Tuesday, August 1, 2023

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

Biden to keep Space Command HQ in Colo.

By Doug G. Ware Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden has decided to keep U.S. Space Command in Colorado, overturning a decision by former President Donald Trump to move it to Alabama, the Pentagon announced Monday.

"Following a thorough and deliberate evaluation process, and after consultation with [Defense] Secretary [Lloyd] Austin and weighing the input of senior military leaders, President Biden notified the Department of Defense that he has selected Colorado Springs as the permanent location of the U.S. Space Command headquarters," said Air Force Brig. Gen. Pat Ryder, the Pentagon's top spokesman.

Trump had decided in the final days of his presidency to move Space Command headquarters from Peterson Space Force Base, Colo., to Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Army Gen. James Dickinson, who leads SPACECOM, had reportedly lobbied Biden to keep the command at Peterson, which is in Colorado Springs, a city in central Colorado about 55 miles southeast of Denver. The Air Force Academy is also located in the same area.

Space Command has been based in Colorado Springs since its formation in 2019 and many Air Force and Space Force leaders favored keeping it there for various logistical reasons. They have argued that moving the base would hinder progress that's been made at the command, and that building a new headquarters would take years. But Trump had decided SPA-CECOM should be in Huntsville, Ala. — a move that triggered some political criticism and a series of reviews. Both options were presented to Biden.

The congressional delegations of Alabama and Colorado have argued for their home states as the best location for Space Command, partly due to economic benefits and an influx of well-paying jobs that come with the base.

Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-Ala., said at a Senate hearing last week that he was frustrated with the lack of a decision on where to base Space Command.

Tuberville has been at odds with the Pentagon since February over a military policy that reimburses service members if they must travel to another state to receive reproductive health care, including abortions. To protest, Tuberville has been blocking hundreds of military promotions, including the nomination of Air Force Gen. Charles Brown as the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"It is clear to anyone who has looked at the facts: Huntsville, Ala., is the best place for U.S. Space Command headquarters," Rep. Dale Strong, R-Ala., whose district includes Huntsville, said Monday. "Repeated investigations and objective reviews have proven that to be the case."

A comprehensive review by the Government Accountability Office gave Alabama a higher score than Colorado.

But proponents of leaving it in Colorado have also argued dozens of military space missions and three Space Force bases are also located in Colorado.

Air Force Secretary Frank Kendall had a slight preference for Alabama, though Dickinson favored Colorado, according to The Associated Press.

The Pentagon said Monday that both, however, support Biden's choice.

Russia accuses Ukraine of 2nd strike on Moscow building

Associated Press

TALLINN, Estonia — A skyscraper in central Moscow was struck in a drone attack for the second time in around 48 hours, damaging the building's facade and further underscoring the Russian capital's vulnerability. Russian authorities accused Kyiv of staging the attack, which occurred early Tuesday.

Russian officials have claimed that the repeated attacks on the capital region reflect failures in Ukraine's counteroffensive to recapture Russian-occupied territory.

On Tuesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's adviser, Mykhailo Podolyak, tweeted that Moscow "is rapidly getting used to a full-fledged

war," without confirming or denying Kyiv's involvement.

The repeated drone strikes highlighted Moscow's susceptibility as Russia's war in Ukraine drags into its 18th month.

Russia's Defense Ministry said that it shot down two Ukrainian drones outside Moscow early Tuesday and jammed another, sending it crashing into a skyscraper in the Moscow City business district and damaging the building's facade.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said the drone crashed into the same building that was damaged in an attack Sunday. IQ-Quarter, 4.5 miles from the Kremlin, houses a number of government agencies. Sobyanin said the drone that struck the

building Tuesday hit the 21st floor, one of the floors housing the Economic Development ministry.

It wasn't clear why the same building was hit twice in a row. In both incidents, the Russian military said the drones that hit the skyscraper were jammed before crashing — which elicited questions from even the staunchest supporters of the Kremlin. Margarita Simonyan. chief editor of the state-funded TV channel RT, said in a social media post that "a drone hitting the same tower for the second time in a row, where three federal ministries are located, at least requires explaining the comments that the electronic warfare downed them all."

The Russian military also said that Ukrainian forces tried to attack two of its warships in the Black Sea overnight, using maritime drones. Three drones targeted two patrol vessels 210 miles southwest of the Russian-controlled city of Sevastopol on the Crimean Peninsula. All three drones were destroyed, the report said, and the ships continued their service.

The attacks on Moscow and Crimea, which Russia illegally annexed from Ukraine in 2014, follow a deadly Russian missile strike on Kryvyi Rih, a city in central Ukraine and Zelenskyy's hometown. Monday's strike partially destroyed a residential building and killed seven people, wounding dozens more.

Niger upheaval shows risks for US

By John Vandiver

Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Army Maj. Gen. Todd Wasmund's first Africa-focused assignment came a decade ago at the Pentagon, where the aftermath of the Benghazi terrorist attack loomed over a military mission in flux.

The 2012 assault on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Libya began on the anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks by al-Qaida and ended in the deaths of four people, including the U.S. ambassador to Libya and two former Navy SEALs.

Today, Wasmund commands day-to-day Army operations in Africa, where terrorist groups are expanding, democratic governments are under growing pressure and unpredictability still defines the security landscape, he said. "I think what's the same is the persistent threat of instability that requires us to support our partners," Wasmund, head of the Vicenza-based Southern European Task Force, Africa, said in an interview last Wednesday.

His comments came just hours before a reported coup in Niger threatened to upend the entire U.S. approach to counterterrorism in a region where a string of military power grabs is challenging U.S. forces' ability to coordinate on the ground.

"We continue to be challenged to have adequate access," Wasmund said. "We've seen a collapse in Mali. We've seen a collapse in Burkina Faso. ... Where those transitions happen that are not reflective of our (democratic) values, we are really limited in our ability to partner with them."

For the U.S., the events in Niger could have major implications, given the outsized role the country plays in the U.S. strategy for countering Islamic militants in the West African Sahel region.

In the central Nigerien town of Agadez, a \$100 million U.S. drone site known as Base 201 is home to hundreds of U.S. troops. In all, there are about 1,100 U.S. servicemembers based in the country.

Those soldiers have been restricted to the Agadez base amid efforts from abroad to restore the democratically elected government, CNN reported Monday, citing a U.S. military official. Special and regular Army troops routinely carry out training in other locations in Niger. The U.S. could be forced to abandon its drone site and sever ties with Niger's military, as U.S. law puts restrictions on such cooperation after mutinies.

However, the White House has yet to decide whether the ouster of Niger's president, Mohamed Bazoum, constitutes a coup.

"We continue to assess the situation as it

evolves," U.S. Africa Command spokesman John Manley said in a statement. "It is too early to speculate about future actions."

The tumult in Niger underscores the challenges for the U.S. military in parts of Africa, where fragile governments and economies coupled with militaries stretched thin by terrorism fights add to the complexity.

Against a backdrop of coups and instability spanning the Sahel, the question becomes whether the U.S. military's approach to security on the continent is making any difference.

Wasmund said he doesn't see much growth for his Army mission in the years to come, considering global security demands in Europe and the Pacific. SETAF will continue to be "relatively resource-limited," he said.

But to pull back would bring potential global risks, given Africa's rapid population growth and expectations of economic expansion, he said.

"Africa is a long game, and we've got to be willing to play the long game," Wasmund said. "We can't have a short-term focus, can't get distracted. We have to stay engaged with our partners.

"The potential is too great. The risk is too high, and we need to be there."

Fort Moore trainers work to curb heat injuries

By Corey Dickstein

Stars and Stripes

ATLANTA — The U.S. military has not altered its training schedule during the summer despite soaring temperatures that have broken records daily across the United States, Pentagon officials have said.

"There's no single [wet bulb globe temperature] where the Army says stop training," Lt. Col. David DeGroot, who leads the Army Heat Center, said about a temperature measurement that takes various factors into consideration, including humidity, wind speed and sunlight. "The military has to train,

but commanders need to have resources to make that risk assessment based on what they're doing."

Service officials have spent recent years at the Army Heat Center at Fort Moore, Ga., working to improve the military's ability to train safely in high heat and rapidly respond when troops get overheated, said DeGroot, who has directed the center since its inception in 2019.

This summer, DeGroot, an Army physiologist, has spent time at Fort Moore, formerly Fort Benning, teaching drill instructors and leaders across the Army and other military services on heat mitigation amid the hottest months in Earth's recorded history.

DeGroot said he has helped develop two methods to prevent and treat heat injury among training troops — arm immersion cooling and ice sheeting.

He has spent recent years imploring military leaders to implement them in extreme heat. Both cooling methods were detailed in the latest heat instruction released last month by U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, the four-star command that oversees all the ser-

vice's training schools. DeGroot helped craft the guidance.

While Fort Moore has consistently reported the most heat injuries each year, DeGroot said the severity of those heat injuries have fallen, especially since the Heat Center was activated on the post four years ago.

In 2018, 96 troops suffered heatstroke, but the number of serious heat injuries has fallen consistently each year since 2018 to 35 last year.

DeGroot said data for 2023 was not yet available, but it appeared to be on a similar pace to 2022.

Troops on Okinawa brace for typhoon

Associated Press

TOKYO — A powerful Typhoon Khanun was approaching Japan's southwestern island of Okinawa on Tuesday, lashing the region with strong winds and high waves, and forcing transportation to halt and stores to close.

U.S. bases on Okinawa entered Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness 1-E (emergency) on Tuesday, which means sustained winds of 58 mph or greater are occurring on a particular base or bases. All outside activity is prohibited until an all-clear is sounded or seasonal TCCOR 4 resumes. For continually updated Stars and Stripes coverage of the sit-

uation at bases, check the Pacific Storm Tracker on stripes.com.

The slow-moving Khanun, which means jackfruit in Thai, was heading northwest at speeds of 12.4 mph on Tuesday morning, packing surface winds of up to 100 mph. It was at sea southeast of Okinawa's main island, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The city office in the Okinawan prefectural capital of Naha was closed Tuesday due to violent winds, while supermarket chains were also shut or operating under shorter hours.

Footage on NHK national television showed fallen trees on the street in Naha. No injuries were reported.

Hundreds of flights into and out of the Naha airport, including more than a dozen international flights connecting Seoul, Hong Kong, Taipei and Shanghai, were canceled, according to the airport. Public transportation on Okinawa, including buses and light rail transit systems in Naha, and ferries connecting Okinawa and nearby islands, were suspended.

The typhoon will keep moving west and away from the main Japanese archipelago after passing by Okinawa on Tuesday, when it is expected to bring rainstorms and waves as high as 39 feet to the region, the agency said.

Phoenix ends record streak of highs at 110 degrees

Associated Press

PHOENIX — A record string of daily highs over 110 degrees Fahrenheit in Phoenix ended Monday as the dangerous heat wave that suffocated the Southwest throughout July receded slightly with cooling monsoon rains.

The historic heat began blasting the region in June, stretching from Texas across New Mexico and Arizona and into California's desert. Phoenix and its suburbs sweltered more and longer than most, with several records including the 31 consecutive days of 110 degrees Fahrenheit-plus weather. The previous record was 18 straight days, set in 1974.

The streak was finally broken Monday, when the high topped out at 108 degrees Fah-

renheit at 3:10 p.m.

"The high temperature for Phoenix today is 108 degrees," Jessica Leffel, meteorologist for the National Weather Service, said at 5 p.m.

"The record streak of 31 straight days of 110+ degree temperatures has ended," the weather service said on social media. "The high temperature at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport reached 108 degrees this afternoon, which is only 2 degrees above normal."

The reprieve was expected to be brief, with the forecast calling for highs again above 110 for several days later in the week. And National Weather Service meteorologist Matthew Hirsch said August could be even hotter than July.

But residents and visitors were taking what they could get.

"It's not going to last more than a couple of days, but I'm enjoying this break," said Christine Bertaux, 76, who was cooling off Monday at a downtown day center for older people who are homeless.

"It has been REALLY hot here!" said Jeffrey Sharpe, of Kenosha, Wis., who was in town for a long weekend that on Monday included watching his son's two poodles frolic in a grassy dog park. "But today it was about 85 degrees, more like Wisconsin."

Phoenix also sweated through a record 16 consecutive days when overnight lows didn't dip below 90 degrees, making it hard for people to cool off after the sun went down.

Trump's campaign finances strained amid legal peril

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump's political operation entered the second half of the year in a strained financial position with its bank account drained by tens of millions of dollars that were directed toward defending the former president from mounting legal challenges as he seeks the White House again.

Trump took in over \$53 million since the start of 2023, records show, a period in which his two criminal indictments in Florida and New York were turned into a rallying cry that made his fundraising soar. Yet the Republican presidential front-runner burned through at least \$42.8 million this year, much of it used to cover costs related to the mounting legal peril faced by Trump, his aides and other allies, leaving him with \$31.8 million cash on hand.

And that was after receiving a lifeline from a pro-Trump super PAC that agreed to refund millions of dollars in contributions that Trump's operation had previously donated to it

New campaign finance disclosures made public ahead of Monday night's filing deadline showed Trump's network of political committees spent roughly \$25 million on legal fees. But according to a person familiar with the situation who insisted on anonymity to discuss the matter, the number is considerably higher: \$40 million this year alone.

Though Trump currently dominates the Republican primary field, a lack of cash could force his campaign to make difficult spending decisions as he braces for the possibility of two additional indictments, which could come as

soon as this week in Georgia and Washington, D.C., and are related to his efforts to overturn the outcome of the 2020 election.

"I've never seen anything like it," said Paul S. Ryan, a longtime campaign finance attorney in Washington, referring to the sum Trump's operation spent on legal fees this year. "There's no legal issue. It's really just a question for his donors: Do they want to be funding lawyers?"

To help offset his growing legal bills, Trump's allies are launching a new fundraising effort. The Patriot Legal Defense Fund, as it is called, is intended to defray costs for those "defending against legal actions arising from an individual or group's participation in the political process," according to a filing made last month with the IRS.

Board: FBI needs limits on use of foreign spy database

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI should stop using a U.S. spy database of foreigners' emails and other communications for investigating crimes that aren't related to national security, a group of White House intelligence advisers recommended in a report released Monday.

The President's Intelligence Advisory Board's findings come as the White House pushes Congress to renew Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act before its expiration at the end of this year. U.S. intelligence officials say Section 702 enables investigations of Chinese and Russian espionage, potential terrorist plots, and other threats.

But spy agencies also end up capturing the communications of U.S. citizens and businesses, and a series of intelligence mistakes at the FBI has fanned bipartisan criticism of the bureau that has shaped the debate over renewing the law. Some lawmakers in both parties and civil liberties groups have called for stronger curbs on how the FBI uses foreign surveillance to search for Americans' data.

While the White House did not commit to accepting the recommended changes, administration officials on Monday praised the board's work and again called on Congress to reauthorize the surveillance program. The board argues in its report that Section 702 is critical to U.S. national security and suggests that allowing the program to lapse would be an "intelligence failure" and a step backward from changes made after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The board says the FBI made "inappropriate use" at times of Section 702 information. Those include queries for a U.S. senator and state senator's names without properly limiting the search, looking for someone believed to have been at the Capitol during the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection and doing large queries of names of protesters following the 2020 death of George Floyd.

"Unfortunately, complacency, a lack of proper procedures, and the sheer volume of Section 702 activity led to FBI's inappropriate use of Section 702 authorities, specifically U.S. person queries," the board said. "U.S. person queries" generally mean searches for U.S. citizens and businesses.

Driver who hit 6 migrant workers in NC Walmart lot turns himself in

AP/Report for America

RALEIGH, N.C. — A North Carolina man who drove his car into a group of migrant workers in a Walmart parking lot, injuring six men, turned himself in to police Monday night.

Daniel Gonzalez, 68, of Hickory, surrendered at the Lincolnton Police Department with several relatives by his side, the department said in a statement. His family members told detectives that Gonzalez had hit the gas pedal accidentally while trying to park his car and left the scene in a panic.

Gonzalez had rammed his SUV into a group of 20-30 migrant workers waiting Sunday morning to board a shuttle bus that travels to and from a nearby farm.

A statement from the police department earlier Monday said detectives believed the assault was intentional. Maj. Brian Greene, interim chief of the Lincolnton Police Department, said the driver's motives are still under investigation.

Officers arrested Gonzalez and charged him with a felony hit-and-run.

The victims were treated at a local hospital for their injuries, and all six were released late Sunday, Greene told The Associated Press in an interview. Police identified them as Jorge A. Lopez, Zalapa M. Hermosillo, Jose L. Calderon, Luis D. Alcantar, Rodrigo M. Gutierrez-Tapia and Santiago Baltazar.

The workers had arrived at the Walmart parking lot late Sunday morning. They were standing under trees when an SUV pulled up next to the bus.

"It turns right in front of the bus and appears like it's almost going to park," Greene said. "And then it appears to accelerate at the last minute, jumping the curb, hitting the individuals and the trees and going through the area into the other side of the parking lot and exits the same way it came."

Mom sentenced in deaths of 2 kids, her romantic rival

Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Idaho mother Lori Vallow Daybell has been sentenced to life in prison without parole Monday in the murders of her two youngest children and a woman she saw as a romantic rival in a case that included bizarre claims that her son and daughter were zombies and that she was a goddess tasked with ushering in an apocalypse.

Vallow Daybell, 50, was found guilty in May of killing her two youngest children, 7-year-old Joshua "JJ" Vallow and 16-year-old Tylee Ryan, as well as conspiring to kill Tammy Daybell, her fifth husband's previous wife. Vallow Daybell will serve three life sentences, the judge said.

The husband, Chad Daybell, is awaiting trial on the same murder charges. Vallow Daybell also faces two other cases in Arizona — one on a charge of conspiring with her brother to kill her fourth husband, Charles Vallow, and one of conspiring to kill her niece's ex-husband. Charles Vallow was shot and killed in 2019, but her niece's ex survived an attempt later that year. Vallow Daybell has not yet entered a plea on the Arizona charges.

At the Fremont County Courthouse in St. Anthony, Idaho, Judge Steven W. Boyce said the search for the missing children, the discovery of their bodies and the evidence photos shown in court left law enforcement and jurors traumatized, and he would never be able to get images of the slain children out of his head.

A parent killing their own children "is the most shocking thing really that I can imagine," Boyce said.

Vallow Daybell justified the murders by "going down a bizarre religious rabbit hole, and clearly you are still down there," the judge said.

Boyce heard testimony from several representatives of the victims, including Vallow Daybell's only surviving son, Colby Ryan.

"Tylee will never have the opportunity to become a mother, wife or have the career she was destined to have. JJ will never be able to grow and spread his light with the world the way he did," Ryan wrote in a statement read by prosecuting attorney Rob Wood. "My siblings and father deserve so much more than this. I want them to be remembered for who they were, not just a spectacle."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Mayor suggests flying homeless out of state

ANCHORAGE—An unfunded proposal by Anchorage's mayor to pay for plane tickets to warmer climates for homeless people who would otherwise be forced to winter outside in the bitter cold has caused a stir in Alaska's biggest city.

Last year, eight people — a record for the city — died of exposure in Anchorage and the closure of a large arena earlier this year that served as a makeshift city shelter is sure to exacerbate the crisis.

"When people approach us and want to go to someplace warm or they want to go to some town where they have family or friends that can take care of them, if they choose to go there, we'll support that," Mayor Dave Bronson said at a news conference.

If the program moves forward, people can choose to relocate to the Lower 48 or somewhere else in Alaska where it might be warmer or where they have relatives.

Pastor fatally struck by officer responding to call

STAMFORD—A police officer responding to a call struck and killed a well-known church pastor in Connecticut, authorities said.

Stamford Police Officer Zachary Lockwood, 24, was driving a police sport utility vehicle when he hit Tommie Jackson, 69, according to a Connecticut State Police accident report.

Jackson, a pastor at Rehoboth Fellowship Church and Faith Tabernacle Church and an assistant director of the city's Urban Redevelopment Commission, was trying to cross the road after picking up mail from a mailbox when he was struck.

Lockwood "made an evasive steering maneuver" and hit him, according to the state police, who took over the investigation at the request of the Stamford State's Attorney's Office

4 found clinging to hull of overturned boat rescued

Four people found clinging to the hull of an overturned boat off New Jersey were rescued and taken to a hospital, authorities said.

Coast Guard officials in New York said Coast Guard crews and New York police and fire units were deployed to the area of Sandy Hook after receiving a distress call about 1 a.m. over VHF Channel 16 from the sailing vessel Eagle, which reported having run aground and was taking on water.

Petty Officer Logan Kaczmarek told the Asbury Park Press that rescue crews found a floating debris field of items from the boat. They then found the four people about 2:15 a.m. holding onto the floating hull near the Romer Shoal Light Station about $2\frac{1}{2}$ nautical miles from the tip of Sandy Hook.

All four were taken to Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch for treatment.

Plane towing banner lands off crowded beach

HAMPTON
BEACH — A small
plane towing a banner landed in
the ocean off a crowded New
Hampshire beach, and lifeguards rescued the pilot, who

was unhurt, authorities said.

The single-engine Piper PA-18 plane landed about noon off Hampton Beach, witnesses said. The Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement that the pilot was the only person on board.

The FAA said it would investigate the cause of the incident, along with the National Transportation Safety Board.

City getting additional area code of '645'

MIAMI—It looks like the singer Pitbull is going to have to add some digits to his ode to Miami's area code, "305 Anthem."

That's because Miami-Dade County and the Florida Keys are getting a new area code, "645."

Area customers who request new phone numbers will be assigned the "645" area code, the Florida Public Service Commission said in a news release. The new area code will supplement the existing codes of "305" and "786" that already are used for the Miami area and the Florida Keys

Black frat cites policies in relocating convention

ORLANDO — The oldest historically Black collegiate fraternity in the U.S. said it is relocating a planned convention in two years from Florida because of what it described as Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration's "harmful, racist and insensitive" policies toward African Americans.

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity said that it would move its 2025

convention from Orlando to another location that is yet undecided. The convention draws between 4,000 and 6,000 people and has an economic impact of \$4.6 million, the fraternity said.

The decision comes after the NAACP and other civil rights organizations this spring issued a travel advisory for Florida, warning that recently passed laws and policies are openly hostile to African Americans, people of color and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Racehorse trainer given 4 years in drug scheme

NEW YORK — The trainer of racehorse champion Maximum Security was sentenced to four years in prison for his role in a widespread international scheme to drug horses to make them race faster.

Jason Servis was sentenced by Judge Mary Kay Vyskocil in Manhattan federal court after pleading guilty to one felony and one misdemeanor charge alleging that he used unapproved drugs on the horses he trained. He was also ordered to pay \$311,760 in forfeiture, \$163,932 in restitution and a \$30,000 fine.

"You have undermined the integrity of the sport of horse racing," Vyskocil told Servis as she announced the sentence. "You cheated. You lied, and you broke the law."

Servis, 66, of Jupiter, Fla., was among more than 30 defendants, including veterinarians, charged in March 2020 after a multiyear federal probe of the abuse of racehorses through the use of performance enhancing drugs.

- From wire reports



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US, Portugal battle to scoreless draw

Associated Press

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — A goal post saved the United States from elimination at the Women's World Cup.

Ana Capeta nearly scored for Portugal in stoppage time, but her shot hit the left post and the U.S. escaped with a uninspiring 0-0 draw Tuesday night that got it through—just barely—to the knockout round.

The U.S. won only one game in group play for the first time in tournament history, scoring just four goals over three games. With the scoreless draw, the U.S. fell to second in the group behind the Netherlands and will head to Melbourne, Australia, for a round of 16 match on Sunday.

"We should have put some in the back of the net and we didn't. We own that," Alex Morgan said. "We're not happy with the performance we put out there. But at the same time, we're moving on." The Americans, the most successful team ever at the World Cup with four titles, have never been eliminated in the tournament's group stage. But they looked shaky against the Portuguese, who were playing in their first World Cup.

"Obviously we want to play great and score a lot of goals, and we didn't do that. We know that it can be better, and has to be better, moving forward," said Megan Rapinoe, who came into the match in the second half as a substitute. "But ultimately, we're on to the next round."

The Portuguese players sobbed on the field after the final whistle after having come so close to upsetting the mighty U.S. Capeta's shot about two minutes into stoppage time looked so good that her coaches started celebrating and the players on the bench jumped to their feet.

"I truly believed that the goal would be in that moment and I

was starting to think, 'What can I do to help my players if we're winning 1-0?'" coach Francisco Neto said. "What I said to the girls, I was very proud. Of course, they are very sad because we have huge expectations of ourselves."

Lynn Williams, who started for the U.S. for the first time in the tournament, had a chance on a header in the 14th minute but Portugal goalkeeper Ines Pereira smothered it. While the U.S. controlled possession and had the better chances, the team could not finish and the game was scoreless at the break.

Rose Lavelle picked up a yellow card in the 38th minute, her second of the group stage, and she won't be available for the team's round of 16 match.

The frustration of the U.S. fans at Eden Park was evident at the break, when there were scattered boos among the crowd as the teams headed for

the tunnel. Early in the second half, a fire alarm went off in the stadium but it turned out to be a malfunctioning sprinkler.

The U.S. had a free kick from a dangerous spot in the 57th minute, but Morgan's header popped up well over the goal. She put her hands to her face in exasperation.

"I think we just need a little bit of ruthlessness in front of the net," Lavelle said. "I think we're getting the chances, but it's that final bit of ruthlessness of just putting it away."

The U.S. last lost in the group stage to Sweden at the 2011 World Cup, but the Americans still advanced to the final match before losing on penalties to champion Japan.

The Netherlands now heads to Sydney to face the secondplace team from Group G, which includes Sweden, South Africa, Italy and Argentina. The U.S. plays the group's top team — likely Sweden.

Netherlands blows out Vietnam to win Group E

Associated Press

DUNEDIN, New Zealand — The Netherlands scored four times in a torrid 15-minute first-half stretch, overwhelming Vietnam 7-0 in the Women's World Cup on Tuesday and sealing first place in Group E.

The Dutch went into the match in second place on goal differential behind the United States. But the blowout win combined with the Americans' 0-0 draw with Portugal made the Netherlands the group winner. The U.S. advanced in second place.

Netherlands dominated almost from the start. Lieke Martens chipped a shot into the net in the eighth minute over 5-foot-4 Vietnam goalkeeper Tran Thi Kim Thanh to get the scoring started. Then the rout was on, as goals from three other

Dutch players quickly followed.

Esmee Brugts scored one in the flurry on a curling ball from outside the penalty area in the 18th minute, then got another from nearly the same spot in the second half. Jill Roord also scored twice.

Vietnam changed goalkeepers at halftime, substituting Khong Thi Hang in for Tran. It was too late.

Martens and Katja Snoeijs scored within four minutes of each other, setting the tone for the match. Coming into the game in need of goals to catch the U.S. on goal differential, the Dutch players wasted little time celebrating and put the ball right back into play.

Denmark 2, Haiti 0: At Perth, Australia, Denmark advanced to the round of 16 for the first time since 1995 after beating

Haiti in its last group-stage match. The win sets up a round of 16 matchup against tournament co-host Australia in Sydney next Monday.

Denmark's goals came courtesy of a penalty kick by Pernille Harder in the 21st minute and a calm finish by Sanne Troelsgaard in stoppage time. Haiti exits the tournament without any goals or points to show for its World Cup debut despite pushing Group D winner England all the way in its opener.

A handball from Haiti's Dayana Pierre-Louis led to a penalty kick for Denmark in the 21st minute. Star forward Harder sent the keeper the wrong way to score her 71st career international goal. It was the third penalty Haiti conceded in as many games in Australia.

Troelsgaard put the game out

of reach in the 10th minute of stoppage time with a composed finish after a Danish counterattack.

England 6, China 1: Only VAR prevented England's Lauren James from scoring a hat trick against China.

China certainly didn't know how to stop the inspirational forward as she scored two goals and provided three assists in a rout Tuesday at Adelaide, South Australia.

James' impressive performance should be a warning for future opponents of the threat she poses at this World Cup, with England entering the knockout stage with three straight wins.

As well as her two goals, she provided assists for Alessia Russo, Lauren Hemp and substitute Chloe Kelly.

D-backs add closer Sewald; Rays get Civale

Associated Press

PHOENIX—The Arizona Diamondbacks solidified the back of their bullpen ahead of the trade deadline, acquiring closer Paul Sewald from the Seattle Mariners on Monday in exchange for infielder Josh Rojas, outfielder Dominic Canzone and minor leaguer Ryan Bliss.

The D-backs opted to be buyers at the deadline despite an 8-16 record in July and a 56-50 mark overall. They began the day four games behind the Dodgers in the NL West and one game back from the final spot in the crowded NL wild-card race.

Arizona made another move later in the day, acquiring infielder Jace Peterson and cash from the Oakland Athletics in exchange for right-hander Chad Patrick.

Sewald has been a mainstay at the back of Seattle's bullpen for the past three seasons. Arizona manager Torey Lovullo stood up in excitement when the reliever returned his call Monday, and Sewald was expected to join the club Tuesday in San Francisco.

"He's very eager to step into the role that we all expect him to step into and help us win some baseball games," Lovullo said. "It's just good to hear his voice and his excitement. I know he's very focused on getting here as quick as possible."

Sewald has a career-high 21 saves this season in 45 appearances, after recording 20 saves in 2022 and 11 in 2021. In his three seasons with Seattle, Sewald has an 18-8 record and 2.88 ERA in 172 games.

Arizona's bullpen has struggled of late, with a rotating cast of closers like Scott McGough, Andrew Chafin and Miguel Castro. Sewald's arrival should give the Diamondbacks some certainty on who will handle the ninth inning.

The Mariners also traded outfielder AJ Pollock and infielder/ outfielder Mark Mathias to San Francisco on Monday for a player to be named or cash.

Pollock could provide immediate help with the Giants missing outfielder Mike Yastrzemski,

who went on the 10-day injured list Monday with a strained left hamstring and is likely to miss a few weeks.

The 35-year-old Pollock has struggled in his only season with the Mariners, hitting .173 with five homers and 15 RBIs in 49 games. Pollock was signed to be part of a platoon in left field with Jarred Kelenic, but never found consistent playing time after Kelenic's hot start.

In other trades:

■ In the midst of a tight playoff race, Cleveland traded Aaron Civale, the club's hottest pitcher and one of baseball's best over the past month, to Tampa Bay for minor league prospect Kyle Manzardo, currently sidelined with a shoulder injury.

Despite being neck and neck with Minnesota in the AL Central, the Guardians dealt Civale, who can help them defend their division title, for the 23-year-old Manzardo with no proven major league record.

The Rays have had their share of pitching problems this season,

and Civale gives them another solid starter for the playoff push. Tampa Bay entered the week $1\frac{1}{2}$ games behind first-place Baltimore in the AL East and leading the wild-card standings by four games.

■ The Chicago Cubs acquired Jeimer Candelario in a trade with the Washington Nationals, signaling a change in philosophy for the Cubs after it looked as if they had stumbled out of the playoff race.

Candelario, one of the top hitters on the market ahead of Tuesday's trade deadline, is batting .258 with 16 homers and 53 RBIs in 99 games in a resurgent performance.

■ The Cincinnati Reds acquired reliever Sam Moll in a trade with the Oakland Athletics on Monday.

The addition of Moll puts another left-hander in Cincinnati's bullpen as it tries to become the first team to win a division after losing at least 100 games in the last season. The Reds led the NL Central by $1\frac{1}{2}$ games over Milwaukee heading into play Tuesday.

Angels slug 3 solo home runs to top MLB-leading Braves

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Luis Rengifo, Randal Grichuk and Chad Wallach hit solo homers off Charlie Morton, Chase Silseth won his second straight start and the Los Angeles Angels cooled off the major league-leading Atlanta Braves with a 4-1 victory on Monday night.

Matt Olson's NL-best 36th homer and major league-leading 89th RBI made it 2-1 in the fifth, helping the Braves join the 2019 Minnesota Twins as the only teams with 200 long balls before August. Atlanta began the game with 31 more homers than the Los Angeles Dodgers, the No. 2 team.

Rengifo drove the game's third pitch to right-center. Grichuk, making his Angels debut a day after getting acquired with first baseman C.J. Cron in a trade with Colorado, hit an opposite-field shot to right in the fourth. Wallach drove his seventh homer 441 feet to left-center for a 3-1 lead in the sixth.

Reds 6, Cubs 5: Joey Votto, Christian Encarnacion-Strand and Will Benson each had two hits, and visiting Cincinnati beat Chicago

in the opener of a key four-game series between NL Central contenders.

After Andrew Abbott struggled, six Cincinnati relievers combined for 5% innings of onerun ball. Buck Farmer (3-4) got five outs for the win, and All-Star Alexis Díaz worked the ninth for his 32nd save in 33 opportunities.

Rockies 4, Padres 3: Ryan McMahon hit a sacrifice fly with the bases loaded in the bottom of the 10th inning, lifting host Colorado past San Diego.

McMahon also homered and doubled, Elehuris Montero also had two hits and Brad Hand (3-1) got the win for Colorado. Rockies second baseman Brendan Rodgers made his season debut with a single in four at-bats as the designated hitter.

Astros 7, Guardians 3: Yordan Alvarez hit a three-run homer in the sixth inning to put host Houston on top after Noah Syndergaard exited his Cleveland debut with an injury.

Phillies 4, Marlins 2: Taijuan Walker became the first 12-game winner in the major leagues, throwing 6% solid innings in visiting

Philadelphia's win over Miami.

Orioles 4, Blue Jays 2: Austin Hays made a lunging, game-saving catch of Whit Merrifield's liner in the ninth inning, and AL-best Baltimore remained unbeaten at Toronto this season.

Rays 5, Yankees 1: Tyler Glasnow pitched seven strong innings and visiting Tampa Bay hit four early homers off spot starter Jhony Brito to beat New York.

Nationals 5, Brewers 3: Joey Meneses homered and drove in three runs, and host Washington handed Milwaukee its fourth straight loss.

Diamondbacks 4, Giants 3 (11): Ketel Marte hit a tiebreaking double to the warning track in right-center in the 11th inning, and visiting Arizona denied San Francisco a third straight walk-off win.

Mariners 6, Red Sox 2: Cal Raleigh hit two solo homers off Nick Pivetta, Julio Rodríguez added a two-run single in a four-run eighth inning, and host Seattle moved a season-best four games over .500 with a win over Boston.

50 years after retiring, Howley gets into HoF

Associated Press

DALLAS—Chuck Howley brought home a cowboy blue Dodge Charger after being named MVP of Super Bowl 5—still the only losing player to earn the honor all these years later.

The son of the former Dallas Cowboys linebacker was sure his dad would give him that car when he was old enough to drive, which would have put him on a short list of coolest teenagers in Dallas.

"I guess my mom got a hold of him, and the next day in its place was parked a wood panel-sided station wagon, and I was just crushed," Scott Howley said. "And I asked him, 'What'd you do?""

The younger Howley enjoys telling that story with his 87-year-old father headed to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, something more significant to go with his quirky Super Bowl claim to fame and coming exactly 50 years after his retirement in 1973.

The answer for a devastated son about the disappearing Charger was simple, of course.

NFL contracts then weren't what they are today, and Howley was the father of two. Cars needed a practical use, even for a foot-

ball star who had just intercepted two passes and forced a fumble in a 16-13 Super Bowl loss to Baltimore.

"That's just the way it was," Scott Howley said. "And that's the way he was. He was very quiet and never really talked much about anything."

A year after the loss to the Colts that prompted star defensive tackle Bob Lilly to fling his helmet in frustration, Howley had an interception and a fumble recovery when the Cowboys finally broke through for their first championship to cap the 1971 season.

Quarterback Roger Staubach was the MVP in a 24-3 victory over Miami, but Lilly and Howley anchored the "Doomsday Defense" when the Cowboys were on their way to becoming "America's Team" in the 1970s.

The first of Howley's two standout Super Bowls capped the last of his five consecutive All-Pro seasons, and he was a six-time Pro Bowler. He made the Hall of Fame in the senior category, for players who have been retired at least 25 years.

The choice was long overdue in the eyes of Gil Brandt, Dallas' personnel chief for the

franchise's first 29 seasons and a Hall of Fame inductee four years ago.

"I don't think there was ever a better pound-for-pound player in the National Football League than Chuck Howley," Brandt said. "As a pass rusher, as a linebacker, as a defensive lineman, as a person."

The Chicago Bears drafted Howley — still the only athlete to letter in five sports at West Virginia, where he played offensive line — in the first round in 1958. He retired after sustaining a serious knee injury his second year, returning to his home state to run a gas station.

He wasn't out of the NFL for long.

After playing well in a Mountaineers alumni game, he decided to try again, and Brandt acquired his rights in exchange for draft picks in 1961. Howley spent 13 years with the Cowboys, and his 24 interceptions with Dallas are second among linebackers in club history behind Lee Roy Jordan.

"If he saw a slot receiver doing something, he could catch most of them," Lilly said. "He had the ability and he obviously had a good mind for it. He was probably looking at it from a notch above most of us."

Woods joins PGA board, expresses support for Monahan

Associated Press

Tiger Woods has joined the PGA Tour policy board for the first time in his 27-year career, giving Commissioner Jay Monahan key support and the players a greater voice as the tour tries to complete its business partnership with the Saudi backers of LIV Golf.

Monahan said Woods is joining as a sixth player director on the board, marking the first time players have outnumbered independent directors on the board.

The decision Tuesday comes at a crucial time for the tour and for Monahan, who held private meetings with Saudi leaders and two board members in orchestrating an about-face deal to work with the Saudi Arabia national wealth fund on the rival golf league.

Woods had been one of the strongest opponents of LIV Golf

and helped run a meeting of select players last year in Delaware to restructure the PGA Tour model.

In a statement, Woods said the players will do their best to assure any changes in tour operations are in the best interests of everyone. He thanked Monahan for listening to player concerns.

"He has my confidence moving forward with these changes," Woods said.

Broncos' Patrick injures left Achilles tendon

ENGLEWOOD, Colo. — The Denver Broncos braced themselves for a second straight season without their steadiest wide receiver and locker room leader after Tim Patrick was carted off the field with a left Achilles tendon injury Monday — almost a year after tearing his right ACL at training camp.

With an energized crowd of

3,000 looking on as the Broncos practiced in full pads for the first time, Patrick hit the ground in pain just as he came out of his cut on a short route during a seven-on-seven passing drill. He threw his helmet as teammates including Courtland Sutton and Russell Wilson rushed to his side.

After being carted off, Patrick entered the Broncos facility on crutches, keeping weight off his left leg.

In other NFL news:

■ Dallas Cowboys running back Ronald Jones on Monday was suspended for the first two games of the season for violating the NFL's policy on performance-enhancers.

Jones is eligible to participate in practices at training camp and in preseason games. Jones was on the field Monday as the Cowboys started their second week of camp.

Jones will be eligible to play

Sept. 24 at Arizona.

■ The Indianapolis Colts' top two offensive attractions — rookie quarterback Anthony Richardson and star running back Jonathan Taylor — both watched Monday's practice.

Richardson missed the team's first workout in full pads because of nasal surgery and is expected to suit up later this week, perhaps even Tuesday.

Taylor's absence appears more problematic. The 2021 NFL rushing champ is still on the physically unable to perform list with no timetable for his return amid an increasingly a public contract dispute.

Following Saturday's one-hour meeting with Colts owner Jim Irsay in Irsay's motorhome, word leaked that the Colts top rusher had requested a trade. Irsay later said he would not make a deal this season, the final one on Taylor's rookie contract.