It's possible things won't go well and we won't have the meetings, and we'll just continue to go on this very strong path we have taken."

Abe appeared delighted with the progress he made with Trump, including a pledge from the U.S. president to raise with Kim the issue of the unresolved cases of at least 13 Japanese citizens abducted by North Korean agents in the 1970s and 1980s — an important domestic issue for Abe.

Trump met with several families of the abductees during a visit to Tokyo in November, and the president was outraged by the death last summer of Otto Warmbier, an American college student who died shortly after being released in a coma from 17 months in captivity in the North. Three Americans remain in captivity, and U.S. officials suggested that their release is likely to be part of talks with Pyongyang.

Trump and Abe entered their summit hoping to repair a relationship that has been strained by Trump's decision to meet with Kim, which has alarmed Tokyo, and his move to enact steel and aluminum tariffs without granting Japan a waiver.

Larry Kudlow, Trump's chief economic adviser, played down a rift with Japan on trade and said the administration's tariffs were aimed at punishing China, which he accused of "acting like a Third World economy." Kudlow declared that a global coalition stands behind the Trump administration's strategy.

"This trade coalition of the willing that I've been talking about, that others have been talking about, is really aimed at China," he said. "China is a First World economy behaving like a Third World economy. And with respect to technology and other matters, they have to start playing by the rules."

Navy launches new Pacific unit

BY TYLER HLAVAC
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Navy has formally launched a new unit that will oversee maintenance, training and certification for its ships in the Pacific.

The service issued a statement Tuesday announcing the establishment of Naval Surface Group Western Pacific, which was stood up as a detachment in October but became a permanent command based out of Yokosuka, home of the Navy's 7th Fleet, on April 11.

"This new command will manage ship activities in the maintenance and basic phase, enforce the readiness assessment and certification process within those phases and closely coordinate with the ship's operational commander until a ship is certified Basic Phase Complete by [the group]," the statement said.

Surface Forces commander

Vice Adm. Richard Brown touted the benefits of the group last week during his first visit to Japan since assuming the position in January. The 7th Fleet is making progress on addressing readiness issues, Brown told Stars and Stripes. As Surface Forces commander, Brown also serves as the Navy's senior surface warfare officer — also known as the "SWO Boss" — which gives him the authority to make broad changes to some operating procedures and training aboard ships.

The fleet was shaken last year by a pair of deadly collisions involving the USS McCain and the USS Fitzgerald that killed 17 sailors. Brown said Naval Surface Group Western Pacific will be a key part of addressing readiness problems.

A comprehensive review released last year by Fleet Forces Command said the unit would serve as the "immediate superior in command administrative headquarters responsible

for maintaining, training and certifying [Forward Deployed Naval Force] Japan ships."

The new unit has faced some criticism from within the Navy. A Strategic Readiness Review released last year said the new group will create unnecessary "staff headquarter layers" and should be broken up, with personnel reassigned to the existing afloat-training groups or destroyer squadrons.

"The Strategic Review does not concur with establishment of Naval Surface Group Western Pacific," the report said. "Standing up an additional oversight layer provides another headquarters staff and administrative control function that is likely to perpetuate ambiguous and conflicting authorities."

"The manpower used to establish Naval Surface Group Western Pacific is better applied to fully and competently staffing the existing training commands and squadron staffs in the Western Pacific."

Somerset's commander is relieved

The San Diego Union-Tribune

The Navy has fired the commander of the amphibious warship Somerset following an investigation into concerns about his command climate.

"The commanding officer of USS Somerset was relieved of his duties April 12, due to loss of confidence in his ability to effectively lead and carry out assigned duties," Coronado-based Naval Surface Forces spokesman Lt. Andrew R. Degarmo wrote in an email.

Rear Adm. Cedric Pringle, commander of Expeditionary Strike Group 3, removed Capt. William Sherrod following a probe into command climate concerns that were not tied to any one event, Degarmo said.

Formerly the Somerset's executive officer, Sherrod, 45, "flected up" to take command of the San Antonio-class warship on Nov. 2.

Sherrod has been temporarily reassigned to the command staff of North Island-based Naval Air Forces. He did not return telephone calls from the Union-Tribune seeking comment.

Capt. Brian Quin, Expeditionary Strike Group 3's chief of staff, has assumed temporary duties of the Somerset until a skipper can be found.

The Somerset entered General Dynamic's NASSCO shipyard in San Diego on Oct. 6 for an extended maintenance session.

Last May, the Navy removed both the captain and executive officer of the Somerset's sister ship, the San Diego-based Anchorage, after commanders said they lost confidence in their ability to lead.

The relief of Capt. Jeff Craig and his second-in-command, Lt. Cmdr. Joshua Johnson, stemmed from an inspection last spring that found "improper procedural compliance" throughout the warship, according to Naval Surface Forces.

Dismissals for "command climate" problems, like that allegedly caused by Sherrod, are different.

Admiral: China's thefts boost power

BY WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

China is eroding America's advantage in potential undersea warfare in part by stealing U.S. technology through hacking defense contractors and infiltrating academia, the Navy admiral nominated to lead U.S. Pacific Command said Tuesday.

"I believe they are stealing technology in just about every domain and trying to use it to their advantage," Adm. Philip Davidson said during his nomination hearing before the Senate Committee on Armed Forces.

If confirmed, Davidson, who now heads U.S. Fleet Forces Command, would replace PACOM commander Adm. Harry Harris, who is expected to retire next month and has been nominated for the ambassadorship to Australia.

In his written testimony, Davidson said the greatest warf-

ighting shortfalls for PACOM's joint forces were undersea warfare dominance capabilities, critical munitions capacity and around-the-clock surveillance and reconnaissance.

He described America's undersea dominance as "a perishable advantage."

"The United States maintains a significant asymmetric advantage in undersea warfare, but the [People's Liberation Army] is making progress," Davidson wrote. "China has identified undersea warfare as a priority, both for increasing their own capabilities as well as challenging ours."

"The Chinese are investing in a range of platforms, including quieter submarines armed with increasingly sophisticated weapons, unmanned underwater vehicles, new sensors, and new fixed-wing and rotary-wing submarine-hunting aircraft."

Asked by Sen. Richard Blu-

menthal, D-Conn., whether China was advancing to eliminate the U.S. advantage, Davidson said, "I believe so, sir."

"They have new submarines both on the ballistic missile side and on the attack submarine side, and they're achieving numbers in the build of those submarines as well," he said. "And they're also pursuing other technologies to give them better insights into our operations in the undersea domain."

That prompted Blumenthal to ask whether and how China was stealing American undersea technology.

"One of the main concerns we have, sir, is cyber and penetration of the dot-com networks," Davidson said. "Exploiting technology from our defense contractors, in some instances. And certainly their pursuit in academia is producing some of these understandings for them to exploit."

Report: New amphibious vehicles under budget, on time — for now

BY CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

A Marine Corps push to replace its aging fleet of amphibious assault vehicles remains under budget and is on pace to enter the production phase, a government watchdog found, though it warned of continued potential for cost overruns or delays.

The Marine Corps launched the program to replace its Assault Amphibious Vehicle, which was first fielded in 1972, with the Amphibious Combat Vehicle — billed as a better protected and faster way to carry troops from ship to shore.

Development costs are now an estimated \$60 million below original projections of \$810.5 million, a Government Accountability Office report found.

A protest to the Corps' November 2015 selection of two contractor prototypes — BAE Systems' SuperAV and SAIC's Terrex 2 — caused a work stoppage that briefly delayed the schedule, but no further delays are anticipated and Marine officials are set to decide on which of the two it will order for its first batch of 30 vehicles in June.

The GAO, which Congress tasked with monitoring the acquisition program, had previously

cautioned Congress about potential for cost increases or schedule delays due to the Corps' aggressive approach. The program is a successor to the amphibious service's defunct Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle program, which was canceled in 2011 over concerns about its affordability.

The GAO credited the service for its management of the new program in its latest report. But officials expressed concerns that the service was planning to proceed with production without ensuring the contractor's manufacturing processes were fully ready, which the report said could lead to quality issues and higher costs or delays.

The Marines want 208 new amphibious vehicles by 2022, with initial rounds of low-rate runs producing 30 vehicles in 2018 and 2019. That will outfit two of the Corps' 10 amphibious assault companies.

Both prototype designs feature eight-wheeled vehicles with V-shaped hulls designed to minimize the effect of blasts. Both also boast energy-absorbing seat designs to further protect passengers, though they carry far fewer troops than the original AAV.

The vehicles will be armed with a .50-caliber machine gun and 40 mm grenade launcher, the same as the AAV, but the weapons will be remotely operated.

Bonhomme Richard heads to US

BY JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — The USS Bonhomme Richard has bid farewell Japan, where it served as the flagship of Task Force 76 for the past six years.

The 844-foot amphibious assault ship — which had been homeported at Sasebo since 2012 — set sail Wednesday for San Diego, where it will receive upgrades that include a new flight deck to allow it to carry the Marine Corps' state-of-the-art F-35B Lightning II stealth fighter. Other improvements will include new weapons systems and radar and communication suites.

The Bonhomme Richard has already been replaced by the amphibious assault ship USS Wasp, which was retrofitted to launch the short-takeoffs and vertical-landing capable F-35B. It's on its first patrol of the region since arriving in January at Sasebo, where the bulk of the ships in the 7th Fleet's amphibious force are based.

Capt. Larry "Mac" McCullen, the Bonhomme Richard's skipper, said Tuesday that the ship will participate in several exercises and possibly in some state-side Fleet Week activities before going to the yard.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Siara Poder, an aviation ordnanceman who has been with the Bonhomme Richard for four years, said the ship holds many memories for the sailors who have been aboard since it arrived in Japan.

She recalled a time when they had not deployed for nine months because of problems with the flight deck.

"We had to replace the no skid on the flight deck," she said. "Afterward, when the captain gathered us together, he said something I'll never forget: 'I don't know where we are going, but we are going somewhere.'"

That somewhere ended up being Malaysia — the first of many countries Poder has since visited with the Bonhomme Richard.

Ex-NFL player sentenced in Tricare fraud

The Gainesville (Fla.) Sun

Former Florida Gator linebacker and NFL player Monty Grow was sentenced Monday to nearly 22 years in prison for a health care scheme that bilked the U.S. government out of nearly \$20 million meant for military personnel, veterans and their families.

Grow, 46, who was indicted in 2016 in a Miami federal court, faced a maximum 36-year sentence for 52 charges.

Grow was sentenced to 262 months of imprisonment, or 21 years and eight months, and ordered to pay \$18.8 million in restitution.

According to court documents, Grow solicited and received kickbacks, or negotiated bribes, for Tricare beneficiaries who ordered medications between September 2014 and June 2015.

Tricare is a health care insurance program for the Department of Defense.

Grow played outside linebacker for Steve Spurrier's Florida Gators from 1990 to 1993. During his junior season, Grow was suspended for a season for violating team rules. Grow went on to play two seasons in the NFL with the Jacksonville Jaguars and Kansas City Chiefs.

The charges Grow faced included five counts of money laundering, eight counts of health care fraud, conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and 28 counts of receipts and payments of kickbacks in connection with a federal health care program. He was convicted on 17 counts in February.

In February, former Gator and NFL quarterback Shane Matthews was sentenced to three months in jail for his role in the conspiracy orchestrated by Grow. Matthews, 47, played with Grow at UF under Spurrier from 1990 to 1992 before going on to play 14 seasons in the NFL.

Also in February, the court

ordered Grow to forfeit property that included his 2014 Porsche, which was seized in 2016; about \$1.7 million from his Bank of America account; and nearly \$1 million from his company, MGTEEN Marketing Group.

Court documents say that through MGTEEN Marketing Group, Grow received nearly \$20 million in kickbacks from Patient Care America, a Broward County compounding pharmacy, in exchange for recruiting and referring patients to the pharmacy who were covered by the Tricare health care insurance program.

In all, Tricare paid about \$40 million for the medications for its patients to PCA. PCA, which contracted with Grow, paid him half the reimbursements. Grow kept about \$10 million for himself and paid his team of sales representatives the remaining amount, according to court documents.

Ex-Navy pilot calm in landing damaged jet

The Washington Post

The pilot's voice was calm yet focused as her plane descended with 149 people on board.

"Southwest 1380, we're single engine," Tammie Jo Shults, a former fighter pilot with the U.S. Navy, said. "We have part of the aircraft missing so we're going to need to slow down a bit." She asked for medical personnel to meet her aircraft on the runway. "We've got injured passengers."

"Injured passengers, OK, and is your airplane physically on fire?" asked a male voice on the other end, according to an air traffic recording.

"No, it's not on fire, but part of it's missing," Shults said, pausing for a moment. "They said there's a hole, and uh, someone went out."

The engine on Shults' plane had, in fact, exploded on Tuesday, spraying shrapnel into the

aircraft, causing a window to be blown out and leaving one passenger dead and seven others injured. Frightened passengers on board the Dallas-bound flight braced for impact as oxygen masks muffled their screams.

In the midst of the chaos, Shults successfully completed an emergency landing at the Philadelphia International Airport, sparing the lives of 148 people and averting a far worse catastrophe.

"She has nerves of steel," one passenger, Alfred Tumlinson, told *The Associated Press*. "That lady, I applaud her. I'm going to send her a Christmas card — I'm going to tell you that — with a gift certificate for getting me on the ground. She was awesome."

Another passenger, Diana McBride Self, thanked Shults on Facebook for her "guidance

and bravery in a traumatic situation." She said Shults "came back to speak to each of us personally."

"This is a true American Hero," she wrote.

Others on social media agreed, even comparing Shults with Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, who glided his US Airways plane to safety in New York's Hudson River in 2009.

Southwest declined to name the pilot, though passengers confirmed Shults' name on social media, and Shults' mother-in-law told *The Washington Post* she was the pilot. Shults' husband also confirmed her name to the AP. Shults declined to comment when reached by *The Post*.

Her mother-in-law, Virginia Shults, told *The Post* that as soon as she heard the pilot's voice on the radio transmission online, she said "that is Tammy

Jo."

"It was just as if she and I were sitting here talking," Virginia Shults said. "She's a very calming person."

It was also no surprise to her that Tammie Jo Shults was the pilot credited with the skillful landing. Shults' mother-in-law and friends described her as a pioneer in the aviation field, a woman who broke barriers to pursue her goals.

She was among the first female fighter pilots for the Navy, according to her alma mater, MidAmerica Nazarene University, from which she graduated in 1983. Cindy Foster, who went to college with her, told *The Kansas City (Mo.) Star* that Shults was also among the first women to fly an F/A-18 Hornet for the Navy.

"She said she wasn't going to let anyone tell her she couldn't," Foster said.

Frenchman doing well after 2nd face transplant

Associated Press

LONDON — In a medical first, a French surgeon said he has performed a second face transplant on the same patient — who is now doing well and even spent a recent weekend in Brittany.

Dr. Laurent Lantieri, of the Georges Pompidou Hospital in Paris, first transplanted a new face onto Jerome Hamon in 2010, when Hamon was in his mid-30s. Hamon has a condition called neurofibromatosis type 1, which can cause skin tumors on the face and elsewhere.

After he became ill in 2015, Hamon was given drugs that interfered with the anti-rejection medicines he was taking for his face transplant.

Last November, the tissue in his transplanted face began to die, leading Lantieri to remove it.

That left Hamon without a face, a condition that Lantieri described as "the walking

dead." Hamon had no eyelids, no ears, no skin and could not speak or eat. He had limited hearing and could express himself only by turning his head slightly, in addition to writing a little.

"If you have no skin, you have infections," Lantieri told *The Associated Press* on Tuesday. "We were very concerned about the possibility of a new rejection."

In January, when a second face donor for Hamon became available, Lantieri and his team performed a second face transplant. First, doctors had to replace all of the blood in his body in a monthlong procedure to eliminate some potentially worrisome antibodies from previous treatments.

"For a man who went through all this, which is like going through a nuclear war, he's doing fine," Lantieri said.

He added that Hamon is now being monitored like any other face transplant patient.

Army, Guard airlift hundreds from floodwaters in Hawaii

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Hundreds of people have been airlifted out of dangerous floodwaters on the Hawaiian island of Kauai, but authorities said Tuesday others are still stranded at evacuation centers.

The U.S. Army, National Guard, and the county airlifted more than 220 people Monday and are going back for more evacuations, local emergency management officials said. Thirteen people were still stuck at a shelter in Kilauea, a small town on the northeastern shore, said Coralie Matayoshi, CEO of the American Red Cross of Hawaii.

"We'll be starting to do damage assessment in Kauai for the first time today, because the weather was bad and the roads were blocked. We couldn't do it before," Matayoshi said.

Officials and crews are working to clear landslides and repair fallen utility poles, while state health officials have advised residents in some areas not to

drink or cook with tap water as a precaution due to a damaged main line.

Heavy rains caused flooding and mudslides Saturday, forcing residents and tourists into evacuation centers. Roads were closed, including on the island's North Shore.

The National Weather Service recorded 28.1 inches of rainfall in the small North Shore town of Hanalei between 2 a.m. Saturday and 2 a.m. Sunday. The record for a 24-hour period in Hanalei was set in 2012 at 28.54 inches.

Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources said about 25 people elected to be airlifted out of a state park on Kauai on Monday.

Hanalei Elementary School, the only school closed on Kauai, will keep its doors shut Wednesday, but anticipates reopening Thursday. There have been no reports of major injuries.

Two North Shore vacant houses were washed off their foundations, county spokeswoman Sarah Blane said.

Ex-first lady Barbara Bush dies

Wife of one president, mother of another, brought plainspoken style to DC

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Barbara Bush didn't hesitate to tell people that her trademark pearl necklaces were fake. Americans liked that everything else about the snowy-haired first lady was real.

The wife of the nation's 41st president and mother of the 43rd brought a plainspoken, grandmotherly style to buttoned-down Washington, displaying an utter lack of vanity about her white hair and wrinkles.

"What you see with me is what you get. I'm not running for president — George Bush is," she said at the 1988 Republican National Convention, where her husband, then vice president, was nominated to succeed Ronald Reagan.

Mrs. Bush died Tuesday, according to a statement from family spokesman Jim McGrath. She was 92.

A funeral is planned Saturday at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Houston, which Mrs. Bush and her husband, former President George H.W. Bush, regularly attended. Mrs. Bush will lie in repose Friday at the church for members of the public who want to pay respects. Saturday's service will be by invitation only, according to the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation.

The Bushes, who were married on Jan. 6, 1945, had the longest marriage of any presidential couple in American history. And Mrs. Bush was one of only two first ladies who had a child who was elected president. The other was Abigail Adams, wife of John Adams and mother of John Quincy Adams.

"I had the best job in Amer-

ica," she wrote in a 1994 memoir describing her time in the White House. "Every single day was interesting, rewarding, and sometimes just plain fun."

The publisher's daughter and oilman's wife could be caustic in private, but her public image was that of a self-sacrificing, supportive spouse who referred to her husband as her "hero."

In the White House, "you need a friend, someone who loves you, who's going to say, 'You are great,'" Mrs. Bush said in a 1992 television interview.

Her uncoiffed, matronly appearance often provoked jokes that she looked more like the boyish president's mother than his wife. Late-night comedians quipped that her bright white hair and pale features also imparted an uncanny resemblance to George Washington.

Eight years after leaving the nation's capital, Mrs. Bush stood with her husband as their son George W. was sworn in as president. They returned four years later when he won a second term. Unlike Mrs. Bush, Abigail Adams did not live to see her son's inauguration. She died in 1818, six years before John Quincy Adams was elected.

In 1984, her quick wit got her into trouble when she was quoted as referring to Geraldine Ferraro, the Democratic vice presidential nominee at the time, as "that \$4 million — I can't say it, but it rhymes with rich."

"It was dumb of me. I shouldn't have said it," Mrs. Bush acknowledged in 1988. "It was not attractive, and I've been very shamed. I apologized to Mrs. Ferraro, and I would apologize again."

Daughter-in-law Laura Bush, another first lady, said Mrs. Bush was "ferociously tart-tongued" from the start.

"She's never shied away from saying what she thinks. ... She's managed to insult nearly all of my friends with one or another perfectly timed acerbic comment," Laura Bush said in her 2010 book, "Spoken from the Heart."

In her 1994 autobiography, "Barbara Bush: A Memoir," she said she did her best to keep her opinions from the public while her husband was in office. But she revealed that she disagreed with him on two issues: She supported legal abortion and opposed the sale of assault weapons.

"I honestly felt, and still feel, the elected person's opinion is the one the public has the right to know," Mrs. Bush wrote.

She also disclosed a bout with depression in the mid-1970s, saying she sometimes feared she would deliberately crash her car. She blamed hormonal changes and stress.

She said she snapped out of it in a few months.

Mrs. Bush raised five children: George W., Jeb, Neil, Marvin and Dorothy. A sixth child, 3-year-old daughter Robin, died of leukemia in 1953.

In a speech in 1985, she recalled the stress of raising a family while married to a man whose ambitions carried him from the Texas oil fields to Congress and then into influential political positions that included ambassador to the United Nations, GOP chairman and CIA director.

Along the way, she said, there were also "bumpy moments

— not many, but a few — of feeling that I'd never, ever be able to have fun again and coping with the feeling that George Bush, in his excitement of starting a small company and traveling around the world, was having a lot of fun."

In 2003, she wrote a follow-up memoir, "Reflections: Life After the White House."

"I made no apologies for the fact that I still live a life of ease," she wrote. "There is a difference between ease and leisure. I live the former and not the latter."

Along with her memoirs, she wrote "C. Fred's Story" and "Millie's Book," based on the lives of her dogs. Proceeds from the books benefited adult and family literacy programs. Laura Bush, a former teacher with a master's degree in library science, continued her mother-in-law's literacy campaign in the White House.

Mrs. Bush was born Barbara Pierce in Rye, N.Y. Her father was the publisher of McCall's and Redbook magazines. After attending Smith College for two years, she married young naval aviator George Herbert Walker Bush. She was 19.

After World War II, the Bushes moved to the Texas oil patch to seek their fortune and raise a family. It was there that Bush began his political career, representing Houston for two terms in Congress in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

In all, the Bushes made more than two dozen moves that circled half the globe before landing at the White House in 1989.

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Vegas sweeps Kings out of first round

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Golden Knights want a Stanley Cup title to conclude their already amazing inaugural season in the NHL.

Vegas is on its way, beating the Los Angeles Kings 1-0 on Tuesday night and becoming the first expansion team in league history to sweep its first playoff series.

“All season long, I didn’t know any records about expansion teams,” goalie Marc-Andre Fleury said. “We just do what a regular team would; we just play the game and try to win. That’s it.”

Brayden McNabb scored against his former team in the second period and Fleury stopped 31 shots as the Knights finished off their fourth one-goal victory of the series. It was the goalie’s second shutout of the playoffs.

“I didn’t picture this happening, me scoring a goal against the Kings,” McNabb said, “but it feels real good to get this win

and finish this series.”

The Knights poured into the net to hug Fleury at the final horn. Vegas fans in the crowd chanted the goalie’s name in celebration.

“We knew we were getting a superstar when we got him,” Vegas coach Gerard Gallant said. “He has playoff experience and he’s been a part of three Cups and he makes us better. LA put on the pressure on him but he was huge for us.”

The Knights became the second team to win their first four playoff games, joining the 1970 Pittsburgh Penguins.

McNabb scored from the right circle, beating Jonathan Quick’s glove, at 4:04 of the second for his first career playoff goal. The Kings left the defenseman exposed in last year’s expansion draft and the Knights snapped him up.

The Kings pulled Quick in the closing seconds, when Dustin Brown skated straight toward the net and just missed.

“That’s what the playoffs are all about. It’s so close,” Kings

center Anze Kopitar said. “It’s not like we were blown out of the water.”

Brown also hit the left post with 10 minutes to go in the third, typical of the close calls that failed to generate goals for the Kings in the series. They outshot the Knights 31-21 in the game.

“It was crazy in the final minute of the game. They were buzzing around,” Fleury said. “We had to keep pushing to the very end.”

Facing elimination, the Kings came out aggressively and outshot the Knights 14-8 in the opening period. Quick stopped two shots on goal during the only power play in the period when Adrian Kempe was sent off for hooking.

“I thought our hockey team got better through the series,” first-year Kings coach John Stevens said. “Tonight was our best game and created the most quality chances, just didn’t finish off.”

Quick made 20 saves and allowed seven goals in the series,

but he and the Kings couldn’t duplicate the rally they pulled off in 2014. Los Angeles lost its first three games to the Sharks in the first round that year and went on to win the series and eventually the Stanley Cup.

“We just got knocked out of the playoffs. I don’t care what the score was,” defenseman Alec Martinez said. “It’s a lot of disappointment in this room. We can’t forget how this feels.”

Vegas, the third expansion team since 1968-69 to clinch a playoff berth, awaits the winner of the series between Anaheim and San Jose, which the Sharks lead 3-0.

The Kings managed just three goals in the series and lacked offensive punch from Kopitar (one goal) and wingers Brown and Tyler Toffoli (no goals).

Brown fired a team-high six shots in the game, while Toffoli had three and Brown two.

Toffoli took a puck to the face, drawing blood from his nose to his mouth. He got stitches and returned 10 minutes later.

NHL roundup

Capitals avoid deep hole with win in 2OT

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Washington Capitals needed a lucky bounce to finally get an overtime win in Game 3 in their intense first-round playoff series with the Columbus Blue Jackets.

Lars Eller got the last stick on a puck that bounced off him and Columbus defenseman Zach Werenski before rolling past Sergei Bobrovsky, and Washington got the 3-2 victory nine minutes into the second overtime Tuesday night.

The Capitals won at Nationwide Arena after Columbus won the first two games — both in overtime — in Washington. It was the Capitals’ turn to prevail in OT, this time on the Blue Jackets’ home ice, to pull to 2-1 in the best-of-seven series.

“It means a ton, a win like this after playing for that long,” Eller said. “I’m sure they feel a lot more tired in that room than we are feeling right now. It gives you a lot of energy. It’s going to be a battle again in Game 4.”

Tom Wilson and John Carlson also

scored, and Braden Holtby stopped 33 shots for the Capitals, who were in danger of falling into a nearly insurmountable hole had they let the game slip away.

“We got some good fortune, but we also executed and we were committed today,” Capitals coach Barry Trotz said.

Game 4 is Thursday night back here with Game 5 set for Washington on Saturday.

“We got a break, it’s what we needed,” Capitals forward John Connolly said. “You need breaks, every team is so good now, you need to keep pressing and pressing.”

Pierre-Luc Dubois and Artemi Panarin scored for Columbus, and Bobrovsky finished with 42 saves after getting 54 in Game 2 on Sunday.

Panarin knotted the score 4:12 into the third period after he and Cam Atkinson went back and forth with pinpoint passes before he swiped it past Holtby from the left circle.

That’s the way it stayed until the second overtime.

After a scoreless first period, Wilson got credit for the first Washington goal when he deflected Matt Niskanen’s rising shot 5:52 into the second. The Blue Jackets got a break two minutes later when a goal by Connolly was waved off after a video replay showed he was offside bringing the puck down the ice.

Jets 2, Wild 0: Mark Scheifele scored both goals for Winnipeg and Connor Hellebuyck made 30 saves for his seventh shutout this season, as the visiting Jets took a 3-1 lead in the first-round playoff series.

Scheifele scored with 28 seconds left in the first period and tacked on an empty-netter with 11 seconds remaining, pushing the Wild to the brink of elimination.

Devan Dubnyk stopped 26 shots for the Wild, who played without star left wing Zach Parise because of a broken sternum. After a six-goal outburst in their last appearance, the Wild had trouble generating the same kind of relentless attack and simply couldn’t slide any pucks past Hellebuyck.

Red Sox rock Ohtani, hammer Angels

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Shohei Ohtani developed a blister on the middle finger of his pitching hand nine days ago during his second start for the Los Angeles Angels.

The rookie right-hander thought it had healed enough for him to pitch effectively when he took the mound again Tuesday night in front of a sell-out crowd eager to see Ohtani's next incredible feat.

Instead, the blister and the powerful Boston Red Sox were far too much to overcome.

Mookie Betts led off with the first of his three homers, and the Red Sox chased Ohtani after just two innings in a 10-1 victory over the Angels.

Ohtani (2-1) yielded four hits and three runs on 66 pitches before exiting with a blister on his pitching hand. The two-way Japanese sensation couldn't

throw his breaking pitches for strikes, and the Red Sox jumped on him, starting with Betts' full-count homer on a low, 97 mph fastball.

"The stuff is there," Betts said of Ohtani. "He's got it all. But our team, we had a good approach tonight. He wasn't able to land that splitter for strikes, and we did a good job laying off it and backing him into a corner where he probably had to throw a couple of pitches he didn't want to throw."

Ohtani has had intermittent issues with blisters during the past few months, and he had a bandage on one of his fingers last week.

"I felt like it would be fine today, (but) in the high intensity of a game, it didn't hold up too well," Ohtani said through a translator. "But I'm not going to be at the top of my game every start. When I don't have my best stuff, I still have to fight

through the game."

Ohtani's fastball still hit 99 mph during his first career night start, but the evening began poorly when Betts cracked his 12th career leadoff homer.

Ohtani allowed another single and threw a wild pitch in the first inning. Betts drew the only walk issued by Ohtani during the second inning despite mostly dismal control. Boston scored two more runs on Holt's RBI single and Andrew Benintendi's sacrifice fly.

"That wasn't the same split as his last outing," Boston manager Alex Cora said.

Jackie Bradley Jr., Brock Holt and Betts each homered in the third inning after Ohtani departed, and Rafael Devers homered in the fourth. Betts hit his third solo shot in the seventh inning, matching his career best while Boston's formidable lineup pounded out 15 hits in its

fifth consecutive victory.

"You've got to ride the wave," Cora said. "We're playing good baseball, but they don't even know how many games they're winning. They just prepare and execute."

David Price (2-1) yielded three hits and four walks over five comfortable innings as the Red Sox improved to 14-2, extending the AL's best start since 1987 by winning the opener of a three-game series between two clubs off to impressive starts.

The Angels (13-4) are still off to the best start in franchise history, but their seven-game winning streak ended in front of their second-biggest home crowd of the 21st century. The Big A was packed with 44,822 fans eager to see Ohtani, whose impressive opening month has drawn unprecedented early season attention to the Orange County club.

MLB roundup

Lindor homers and Indians top Twins in Puerto Rico

Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Francisco Lindor homered in his native Puerto Rico, Corey Kluber allowed one run in 6²/₃ innings and the Cleveland Indians beat the Minnesota Twins 6-1 on Tuesday night.

Playing as a big leaguer in Puerto Rico for the first time, Lindor connected on a two-run home run to open the scoring.

And yes, the moment was just as the All-Star shortstop imagined.

"I love the Cleveland Indians fans. I love them. They're supporters, big-time," Lindor said. "But this is where I grew up. These are my people. It's extremely special."

Michael Brantley and Jose Ramirez each had three hits, including consecutive homers in the sixth, for Cleveland.

Diamondbacks 1, Giants 0: Patrick Corbin lost his no-hit bid on a checked-swing infield

single with two outs in the eighth inning but finished a one-hitter to lift host Arizona.

Blue Jays 11-5, Royals 3-4: Luke Maile singled down the right-field line off Brian Flynn (0-1) with the bases loaded in the 10th inning to help host Toronto complete a doubleheader sweep of Kansas City.

Marlins 9, Yankees 1: Making his season debut after coming off the disabled list, J.T. Realmuto hit a three-run homer off Masahiro Tanaka (2-2) in the fifth inning and drove in four runs to lead visiting Miami past New York.

Tigers 4, Orioles 2: Victor Martinez homered for the first time since Aug. 18, a two-run drive in the second off Andrew Cashner (1-2), and host Detroit stopped a five-game losing streak.

Dodgers 7, Padres 3 (12): Yasmani Grandal hit a go-ahead, two-run double with

one out in the 12th inning and visiting Los Angeles overcame Kenley Jansen's blown save to beat San Diego for its season-high third straight win.

Astros 4, Mariners 1: Lance McCullers Jr. (2-1) matched his career high with 11 strikeouts over seven innings of one-hit ball and Brian McCann hit a tiebreaking two-run home run off reliever Dan Altavilla (1-2) to lead visiting Houston past Seattle.

Cardinals 5, Cubs 3: Adam Wainwright (1-2) outpitched Tyler Chatwood in frigid conditions at Wrigley Field, leading St. Louis past Chicago.

Rockies 2, Pirates 0: Chad Bettis (3-0) allowed five hits in 7¹/₃ innings and combined with three relievers on a five-hitter on a snowy night to lead visiting Colorado past Pittsburgh.

Rangers 7, Rays 2: Matt Moore (1-3) allowed an unearned run and five hits over

seven innings and struck out six to lead visiting Texas past Tampa Bay.

Nationals 5, Mets 2: Gio Gonzalez (2-1) allowed two runs in 5¹/₃ innings and improved to 11-1 at Citi Field as Washington topped New York.

Brewers 2, Reds 0: Eric Thames hit a two-run homer in the sixth off Sal Romano (0-2) to lead host Milwaukee past Cincinnati.

Phillies 5, Braves 1: Rhys Hoskins hit a tiebreaking, two-out, two-run double off Jose Ramirez (0-2) in the 10th and Maikel Franco added another two-run double to lead visiting Philadelphia past Atlanta.

Athletics 10, White Sox 2: Jed Lowrie marked his 34th birthday with a home run off Miguel Gonzalez (0-3) and Trevor Cahill (1-0) pitched seven scoreless innings in his season debut to lead host Oakland past Chicago.

Brown scores 30 points as Celtics roll

Associated Press

BOSTON—The Celtics knew they'd need their younger players to step up this postseason with Kyrie Irving sidelined.

They have, and it's added up to 2-0 lead in Boston's first-round matchup with Milwaukee.

Jaylen Brown had a playoff career-high 30 points, Terry Rozier added 23, and the Celtics pulled away in the second half for a 120-106 win over the Bucks on Tuesday night.

Game 3 is Friday in Milwaukee.

Brown, who is in his second year, said the Celtics are feeling "confident as ever."

"People have been writing us

off all year. And we just keep proving people wrong. So that's what we're gonna do," he said.

Milwaukee got as close as 107-97 with 4:13 to play. But the Celtics responded with an 11-2 run, capped by a banked in three-pointer by Brown to push their lead back up to 118-99.

The Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo finished with 30 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. Khris Middleton added 25 points.

"I think as a team we didn't show up tonight," Antetokounmpo said.

Turnovers were an issue for the second straight game for Milwaukee. The Bucks finished with 15, leading to 21 Boston

points. They also shot just 41 percent from the free-throw line (7-for-17).

"They were just the more desperate team tonight again," Middleton said. "We started off poorly again. ... We've just got to [be] more into it, got to be the more desperate, hungry team."

Boston had just three turnovers through three quarters and only seven on the night. Rozier finished no turnovers for the second straight game.

"I've just got that confidence," Rozier said. "My teammates, my coach, they trust in me to get everybody in their spots to run the plays. ... I'm gonna do what I can to protect the ball and get my guys open."

The Celtics' bench also came up big, outscoring their Milwaukee counterparts 41-25. Marcus Morris led Boston's reserves with 18 points. Shane Larkin chipped in 11 points, scoring in double-digits for the first time in a playoff game.

He also had a buzzer-beating 3-pointer at the end of the third quarter that gave Boston a 15-point cushion entering the final period.

Brown said he is expecting to see a much different Bucks team as the series shifts to Milwaukee.

"We not taking anybody lightly," he said. "I know they're going to come out and make adjustments."

NBA playoffs roundup

Pelicans take 2-0 series lead over Blazers on road

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Removed from the turbulence that marked his previous seasons in New Orleans, Jrue Holiday is in a good place — and it shows.

Holiday had a career playoff-high 33 points as the Pelicans took a 2-0 lead in their first-round series against the Portland Trail Blazers with a 111-102 victory on Tuesday night. The series shifts to New Orleans on Thursday.

Holiday struggled at times with injuries after coming to the Pelicans in 2013. Then in early 2016 he took a leave of absence when doctors discovered that his wife, former U.S. national soccer team player Lauren Holiday, had a brain tumor while she was pregnant with the couple's first child.

"He's been through some tough times, the first year he's injured, he's on minute restrictions through the greater part of the season, and then everybody's familiar with the situation with his wife and what they had to go through there," coach Alvin Gentry said. "Everybody's healthy and in a good place now so I think mentally

he's in a good place."

Holiday played Tuesday night with emotion he did not often show earlier in his career. He agreed that it felt a weight has been lifted.

"My family's the most important thing to me, and with them being OK I can come back to the team freely and be able to help them out now," Holiday said. "It's been fun. I feel like my teammates and the organization definitely helped me out coming back from things with my family, and even the injuries, with being able to play and being able to perform at the peak I'm performing."

Holiday also had nine assists for the Pelicans, while Rajon Rondo came close to his 11th postseason triple-double with had 16 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists. Anthony Davis added 22 points and 13 rebounds.

CJ McCollum, who struggled with backcourt teammate Damian Lillard in the opener, rebounded with 22 points to lead the Blazers.

Portland trailed by as many as 11 points in the third quarter but Lillard hit a three-pointer

and added a free throw to tie the game at 93 with 7:31 left. Holiday's pull-up jumper and Rondo's driving layup kept the Blazers from pulling ahead.

Raptors 130, Wizards 119: DeMar DeRozan's big game put host Toronto in a place it's never been before: up 2-0 in a playoff series.

DeRozan matched his career playoff-high with 37 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 19 points and 14 rebounds and the Raptors beat the Washington Wizards as Toronto took a 2-0 lead in a playoff series for the first time in franchise history.

"I didn't go out there planning to score 37 points, I went out there to be aggressive," DeRozan said.

Kyle Lowry had 13 points and a career playoff-high 12 assists as Toronto set team playoff records for points in a quarter, a half and a game.

C.J. Miles scored 18, Delon Wright had 11 and Serge Ibaka 10 for the Raptors, who snapped an NBA-worst 10-game losing streak in Game 1s with a 114-106 win on Saturday.

DeRozan, whose 37th point came on a friendly roll on a

fourth-quarter free throw, equalled his total from Game 3 of the second round against Cleveland last year. It was his 12th career 30-point game in the postseason. The Raptors are 9-3 in those games.

"I thought DeMar was super on the offensive end," Raptors coach Dwane Casey said. "We needed every point. He did an excellent job of reading what the defense was doing to him and making them pay."

Lowry called DeRozan "an MVP-type caliber player."

DeRozan missed his first two shots but connected on 14 of his final 21 attempts, including three of six from long range. He also converted a four-point play.

"When he's making threes, he's very tough to guard," Washington's John Wall said of DeRozan.

Toronto, which made a team playoff record 16 three-pointers Saturday, connected on 13 of 35 from long range in Game 2, making only two in the second half.

Wall scored 29 points, Mike Scott had 20 and Ty Lawson 14 for the Wizards.