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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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US WWII vets reflect on past at D-Day ceremony

Associated Press

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France — Joy and sadness in acute doses poured out Monday on the beaches of Normandy.

As several dozen D-Day veterans — now all in their 90s — set foot on the sands that claimed so many colleagues, they are thankful for the gratitude and friendliness of the French toward those who landed here on June 6, 1944. The sadness comes as they think of their fallen comrades and of another battle now being waged in Europe: the war in Ukraine.

As a bright sun rose Monday over the wide band of sand at Omaha Beach, U.S. D-Day veteran Charles Shay expressed thoughts for his comrades who died here 78 years ago.

“I have never forgotten them, and I know that their spirits are here,” he told The Associated Press.

The 98-year-old Penobscot Native American from Indian

Island, Maine, took part in a sage-burning ceremony near the beach in Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer. Shay, who now lives in Normandy, was a 19-year-old U.S. Army medic when he landed on Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944.

He said he was especially sad to see war in Europe once again, so many years later.

“Ukraine is a very sad situation. I feel sorry for the people there and I don’t know why this war had to come, but I think the human beings like to, I think they like to fight. I don’t know,” he said.

“In 1944, I landed on these beaches and we thought we’d bring peace to the world. But it’s not possible.”

This year, Shay handed over the remembrance task to another Native American, Julia Kelly, a Gulf War veteran from the Crow tribe, who performed the sage ritual. “Never forget, never forget,” she said. “In this

time, in any time, war is not good.”

Shay’s message to young generations would be “to be ever vigilant.”

“Of course I have to say that they should protect their freedom that they have now,” he said.

For the past two years, D-Day ceremonies were reduced to a minimum amid COVID-19 lockdown restrictions.

But this year, crowds of French and international visitors — including veterans in their 90s — were back in Normandy to pay tribute to the nearly 160,000 troops from Britain, the United States, Canada and elsewhere who landed there to bring freedom.

Several thousand people attended a ceremony at the American Cemetery overlooking Omaha Beach in the French town of Colleville-sur-Mer. They applauded more than 20 WWII veterans who were at the

commemoration.

Amid them was Ray Wallace, 97, a former paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division.

On D-Day, his plane was hit and caught fire, forcing him to jump earlier than expected.

He landed 20 miles away from the town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise, the first French village to be liberated from Nazi occupation.

“We all got a little scared then. And then whenever the guy dropped us out, we were away from where the rest of the group was. That was scary,” Wallace told the AP.

Less than a month later, he was taken prisoner by the Germans. He was ultimately liberated after 10 months and returned to the U.S. Still, Wallace thinks he was lucky.

“I remember the good friends that I lost there. So it’s a little emotional,” he said. “I guess you can say I’m proud of what I did, but I didn’t do that much.”

US, S. Korea respond to North’s missile volley

BY DAVID CHOI

Stars and Stripes

CAMP HUMPHREYS, South Korea — U.S. and South Korean forces fired eight surface-to-surface missiles Monday morning in response to North Korea’s unprecedented volley of missiles launched the previous day.

The allies’ missiles were fired from the Army’s Tactical Missile System at an undisclosed location toward the Sea of Japan/East Sea at around 4:45 a.m., according to a South Korean Defense Ministry news release Monday. The exercise demonstrated U.S.-South Korean capabilities to strike back at North Korea’s “origin of provocation,” regardless of the number of launch sites the communist regime employs, it said.

“Our military strongly condemns North Korea’s successive ballistic missile provocations and sternly calls for an immediate suspension of acts” that raise tensions on the Korean Peninsula, the release said.

A separate news release from U.S. Forces Korea on Monday said seven South Korean and one U.S. Army missile were fired “to demonstrate the ability of the combined [U.S.-South Korean] force to respond quickly to crisis events.”

North Korea on Sunday morning fired eight, short-range ballistic missiles from four provinces toward the Sea of Japan/East Sea. The South Korean military estimated the missiles reached three to six times the speed of sound and flew between 68 and 416 miles at altitudes of 16 to 56 miles.

The North Korean missiles did “not pose an immediate threat to U.S. personnel or territory, or to our allies,” according to a statement from the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command immediately after the launches.

North Korea’s state-run news outlets disclosed no information Monday about the latest series of launches.

The eight-missile volley is the most fired by the communist regime in a single event, according to an expert on North Korea.

Pyongyang “has conducted multiple launches in a single event before, but it’s usually in much lower numbers,” Michael Duitsman, a research associate at the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, told Stars and Stripes by phone Sunday.

Navy pilot killed in Mojave crash ID'd

By ALISON BATH
Stars and Stripes

The Navy has identified Lt. Richard Bullock as the pilot killed Friday in a Super Hornet crash near Trona, Calif.

It was the fourth crash of the same type of aircraft in less than three years in the Mojave Desert, though pilots safely ejected in two cases.

Bullock was killed when the F/A-18E Super Hornet he was flying crashed at about 2:30 p.m. during a routine training mission in a remote, unpopulated area of the desert, the Navy said Sunday in a statement.

No civilians were injured in the crash, which is under inves-

tigation. Recovery efforts are ongoing, the Navy said.

Bullock was assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 113 based at Naval Air Station Lemoore, about 40 miles southwest of Fresno, Calif. Trona is in the Searles Valley in northwestern San Bernardino County, an isolated, remote part of the desert.

Friday's crash was the latest incident involving a Navy plane in the region.

A Navy pilot safely ejected, suffering minor injuries, when the F/A-18F Super Hornet he was flying crashed in Death Valley National Park, Stars and Stripes reported Oct. 6, 2021. The jet was assigned to Air Test

and Evaluation Squadron 9 at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake in Ridgecrest, Calif.

Another Super Hornet assigned to Lemoore went down during routine flight training near China Lake with the pilot also safely ejecting, Stars and Stripes reported Oct. 20, 2020.

A Super Hornet assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron 151 at Lemoore crashed into a ravine wall in a remote section of Death Valley during routine flight training, killing the pilot and injuring seven civilians, Stars and Stripes reported July 31, 2019.

NAWS China Lake supports the Navy's research, development, acquisition testing and

evaluation of cutting-edge weapons systems, according to its website.

It is in the western Mohave, about 150 miles north of Los Angeles. Its two ranges and main site are situated on about 1.1 million acres, making it the Navy's largest base in terms of land, according to the site.

NAS Lemoore is home to Commander Strike Fighter Wing Pacific and Commander Joint Strike Fighter Wing. More than half of the Navy's F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft are located at the base, which sees an average of 210,000 flight operations annually, according to its website.

Ex-airman gets over 40 years for killing US security officer

By KYLE ALVAREZ
Stars and Stripes

A former airman who belonged to a California anti-government extremist group was sentenced to 41 years in prison for the murder of a federal security officer and the attempted murder of another amid nationwide racial justice protests in 2020.

Steven Carrillo, 34, received his sentence Friday for killing Dave Patrick Underwood in a drive-by shooting outside the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building in Oakland, Calif., on May 29, 2020. Carrillo had pleaded guilty in February. A security officer who was working with Underwood was left with "life-threatening and permanent injuries," according to a Justice Department news release issued Friday.

Carrillo was a staff sergeant assigned to an anti-terrorist squadron at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., at the time. He was later discharged from the Air Force, The New York Times reported.

In 2021, Carrillo was the sub-

ject of a joint investigative piece by PBS Frontline, ProPublica and Berkeley Journalism's Investigative Reporting Program. The story was headlined "I felt hate more than anything: How an active duty airman tried to start a civil war." Their investigation cites Air Force records showing that in 2018, Carrillo was an apprentice in an elite unit known as Phoenix Raven, which provides specially trained security forces for aircraft and air crews throughout the world. Carrillo completed a training course in New Jersey, then returned to California to "become fully mission qualified as a Raven," the report said, citing Air Force records.

And from July to November 2019, he was a Phoenix Raven team leader in the Middle East, according to Air Force information provided to the journalists.

In his guilty plea, Carrillo admitted that he had become an adherent of anti-government ideology and wanted to attack federal law enforcement agents.

Army Corps of Engineers forces a mining plan redo

Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — A federal agency has delivered a big setback to a company's controversial plan to mine near the edge of the Okefenokee Swamp and its vast wildlife refuge.

A government memo said Friday that the Army Corps of Engineers is reasserting jurisdiction over Twin Pines Minerals' proposal to mine minerals just outside the Okefenokee, home to the largest U.S. wildlife refuge east of the Mississippi River.

Scientists have warned that mining close to the swamp's bowl-like rim could damage its ability to hold water. They urged the Army Corps of Engineers to deny the project a permit. But the agency declared in 2020 it no longer had that authority after regulatory rollbacks under then-President Donald Trump narrowed the types of waterways qualifying for protection under the Clean Water

Act.

Trump's rollbacks were later scrapped by federal courts. President Joe Biden's administration has sought to restore federal oversight of development projects that under Trump had been allowed to sidestep regulations to prevent pollution of streams or draining of wetlands.

Michael Connor, the assistant Army secretary for civil works, said in the memo that prior decisions waiving the Army Corps' jurisdiction over the Georgia mining plan and another proposed mine outside Tucson, Ariz., had been reversed. Connor wrote that both projects would have to start over with new applications for federal permits. He said the prior decisions allowing them to bypass federal regulators "are not valid" because tribal governments with ancestral ties to the proposed mining sites had not been consulted.

Milley: Ukraine will keep getting ‘significant’ help

Associated Press

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France — The United States and its allies will keep providing “significant” support to Ukraine out of respect for the legacy of D-Day soldiers, whose victory over the Nazis helped lead to a new world order and a “better peace,” Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Monday.

In an interview with The Associated Press overlooking Omaha Beach in Normandy, Milley said Russia’s war on Ukraine undermines the rules established by Allied countries after the end of World War II. He spoke on the 78th anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Allied troops onto the beaches of France, which led to the overthrow of Nazi Germany’s occupation.

One fundamental rule of the “global rules-based order” is that “countries cannot attack other countries with their military forces in acts of aggression unless it’s an act of pure self-defense,” he stressed. “But that’s not what’s happened here in Ukraine. What’s happened here is an open, unambiguous act of aggression.”

“It is widely considered to undermine the rules that these dead — here at Omaha

Beach and at the cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer — have died for. They died for something. They died for that order to be put in place so that we would have a better peace,” Milley said, speaking at the American Cemetery overlooking the shore in the northwestern French village at Colleville-sur-Mer.

That’s why “the nations of Europe, the nations of NATO, are supporting Ukraine with lethal and nonlethal support in order to make sure that that rule set is underwritten and supported,” Milley explained.

Asked about whether Ukraine gets enough support, Milley noted “there’s a very, very significant battle going on in the Donbas,” in reference to Ukraine’s heavily contested eastern industrial region bordering Russia. “But Kyiv (the capital) was protected and successfully defended against. The Russians had to shift their forces to the south in the Donbas. And we’ll see how this plays out.”

“I think that the United States and the allied countries are providing a significant amount of support to Ukraine, and that will continue,” he said. He didn’t elaborate.

Ukraine recovers fighters’ bodies from steel plant siege in Mariupol

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russia has begun turning over the bodies of Ukrainian fighters killed at the Azovstal steelworks, the fortress-like plant in the destroyed city of Mariupol where their last-ditch stand became a symbol of resistance against Moscow’s invasion.

Dozens of fighters’ bodies recovered from the bombed-out mill’s now Russian-occupied ruins have been transferred to the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, where DNA testing is underway to identify the remains, said Maksym Zhorin, a military commander and former leader of the Azov Regiment.

The Azov Regiment was among the Ukrainian units that defended the factory for nearly three months before surrendering.

It isn’t clear how many bodies might still remain at the plant, which was relentlessly

pounded by surrounding Russian forces from the ground, air and sea.

Meanwhile, Russian forces continued to fight for control of Sievierodonetsk, an eastern Ukrainian city that is key to Moscow’s goal of completing the capture of the industrial Donbas region.

The recovery of the fighters’ remains from the Azovstal ruins has not been announced by the Ukrainian government, and Russian officials have not commented. But relatives of soldiers killed at the plant discussed the process with The Associated Press.

The Ukrainian government’s Ministry for Reintegration of Occupied Territories on Saturday announced the first officially confirmed swap of their military dead since the war began. It said the two sides exchanged 320 bodies in all, each getting back 160 sets of remains.

US vets helping deliver combat gear to Ukraine

The Washington Post

In the three months since Chris left the United States to join the war in Ukraine, he has fought, he said, in some of its deadliest battles, in places like Irpin, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia.

A former member of the U.S. Army’s 75th Ranger Regiment, he went to Ukraine with extensive experience conducting nighttime raids in Iraq and Afghanistan. But until recently, he was unable to employ it against Russian troops because the Ukrainian units with which he has been paired lacked the necessary technology.

“In the American military, these kinds of things get provided. The night vision and thermals, those are things I can’t afford,” said Chris, who spoke on the condition that his full name not be disclosed, citing the sensitivity of his work in Ukraine. “Without it, it was just difficult. ... It’s pretty terrifying to be at the front and you can’t aim your weapons systems about half of the time.”

The Washington Post interviewed Chris in May and verified his military credentials through official service records. He’s part of a small, shadowy network of former military personnel and small-scale contractors aiding Ukraine’s war effort by providing advanced, commercially available combat gear to front-line units engaging Russian forces at close range.

It’s a delicate venture, one that involves close scrutiny of U.S. laws governing the sale and distribution of sensitive military equipment, people familiar with the effort have said. At least three members of Congress have been approached by groups seeking guidance on how to speed applications for government approval to export materiel that is closely regulated.

Hunter Ripley “Rip” Rawlings, a retired Marine lieutenant colonel, went to Ukraine at the start of hostilities and has been working through his group, Ripley’s Heroes, and with other foundations and vendors to transfer nonlethal military gear and medical equipment.

“The military aid packages that are moving through, they are ... not night-vision goggles and they’re not body armor,” Rawlings said in an interview from Kyiv. “So we’ve filled a niche — and the niche is large.”

Can Jan. 6 hearings hold public's interest?

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Americans are processing the nightmare of the slaughter of children in Texas, the racist murders in Buffalo, N.Y., and the other numbingly repeated scenes of carnage in the United States.

They're contending with what feels like highway robbery at the gas pump, they're nagged by a virus that the world can't shake and they're split into two hostile camps over politics and culture — the twin pillars of the nation's foundation.

They've already been through two set-piece dramas of presidential impeachment — indeed, through the wringer on all things Donald Trump.

Now, beginning in prime time on Thursday, the House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the Unit-

ed States Capitol is setting out to establish the historical record of an event damaging not only to a community or individual families but to the collective idea of democracy itself.

After more than 100 subpoenas, 1,000 interviews and 100,000 documents, the committee has a story to tell in hearings that open this week. A story for the ages, it's been said.

The open question: How much will the country care?

The committee's examination of the actions of Trump and all the president's men and women, more aggressive than any inquiry before it, has produced a multitude of plot lines that together will tell the tale of a violent uprising fueled by the venom and lies of a defeated president.

Many Republicans, even those who condemned Trump and the violence in the moment,

have adopted a "nothing more to see here" posture since, even rejecting calls for an independent Sept. 11-style commission to investigate.

An entire disinformation ecosystem sprung up with utterly false claims about the nature and character of the attack. Rather than condemn it, Trump has continued to insist his defeat by 7 million votes should be overturned, in effect validating the rioters' cause.

Dozens of the insurrectionists have been brought to justice, many of them being convicted or pleading guilty to serious crimes. But the committee's goal is larger: Who in a position of power should also be held to account?

Rep. Jamie Raskin, a Maryland Democrat on the committee, set expectations that may be hard to live up to as the commit-

tee tries to renew the interest of this short-attention-span country in machinations that are nearly 18 months in the rear-view mirror.

"In quieter times, the hearings would have a stronger hold on public attention," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania and an authority on political communications. "But, as is, they will be competing for attention with topics with greater immediate relevance in our lives.

"If the hearings are to do anything other than reinforce our existing political biases," she said, "they will have to reveal previously covered-up goings-on that threatened something that Democrats, independents and most Republicans can agree should be sacrosanct."

Senators: Modest legislation on gun violence within reach

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Key senators said Sunday that there is growing momentum to forge a bipartisan congressional response to recent mass shootings that could toughen federal gun laws for the first time in a generation. But a deal is not yet in hand, they warned, and the delicate talks are expected to continue for several more days as negotiators seek to garner enough Republican support to get a compromise bill through the Senate.

Should an agreement come together, it is certain to fall well short of the parameters that President Joe Biden laid out in a White House address on Thursday.

But a proposal that would encourage states to set up red-flag laws that would allow authorities to keep guns away from people thought to be a threat to their communities or themselves remains under keen discussion, as do measures tackling school security and

mental health, according to people involved in the discussions.

"It's really tough sledding. But I've never been part of conversations that are this serious and this thoughtful before, and I know all the Republicans and Democrats who are at the table are there with total sincerity to get an agreement," Connecticut Sen. Chris Murphy, the Democratic negotiator, said in an interview Sunday.

Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa., another member of the small group of senators hashing out a potential deal, said on CBS' "Face The Nation" that the discussions, while "intensive," do not "guarantee any outcome."

"But it feels to me like we are closer than we've been since I've been in the Senate," said Toomey, who co-led a failed 2013 effort to expand criminal background checks for gun buyers after the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Connecticut that left 20 children and six adults dead.

Pastor shot at by Uvalde gunman recounts terror

Associated Press

UVALDE, Texas — Gilbert Limones and a coworker at a funeral home were among the first people shot at by the gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers at a Texas elementary school. He's spent most of his days since helping prepare for the young victims' burials and consoling shattered families.

On Sunday, Limones swapped his role of funeral attendant for that of a preacher trying to comfort a community and explain horror that defies easy answers. He's also the pastor at Casa El Shaddai, a small church located less than a mile from where the carnage occurred.

"When tragedies happen, all the enemy needs is a willing vessel," Limones told his congregation of about 35, meeting for the first time in an old restaurant converted into a worship space.

While Limones didn't suffer

any physical injuries, he said he is exhausted and wracked with guilt that he couldn't do something to stop the bloodshed. He has spent hours in tears or prayer, sometimes both at the same time.

Still, Limones tried to find the words to assuage his part of a heavily Hispanic town of 16,000 that's sad, confused and raw with emotion nearly two weeks after the slaughter. Satan brought confusion and hurt, he said, but the faithful have a defense.

"Church, you are armed by this," he said, holding up a Bible. It was Limones' first sermon since the killing; he was too busy with work at the funeral home to serve last week.

In his sermon, Limones said he believes the victims are in a better place, and he recounted the hundreds of people who have come to town with donations of food, water, prayers and more. Uvalde, he said, "is surrounded by love."

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Officials seize cocaine stashed in wheelchair

NC CHARLOTTE — Federal authorities said a man has been arrested in Charlotte, after he was stopped in the city's airport with more than 23 pounds of cocaine concealed in the seat cushions of a motorized wheelchair.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers encountered the traveler as he was arriving at Charlotte Douglas International Airport from the Dominican Republic, according to a news release.

The four packages containing cocaine were discovered within the seat cushions and had an estimated street value of \$378,000, according to the news release.

The 22-year-old man was charged with trafficking in cocaine.

Man pleads guilty in death of Sweetie Pie's grandson

MO ST. LOUIS — A St. Louis man admitted that he killed the grandson of a woman whose St. Louis-area soul food restaurant was the setting for the reality show "Welcome to Sweetie Pie's."

Travell Anthony Hill, 30, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit murder-for-hire and murder-for-hire in the March 2016 killing of Andre Montgomery Jr., 21.

Hill said in his plea agreement that he shot Montgomery in exchange for \$5,000, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported.

Montgomery appeared in the OWN television show "Welcome to Sweetie Pie's," which was set in a business founded by

his grandmother, Robbie Montgomery.

In his plea deal, Hill said the victim's uncle, James Norman, hired him to kill the victim. He also said Norman hired Terica Ellis, a former girlfriend, to lure the victim to the place where he was shot.

Norman and Ellis are scheduled to go on trial in September on conspiracy to commit murder charges.

Man killed from bonfire explosion at party

FL DELAND — A central Florida man was killed from an apparent bonfire explosion over the Memorial Day weekend, authorities said.

The Volusia County Sheriff's Office said that investigators hadn't yet determined what caused the explosion during the outdoor party at a home near DeLand.

The 51-year-old man had left a patio to attend to the bonfire. Witnesses told investigators that there was a hissing sound a short time later and then the sound of something hitting the ground. When other partygoers went to check on the man, they found him unresponsive near the bonfire with extensive injuries, the sheriff's office said.

KKK flyer left on steps of mostly Black church

MS HERNANDO — A flyer on behalf of the Ku Klux Klan was reportedly left on the steps of a mostly Black church in rural Mississippi.

According to a community member's Facebook post, the flyer is in support of "The Old Glory Knights of the Ku Klux

Klan" and states that the group is "alive and growing" in 14 states, including Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama and South Carolina. It was found on the steps of Union Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Hernando in DeSoto County, the post said.

The Old Glory Knights are a Klan chapter that appeared sometime last year, Lydia Bates, a senior research analyst with the Southern Poverty Law Center, told The Commercial Appeal. They have distributed flyers in the past, but flyer campaigns, Bates said, do not always mean the group is active.

Hazardous powder makes warehouse workers sick

GA DUBLIN — One person was hospitalized and others were sickened by a possible hazardous materials release at a middle Georgia warehouse.

Dublin Fire Chief Matthew Cutler told local news outlets that firefighters were called to the Best Buy distribution center. More than 20 employees were complaining of irritation to their eyes, nose and throat from an unknown powdered substance.

Firefighters and company officials evacuated the warehouse, which closed for the day.

A hazardous materials team responded to help firefighters decontaminate. Best Buy also sent a cleanup team.

Man used hidden gun to kill deputy after arrest

KY MURRAY — A Kentucky man who fatally shot a sheriff's deputy used a handgun that he had kept hidden after being arrested, state

police said.

The man pulled out the gun and shot Calloway County Chief Deputy Jody Cash after asking to be taken outside for a smoke break, police said.

Officers returned fire, killing Gary Rowland, 30.

Rowland was being interviewed at the Marshall County Sheriff's Office when he asked to smoke a cigarette, The Lexington Herald-Leader reported.

Kentucky State Police said in a release the deputies took Rowland outside, and "while smoking, Mr. Rowland produced a handgun, which had been concealed."

The shooting occurred about an hour after Rowland was arrested on drug and firearms-related crimes in Benton.

13 hurt when Greyhound bus blows tire on highway

CA BANNING — Thirteen people were injured when a Greyhound bus blew a tire and veered into a sports utility vehicle and a center divider wall on a California desert highway, authorities said.

There were 33 people aboard the bus when it crashed in Banning while heading from Los Angeles to Phoenix, said California Highway Patrol Officer Jason Montez.

Thirteen people were taken to hospitals but only one of those injured suffered a major injury, believed to be a compound fracture, and the rest had minor injuries, Montez said.

Two of the injured people were in the Mitsubishi that was struck by the bus and the other 11 were from the bus, he said.

— From wire reports

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and Military News

Warriors surge, evens series with Celtics

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Just like in Game 1, the Golden State Warriors took command with a big third quarter.

Unlike in Game 1, they finished the job.

The NBA Finals are now tied, after the Warriors turned a close game into a rout with a third-quarter masterpiece. Stephen Curry scored 29 points, Jordan Poole connected from just inside of midcourt to cap the pivotal period and Golden State beat the Boston Celtics 107-88 on Sunday night in Game 2.

“I thought everybody was more engaged,” Warriors coach Steve Kerr said after his team improved to 5-0 after a loss in these playoffs. “It’s pretty obvious. Just our level of force and physicality was ramped up quite a bit, and it had to be.”

Poole finished with 17 points for Golden State, which outscored Boston 35-14 in the third quarter to turn a two-point halftime lead into a 23-point edge. And when the Warriors scored the first six points of the fourth, the Celtics waved the surrender flag and emptied their bench.

“We said we needed to play with desperation,” Curry said. “That’s what we did.”

Golden State also got 12 from Kevon Looney on 6-for-6 shooting, and 11 apiece from Andrew Wiggins and Klay Thompson.

Jayson Tatum scored 21 of his 28 points in the first half for Boston. Jaylen Brown added 17 for the Celtics, but fought through a 5-for-17 shooting night, and Derrick White scored 12.

Just like in Game 1, a huge run decided everything. Boston went on a 48-18 run in the second half to decide the opener. The Warriors didn’t wait that long in Game 2, going on a 43-14 burst from late in the first half until early in the fourth quarter to turn a tie game into a runaway.

Curry had 14 of his points in the third, making three of his five three-pointers in the quarter. The Celtics were 4-for-15 in the quarter, got outscored 21-6 on threes and let Golden State turn five turnovers into 11 points.

“Steph was breathtaking in that quarter,” Kerr said.

Boston turned a 15-point third-quarter deficit into a 15-point fourth-quarter lead in Game 1, but that wasn’t happening again Sunday. Coach Ime Udoka even picked up a technical in an effort to show his displeasure with things, including whistles or lack thereof, to no avail.

“I just let them know how I felt throughout the game in a demonstrative way, on purpose, to get a technical,” Udoka said.

Poole provided the exclamation point as the third quarter closed, taking a pass in the final seconds, dribbling over midcourt, creating a bit of space and letting fly.

Swish.

Curry greeted him with a smile and a hug, the fans at Chase Center leaped to their feet — if they weren’t there already. The outcome was pretty much decided.

And for the first time, the crowd in the Warriors’ new building finally saw the Celtics lose. Boston entered the night 4-0 in Golden State’s 3-year-old home, the only team to have won its first four games in the arena.

Giving up 33 points off 19 turnovers meant that streak had no chance of continuing.

“We have to take better care of the ball,” Tatum said.

The Celtics were bidding to join two other teams — the 1993 Chicago Bulls and 1995 Houston Rockets — on the list of clubs that swept two road games to open the finals. Those Bulls and Rockets went on to win the championship.

Palat scores late, Lightning edge Rangers in Game 3

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Just when it appeared the New York Rangers might be ready to push Tampa Bay to the brink of elimination, the two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Lightning showed they were nowhere near finished.

Nikita Kucherov and Steven Stamkos scored to wipe out a two-goal deficit, and Ondrej Palat finished a dramatic comeback with the 10th winning playoff goal of his career Sunday in a 3-2 victory that cut the Rangers’ lead in the Eastern Conference final to 2-1.

“We’ve been in spots like this,” Tampa Bay coach Jon Cooper said. “A big thing for us was, we felt we had a recipe, we just had to stay with it. I think there were times in the series where we’ve tried to manufacture things that weren’t there that put us on our

heels, gave up opportunities. Whether it was a break, whatever it was, we weren’t in sync.”

Palat scored with 42 seconds left, off a nifty back pass from Kucherov, to cap a rally that began after Mika Zibanejad and Chris Kreider scored power-play goals in a span of just over two minutes to put New York up 2-0 in the second period.

Facing the prospect of falling behind 3-0 in a series that began with a pair of losses on the road, the Lightning fought back with Kucherov scoring on the power play in the second period and Stamkos blistering a shot past goalie Igor Shesterkin from the left circle early in the third.

“We were down 2-0, and I don’t want to sit here and say we didn’t deserve to be down 2-0 because their power play has been great. ... But our 5-on-5 game I liked, and so we just needed to stick

with that and stay out of the box,” Cooper said.

“I think in maybe years past — three, four years ago — maybe panic would’ve set in at some point, but not with this group. The power play got us going, and then we took off from there. But no question the ‘been there before’ has really helped our mindset in games.”

Kucherov had a goal and two assists.

Stamkos had a multi-point game, too, with a goal and an assist. Andrei Vasilevskiy stopped 28 shots after being outplayed by Shesterkin in Games 1 and 2.

“They were the better team tonight overall,” Rangers coach Gerard Gallant said. “It went right down to the wire and had a chance to win late. ... Disappointing, but we’ll move on and get ready for the next one.”

Game 4 is Tuesday night, with

Tampa Bay looking to even the best-of-seven series and New York still in a position to move within one victory of its first trip to the Stanley Cup Final since 2014.

Artemi Panarin had two assists for the Rangers, and Adam Fox and Zibanejad had primary helpers on power-play goals resulting from a pair of penalties drawn by Shesterkin in the second period.

Tampa Bay’s Corey Perry was whistled for slashing on the first, and Riley Nash went to penalty box for interference before Kreider’s goal made it 2-0 midway through the period.

Despite taking some costly penalties that helped the Lightning get back in the game, and ultimately being unable to hold on to the lead, Gallant didn’t feel as though the Rangers let the game slip away.

US ties Uruguay, opens Cup vs Wales

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Two months after the World Cup draw, the United States learned it will open the tournament against Wales on Nov. 21.

“It’s full-steam ahead, concentrating on Wales,” U.S. coach Gregg Berhalter said after Sunday’s 0-0 draw against Uruguay in a prep match.

At the draw on April 1, the U.S. was slotted to open Group B against Wales, Ukraine or Scotland, and to then play England four days later and close the first round against Iran on Nov. 29. FIFA postponed Ukraine’s playoff games following Russia’s attack, and the Ukrainians won 3-1 at Scotland on Wednesday before losing 1-0 at Wales on Sunday in a match that ended about three hours before the Americans kicked off.

“My heart goes out to Ukraine,” Berhalter said. “The whole world was probably behind Ukraine and wanting them to go to the World Cup.”

Wales is ranked 18th in the world, three behind the U.S.

“We know what their team’s about, and we’re going to have to put in a good performance,” American star Christian Pulisic said.

U.S. players watched the last 15 minutes.

“To get to play a guy like Gareth Bale I think is something we can all be excited about,” defender Walker Zimmerman said, referring to Wales’ career scoring leader.

Jesús Ferreira failed to convert a pair of first-half chances as U.S. forwards kept up their goal-scoring struggles in their second of four World Cup warmup matches this month. The Americans stretched their home unbeaten streak to 25 matches since a September 2019 loss to Mexico. That’s one shy of the team record set from 2013-15.

Ferreira had the best American chances, a 15-yard shot saved by Fernando Muslera in the 19th and then an open header wide a minute later. Haji Wright, who debuted Wednesday, replaced Ferreira in the 61st.

American forwards have one goal in the team’s last 13 matches — by Ferreira in a 5-1 rout of Panama in a World Cup qualifier on March 27.

“The final pass was a bit off,” Berhalter said. “We’ll keep working with these guys.”

Edinson Cavani was wide with an 8-yard shot for Uruguay in the third minute of second-half stoppage time.

In the United States’ first game against a South American opponent since a 1-1 draw against Uruguay at St. Louis in 2019, midfielder Weston McKennie played the first half in his first start for club and country since breaking two bones in his left foot with Juventus on Feb. 22.

Sean Johnson was in goal for the United States for the 10th time, the first since January 2020, and he used his left shin to make a point-blank block on Darwin Núñez in the 61st.

“I’ve been waiting quite some time for a moment like this,” the 32-year-old Johnson said. “Would love to build on it.”

Power wins in final Belle Isle IndyCar race

Associated Press

DETROIT — Will Power had victory within reach on Belle Isle a year ago until a late red-flag led to an electrical malfunction that ruined his race.

In his mind, the Detroit Grand Prix owed him one.

And when Power gets his mind set on something, there’s no holding him back.

Power charged from 16th to the win Sunday to close out the Belle Isle era with a Team Penske victory that returned the Australian to the IndyCar points lead.

Power passed teammate and pole-sitter Josef Newgarden on lap 14 and never looked back, leading 55 of the 70 laps as he found himself in “the zone.”

“It’s hard to get to that place. I used to be there a lot often when I was younger,” said the 41-year-old. “It’s just one of those zones where everything’s clicking so well, you’re 100% in the middle, it’s that flow state. Hard to explain. But I would get in that state for qualifying often, pump out some pretty ridiculous laps.”

Power held off Alexander Rossi in the closing laps — extending Rossi’s slump to nearly three years — for his first win of the season.

Logano beats Kyle Busch in OT

Associated Press

MADISON, Ill. — Joey Logano watched helplessly as Kyle Busch drove away from him on a late restart Sunday, seemingly ending his hopes of delivering a much-needed win for Team Penske in the NASCAR Cup Series debut at World Wide Technology Raceway.

Kevin Harvick’s wreck with five laps left gave Logano another chance.

He took advantage of overtime, too, winning a drag race with Busch into the first corner in overtime, then jockeying briefly for the lead, before pulling away to take the white flag and eventually Logano’s second win of the season. Busch finished second.

“It doesn’t get much better than that, racing for the lead like that with Kyle, one of the best, crossing each other back and forth,” said Logano, who made it a banner day for Team Penske, which won the IndyCar race with Will Power earlier in the day in Detroit. “I knew it was coming. I did it to him. I knew he was going to do it to me.”

The victory must have felt even sweeter for Team Penske given its recent struggles. In the last five points races, Logano has the only top-10 finish for the entire team with his victory last month at Darlington.

Kurt Busch finished third Sunday with Logano’s teammate, Ryan Blaney, in fourth and

Aric Almirola in fifth.

“I’m way out of breath here,” Logano said. “What a great car. Really fast.”

Ross Chastain was fast all day, too; he just couldn’t stop hitting people. He got into Denny Hamlin and Chase Elliott at different points in the race, leading both of them to retaliate on the track.

“It was terrible driving,” Chastain said afterward. “It’s one thing to do it once. I kept driving into guys. At this level, I have to be better than that. It’s a shame. I had all these people believing in me. They deserve better.”

By the end, Logano had watched Kyle Busch drive away on a restart with 13 laps remaining, only to get a reprieve when Harvick crashed with five to go. That led to a green-white-checked finish at the 1¼-mile hairpin east of St. Louis, where Busch chose the outside lane as Logano drove to the inside once again.

This time it was Logano who won the race to Turn 1 and moved in front of Busch, who crossed him over and took the lead into the sweeping third and fourth turns. That’s where Logano went low and pulled ahead, gaining the space he needed to pull away when Busch got a little sideways coming out of Turn 4.

“We stayed in the running all day and fought hard,” Logano said, “and thought maybe we could, and that was it.”

Mets' Davis does in Dodgers in 10th

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — J.D. Davis led off the 10th inning with an RBI double after the Mets blew a two-run lead in the ninth, and New York hung on to salvage a four-game series split with a 5-4 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday.

Pete Alonso doubled home the tying run in the eighth and scored the go-ahead run on Eduardo Escobar's sacrifice fly for the Mets, who have won eight of 11. Alonso then started the 10th on second base as the automatic runner and scored another go-ahead run on Davis' hit off Craig Kimbrel (0-2).

Will Smith homered and Eddy Alvarez tied it with a two-out RBI single in the ninth for the Dodgers, who have lost five of seven.

Phillies 9, Angels 7: Bryson Stott hit a game-winning, three-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning after Bryce Harper tied it with a grand slam in the eighth, and host Philadelphia rallied for a victory that sent slumping Mike Trout and Los Angeles to an 11th straight defeat.

It was the fourth victory in a row for the Phillies, who have won all three games under interim manager Rob Thomson since he took over when Joe Girardi was fired Friday.

Cardinals 5, Cubs 3 (11): Juan Yepez singled home automatic runner Nolan Gorman to lead off the 11th inning, Brendan Donovan doubled in an insurance run and St. Louis claimed the five-game series at Chicago with its sixth win in eight games.

Genesis Cabrera (3-1) tossed four innings in relief of Adam Wainwright, including a perfect 11th, and allowed a run on two hits for the win. Daniel Norris (0-4), who had pitched

a perfect 10th inning, took the loss.

Twins 8, Blue Jays 6: Luis Arráez went 4-for-4 with a walk, Gary Sánchez and Trevor Larnach homered and Minnesota won at Toronto.

Arráez leads all of baseball with a .358 batting average.

Yankees 5, Tigers 4 (10): Josh Donaldson hit a 10th-inning sacrifice fly, and host New York came from behind twice to beat Detroit and reach the one-third mark of the season at 39-15, the best in the major leagues in 21 years.

Joey Gallo's two-run homer in the fifth overcame an early deficit and the Yankees won for the 10th time in 12 games.

Braves 8, Rockies 7: Matt Olson hit a three-run homer, Ronald Acuña Jr. had a solo shot among his four hits and Atlanta moved above .500 for the first time since the season's opening week by winning at Colorado.

Ozzie Albies added a two-run single and Adam Duvall doubled and tripled for the Braves, who completed a four-game sweep and won their season-high fifth straight. They last had a winning record when they were 2-1 on April 9.

Red Sox 5, Athletics 2: Franchy Cordero hit a three-run homer off Frankie Montas in the sixth inning and Boston completed a three-game sweep at Oakland.

Rich Hill pitched three-hit ball over six innings and added five strikeouts. Rafael Devers homered and drove in two runs as the Red Sox extended their winning streak to four and got back to .500 for the first time since April 22.

Padres 6, Brewers 4 (10): Jake Cronenworth hit a three-run home run in the 10th in-

ning and San Diego extended its winning streak to three games with a victory at Milwaukee.

Trevor Gott (1-1) pitched the 10th for the Brewers because Josh Hader had worked the ninth after the team tied the game at 3 on Kolten Wong's second home run of the game in the eighth.

Mariners 6, Rangers 5 (10): Abraham Toro scored on a wild pitch by Brock Burke in the 10th inning to complete Seattle's late-game rally at Texas.

Guardians 3, Orioles 2: Andrés Giménez hit a three-run homer, Zach Plesac had eight strikeouts over six innings and Cleveland beat Baltimore to win its first series at Camden Yards since 2018.

White Sox 6, Rays 5: Jake Burger had a key hit for the second consecutive day and Chicago hung on to a large early lead to win at Tampa Bay.

Pirates 3, Diamondbacks 0: Jack Suwinski followed his game-winning homer a day earlier with three hits to help host Pittsburgh beat Arizona again.

Nationals 5, Reds 4: Patrick Corbin pitched six effective innings, Josh Bell had a two-run double and catcher Kelbert Ruiz picked Nick Senzel off first base to end Washington's win at Cincinnati.

Giants 5, Marlins 1: Donovan Walton hit a grand slam and Jakob Junis pitched six innings of one-run ball in San Francisco's win at Miami.

Astros 7, Royals 4: Yordan Álvarez hit his 16th home run of the season and Framber Valdez won his fifth straight start for Houston, which rolled at Kansas City.

No. 1 Vols, 4 other teams advance to super regionals

Associated Press

Tennessee was right where it was expected to be Sunday night, celebrating an NCAA regional title on its home field and eager to continue one of the most dominant runs in college baseball history.

The No. 1 national seed Volunteers, No. 4 Virginia Tech, No. 5 Texas A&M, Texas and Notre Dame closed out their regionals and advanced to super regionals beginning Friday.

No. 6 Miami was the first top-eight seed eliminated, losing 4-3

to Arizona in Coral Gables, Fla.

Tennessee (56-7) beat Georgia Tech 9-6, never leading until it scored six runs in the ninth inning. Next up is a best-of-three series against Notre Dame.

Virginia Tech broke through for its first regional title, defeating Columbia 7-2 to complete a dominant three-game run. The Hokies host Florida or Oklahoma next.

Texas A&M took the lead with a seven-run ninth inning, and first-year coach Jim Schlossnagle's Aggies knocked out TCU,

his former team, 15-9. The Aggies will host Louisville or Michigan in supers.

Texas' Ivan Melendez became the first player to hit 30 homers since San Diego's Kris Bryant in 2013, connecting in a five-run first inning that sparked a 10-1 victory over Air Force. The Longhorns will play Coastal Carolina or East Carolina.

Notre Dame, which got 7½ strong innings from John Michael Bertrand, is heading to super regionals for the second

straight year after edging Texas Tech 2-1.

No. 2 Stanford, Oklahoma State, Maryland, Florida, Louisville, Coastal Carolina, North Carolina, Southern Mississippi and Vanderbilt won Sunday night to set up winner-take-all finals Monday.

Stanford beat Texas State 8-4, with Pac-12 home run leader Carter Graham connecting twice and driving five runs as the Cardinal kept alive their hopes for a third straight super regional.