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**WEEKLY DIGEST**  
FEBRUARY 15, 2019





AP File Photo

# LOCAL NEWSOM: BULLET TRAIN WILL ONLY GO THROUGH VALLEY

February 12, 2019 | AP News & GV Wire

SACRAMENTO — California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Tuesday he's abandoning a plan to build a high-speed rail line between Los Angeles and San Francisco, a project with an estimated cost that has ballooned to \$77 billion. "Let's be real," Newsom said in his first State of the State address. "The current project, as planned, would cost too much and respectfully take too long. There's been too little oversight and not enough transparency." The idea long championed by Newsom's predecessors, Jerry Brown and Arnold Schwarzenegger, is years behind schedule.

### New Board Leader for Bullet Train

Newsom says he wants to continue construction of the 171-mile high-speed link from Merced to Bakersfield in California's Central Valley. He says building the line could bring economic transformation to the agricultural region. He also said that abandoning that portion of the project would require the state to return \$3.5 billion in federal dollars. Newsom said, too, that he's replacing Brown's head of the state board that oversees the project, Dan Richard, with Bay Area businessman Lenny Mendonca. Newsom pledged more accountability for contractors that run over on costs. Voters approved a ballot measure in 2008 calling for the linking of Northern and Southern California, a roughly 520-mile rail project initially estimated to cost \$33 billion and be completed in 2020. Subsequent estimates more than doubled the cost and pushed the timeline to 2033.

### Newsom: It's not a Train to Nowhere

He rejected the idea critics have raised that it will be a "train to nowhere" and said it can help revitalize the economically depressed region. While that construction continues Newsom said the state will conduct environmental reviews on the entire Los Angeles to San Francisco route and push for more federal and private

money to connect the Valley to the state's economic powerhouses, though he didn't say how. "Right now, there simply isn't a path" to complete the full line, Newsom said. Assemblyman Jim Patterson, R-Fresno, said that Newsom's announcement was "the final nail in HSR's coffin." He also tweeted that rail supporters and critics alike must team up to ensure that Valley gets a functioning track.

**"People need to see it move to really feel like it's important."** — Democratic State Sen. Anna Caballero

### Post-Speech Confusion About What Newsom Said

Newsom's spokesman Nathan Click said the governor is committed to completing the longer line with additional private and federal money "as the Central Valley section demonstrates the viability of the broader project." But Newsom did not provide any fresh details about how he planned to leverage or gather private money in a way his predecessors could not. His speech left lawmakers with different interpretations of how the project would move forward. Democratic state Sen. Anna Caballero, who represents part of the Central Valley, called the shift to a line only from Bakersfield to Merced "disappointing." But she said she hopes to see that line connected to other state hubs at some point. "People need to see it move to really feel like it's important," she said.

### Steinberg Heads New Homelessness Commission

Newsom is creating a new commission on homelessness and housing to address one of California's most difficult problems. The Democratic governor said in his first State of the State speech that it's a moral issue that has also become a public health crisis. He cited mental illness, drug abuse, and recent disease outbreaks and has proposed spending \$600 million for homelessness care. Newsom appointed Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg to head his Commission on Homelessness & Supportive Housing. Steinberg previously was leader of the state Senate. Newsom's administration recently sued Huntington Beach for failing to reach housing goals and says he'll meet with other city leaders next...

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## DEVELOPERS SKEPTICAL OVER SPIRAL GARAGE SALE. DID FRESNO GET THE BEST PRICE? SOME SAY NO.

Photo: Flickr

February 14, 2019 | David Taub

The Fresno City Council parted with a troubled asset when it found a buyer for a parking lot structure and accompanying commercial space on the south end of Fulton Street in downtown Fresno. For years, the structure known as the “spiral garage” for its prominent design, had been falling into a state of disrepair.

The city estimated it would cost millions just to bring it up to code. The commercial space occupying the first floor and basement of the adjoining building hadn’t seen a full-time occupant since the Gottschalks department store left three decades ago. Four companies submitted offers for the property once the city put it on the market, with one, Club One Casino, willing to pay more than the appraised price.

### Unanimous City Council Vote

The Club One offer was presented to the council, and with a 6-0 vote in December, the garage and commercial space were sold. Despite the city receiving what appeared to be a premium price of \$1.7 million, not everyone is celebrating. Multi-

ple developers questioned the sales process used by Fresno officials. A city councilman ponders if an auction would have yielded an even higher price.

### Over \$16 Million to Build Today

The city of Fresno constructed the garage in the late 1960s, shortly after Fulton Street became Fulton Mall. Minutes from the 1968 council meeting approving the garage estimated it would cost \$2.2 million to build. That would be \$16.1 million in 2018 dollars, according to the federal government’s [Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator](#). The sale of the spiral garage property was conducted under provisions of the city’s [Asset Management Act](#), authored by Lee Brand in 2014. Back then, he was a business-oriented councilman. Now, he’s the mayor.

The act allows a third-party real estate firm to manage sales of city properties. Two Fresno-based companies, Cushman & Wakefield and Pacific Commercial Realty Advisors, teamed up to win the contract to provide that service...

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## OPINION: THIS IS HOW FRESNO UNIFIED CAN VAULT TO THE TOP

February 13, 2019 | Darius Assemi

Fresno’s future depends on Fresno Unified School District. Its 74,000 students are the biggest part of our future workforce. In fact, what happens at Fresno Unified sometimes is more important than the decisions made at City Hall. If Fresno Unified fails, we all suffer the consequences: Less prosperity, more blighted and unsafe neighborhoods, a lower quality of life. The district faces many challenges. [Nearly 90% of district students are disadvantaged](#). One in five is learning to speak and read English. One in 10 has a disability. Do you know that nearly 1,650 district children are homeless? About 630 more are foster youth.

### District Must Embrace Change Agents

The good news is, in recent years, thanks to the state’s Proposition 55 income tax on high earners, the district has gotten its financial house in order. In fact, it is flush with cash, with a budget of more than \$1 billion dollars and more than \$86 million in reserves. Clearly, the district has the funding to do...

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Photo: Shutterstock

## ALL 62 CLOVIS PD PATROL OFFICERS OUTFITTED WITH BODY CAMS

February 13, 2019 | Myles Barker

For the first time, all 62 [Clovis Police Department](#) patrol officers are outfitted with a body-worn camera. Wednesday morning, the department finished mounting the docking stations for the cameras at headquarters. “Nobody was pushing us to go to them, it is something we were progressive on internally,” said Sgt. Jim Munro. “So far they have been very successful.”

### \$104,000 Start-up Cost

The department’s [Axon body cam system](#) cost \$104,000, which covered the cameras and the first year of cloud storage. Two grants — Community Corrections Partnership and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) — funded \$69,000 of the cost. The city’s General Fund paid for the remainder. The General Fund also covers the \$100,000 annual operating cost of the body cam system, Munro said. As part of a five-year contract, the department can trade in all 62 cameras for updated versions every two years. Having access to more evidence...

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Photo: WOSU





# 'PRESIDENT' NEWSOM VISITS VALLEY SCHOOL WITH UNSAFE WATER TO SIGN 1ST BILL

February 13, 2019 | David Taub

Gerard Lyons didn't quite know what was going on. The 8-year old Riverview Elementary second-grader normally would be heading home on a Wednesday early release schedule. Instead, he sat in a classroom, full of news cameras in the back and important-looking people crowding the door.

**"The idea that I drop my kid off and be scared to death that they use a drinking fountain, something we took for granted when we grew up? That's pretty phenomenal."** — Gov. Gavin Newsom

Gerard and his friend Owen knew that Donald Trump was the president. They knew Trump can't spell "hamburger." It was only after an aide of the governor whispered in their ears that they knew who was going to pay them a special visit, and what he did.

"He's the president of California," Gerard said. In some ways, he's right. Gavin Newsom visited the Central Valley for the first time since taking office six weeks ago. And, he signed his first bill, **AB 72**. The budget bill passed both houses of the Legislature with nary a "no" vote.

**Millions for Safe, Clean Drinking Water**  
The bill provides \$131 million in emergency funds, including \$10 million for safe drinking water for schools like Riverview, which is near Reedley. The money is from the state's General Fund, "We're grateful to all of you who participated as taxpayers in supporting these efforts," Newsom said with a smile. Last spring, officials deemed the water at Riverview unsafe. Notices, posted on the water fountains, warn of high levels of 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP). The standard for safe water is 0.005 micrograms per liter (ug/L). The 1,2,3-TCP at Riverview is 24 times as high as the standard.

Trustees with the Kings Canyon Unified School District say the water quality didn't change, but state standards

did. The taps are turned off, and water coolers are stationed around campus.

**Newsom: Unsafe Drinking Water Is 'Disgraceful'**  
For Newsom, the thought of parents rushing to school to drop off water bottles their kids may have forgotten was too much to bear. "It's disgraceful, it's an embarrassment and God bless those parents for giving a damn about their kids," Newsom said. "And thank you to the school district for letting them know about it and having the courage to do something about it. They need our support. I need to have their back. I need to have their parent's back."

"The idea that I drop my kid off and be scared to death that they use a drinking fountain, something we took for granted when we grew up? That's pretty phenomenal. We can't even provide basic drinking water to a million-plus Californians? Pathetic."

**Charming the Kids**  
The governor charmed about 20 students of varying ages while affixing his name to AB 72. He asked questions as if he were **Steve Harvey** hosting TV's "Little Big Shots." Newsom's message to the scholars: You don't have to be an elected official to engage in change. He mentioned Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King Jr., and Gandhi as examples.

A few minutes after the ceremony, Gerard's lesson in civics seeped away. It took prodding from a nearby school official to remember what the governor does. But, Gerard did know who the Democrats are: "People who are voting against Donald Trump."

*Watch the video at this link.*

GV Wire Photo/John Tello





# NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL OFFERS PEEK AT ITS STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY

GV Wire Photo/Jahz Tello

February 12, 2019 | Randy Reed

Greater Fresno’s first four-year medical school is looking to make a dent in the Valley’s chronic shortage of doctors. The privately funded College of Osteopathic Medicine will open its Clovis campus to students in 2020. Dr. John Graneto, the school’s dean, believes that many future physicians who earn their degrees at the college will go on to practice medicine locally.

“There are three predictors of how you get physicians into practice in an area,” Dr. Graneto said. “One is they have to be from that area. Two is they have to have gone to medical school in that area. And three, they had to have done their

residency training in that area. “The statistics show if you combine any two of those three things it skyrockets in the percentage of likelihood that they’ll stay,” he said.

**Central Valley: Fewer Doctors Treating More People**  
That’s important because residents across the San Joaquin Valley have access to fewer doctors than most other people in California, even though the region is among the fastest growing in the state. The result, Dr. Graneto says, is poorer health outcomes. “People get sicker; they wait longer,” he said. “They end up utilizing the emergency department as their access point to the health care system.” That...

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Photo: Mammoth Mountain

## HOW MUCH SNOW AT MAMMOTH? ENOUGH TO LAST UNTIL 4TH OF JULY.

February 13, 2019 | AP News

Mammoth Mountain says so much snow has fallen this winter that the slopes will be open to skiing and boarding through the Fourth of July, at least. The popular resort in California’s Eastern Sierra reported Wednesday that the latest storm is adding to its summit season total — which is nearing 38 feet.

More than 5 more feet could fall before the current system moves through. The storm packing wind gusts in excess of 130 mph over the top of the Sierra is barreling down on Lake Tahoe. A winter storm warning is in effect until 10 p.m. Thursday for the Tahoe area, where more than 2 feet of snow is possible in the highest elevations.

A backcountry avalanche warning also has been issued throughout the Sierra. Meanwhile, in the Sanger Police Department posted on Facebook media photos of wind...

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## CONGRESS URGED TO FULLY OPEN BANKS TO MARIJUANA INDUSTRY

February 14, 2019 | AP News

LOS ANGELES — Bank officials and others urged Congress on Wednesday to fully open the doors of the U.S. banking system to the legal marijuana industry, a change that supporters say would reduce crime risks and resolve a litany of challenges for cannabis companies, from paying taxes to getting a loan.

Most Americans live in states where marijuana is legally available in some form. But there’s a problem when it comes to banks: Most don’t want anything to do with money from the cannabis industry for fear it could expose them to legal trouble from the federal government, which still considers marijuana illegal.

That conflict has left many growers and sellers in the burgeoning pot industry in a legal dilemma, shutting them out of everyday financial services like opening a bank account or obtaining a credit card. It also has forced many businesses to...

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AP Photo/Eric Gay

# U.S. AP FACT CHECK: TRUMP ON THE WALL, AND A BAN ON COWS?

February 12, 2019 | AP News

WASHINGTON — Let Democrats have their way, President Donald Trump suggested, and the United States will become a country without border security, airplanes or cows. Trump warned of a variety of dire consequences from the Democratic playbook as he rallied Monday night in the border city of El Paso, Texas, in a hall where banners proclaimed “Finish the Wall” even though he barely has a start on the one he promised.

Both at the White House and in El Paso, he presented the border wall as a work in progress, hailing the start of a “big, big portion” with much more coming soon. It was a hefty exaggeration from a president who has yet to see an extra mile of barrier completed since he took office. With another government shutdown looming — a tentative agreement reached by lawmakers Monday

Trump warned of a variety of dire consequences from the Democratic playbook as he rallied Monday night in the border city of El Paso, Texas, in a hall where banners proclaimed “Finish the Wall” even though he barely has a start on the one he promised.

could avert it — and illegal immigration still at the heart of the budget dispute, Trump is pulling out the stops to portray his proposed wall as an answer to crime and drugs. As he’s done repeatedly, Trump also defied the record in claiming that the wall that Congress has refused to pay for is rapidly coming together anyway. In the course of the evening, he also took a swipe at the Green New Deal, a sweeping plan put forward by a group of Democrats last week to transform the U.S. economy to combat climate change and create thousands of jobs in renewable energy. This is where gaseous cows come into it.

A look at his remarks:

### Effects of the Green New Deal

TRUMP, on the effects of the Green New Deal: “You’re not allowed to own cows anymore.” He added that the

plan would “shut down American energy” and “a little thing called air travel.”

THE FACTS: The Democratic plan would do none of those things. Trump chose to ignore the actual provisions of the plan,

which calls for a drastic drop in emissions from methane-generating cows, air travel and more but would not ban cattle ownership or flights. Instead, Trump took his cue from a FAQ that was distributed by the office of Democratic Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York last week, then clumsily disavowed by her and replaced with a more accurate summary of the plan. The first version described measures beyond those contained in the plan and made the impolitic statement: “We set a goal to get to net-zero, rather than zero emissions, in 10 years because we aren’t sure that we’ll be able to fully get rid of farting cows and airplanes that fast.”

Trump also promised in the campaign that he would make Mexico pay for the wall, which it refused to do.

### Effect of a Border Wall on Crime in El Paso

TRUMP, on the effect of a border wall on crime in El Paso: “When that wall went up, it’s a whole different ball game. ... I don’t care whether a mayor is a Republican or a Democrat. They’re full of crap when they say it hasn’t made a big difference. I heard the same thing from the fake news. They said, ‘Oh crime, it actually stayed the same.’ It didn’t stay the same. It went way down. ... Thanks to a powerful border wall in El Paso, Texas, it’s one of America’s safest cities now.” — rally remarks.

THE FACT: Trump falsely suggests a dramatic drop in crime in El Paso due to a border wall. In fact, the city’s murder rate was less than half the national average in 2005, the year before the start of its border fence. It’s true that the FBI’s Uniform Crime Report shows that El Paso’s annual number of reported violent crimes...

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# REP. ILHAN OMAR APOLOGIZES FOR TWEETS ON AIPAC'S INFLUENCE

AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite, File

February 11, 2019 | AP News

WASHINGTON — Freshman Democratic Rep. Ilhan Omar “unequivocally” apologized Monday for tweets suggesting that members of Congress support Israel because they are being paid to do so, which drew bipartisan criticism and a rebuke from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

The Minnesota Democrat said she had no intention offending anyone, including Jewish Americans. “We have to always be willing to step back and think through criticism, just as I expect people to hear me when others attack me about my identity,” Omar tweeted. “This is why I unequivocally apolo-

gize.” The statement was the latest reckoning among Democrats of intense differences in their ranks over the U.S.-Israeli relationship, highlighted by criticism from Omar and Rep. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan.

They are the first Muslim women to serve in Congress and both have reported being harassed. Pelosi and other Democrats, including leaders and chairmen, laid down a marker making clear that Omar had overstepped. In a pair of tweets over the weekend, Omar criticized the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC. “It’s all about the...

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AP Photo/Terry Spencer

# CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? NATIONAL DEBT NOW \$22 TRILLION.

February 13, 2019 | AP News

WASHINGTON — The national debt has passed a milestone, topping \$22 trillion for the first time. The Treasury Department’s daily statement showed Tuesday that total outstanding public debt stands at \$22.01 trillion. It stood at \$19.95 trillion when President Donald Trump took office on Jan. 20, 2017. The debt figure has been accelerating since the passage of Trump’s \$1.5 trillion tax cut in December 2017 and action by Congress last year to increase spending on domestic and military programs.

The national debt is the total of the annual budget deficits. The Congressional Budget Office projects that this year’s deficit will be \$897 billion — a 15.1 percent increase over last year’s imbalance of \$779 billion. In the coming years, the CBO forecasts that the deficit will keep rising, top \$1 trillion annually beginning in 2022 and never drop below \$1 trillion through 2029. Much of the increase will come from...

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# ONE YEAR LATER, PARKLAND SHOOTING DISRUPTS SCHOOL LIFE

February 14, 2019 | AP News

OKEECHOBEE, Fla. — Some students have difficulty trusting classmates outside their circle. Parents say interactions with school staff are more impersonal. Teachers worry that added security detracts from learning.

The Parkland massacre a year ago upended school life across Florida. In the year since a gunman fatally shot 14 students and three staffers, school districts have reshaped the K-12 experience, adopting new rules for entering campus, hiring more police and holding frequent safety drills. Some districts trained teams of armed employees to confront attackers.

“You can’t really trust other students. They all have different mindsets,” said Allen White, a senior at the lone high school in the central Florida farming town of Okeechobee. Reflecting at a skate park near campus, White and four friends...

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AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File





AP Photo/Ebrahim Noroozi

# WORLD

## IRANIAN-AMERICAN NURTURE NEW GENERATIONS AFTER REVOLUTION

February 12, 2019 | AP News

IRVINE — Minoo Sharifan came to the United States from Iran in the 1970s for graduate school, and like many others, wound up settling in America, starting a career and raising her family while a revolution upended her homeland and fractured relations with the U.S. The two countries remain bitter adversaries. In his State of the Union address last week, President Donald Trump said Iran does “bad, bad things” and “threatens genocide against the Jewish people”; Iran’s foreign minister countered that the U.S. has backed “dictators, butchers and extremists.”

It’s against that tense backdrop that Sharifan and others from her generation seek to build a connection to their Iranian heritage and culture among their American children and grandchildren. Now 67, Sharifan oversees the Persian collection and programming for a library in

**“People feel like their place in the U.S. has kind of continuously been under question, or not completely at ease, because of this bigger relationship between these two countries.”** — Persis Karim, chair of San Francisco State University’s Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies

Orange County, south of Los Angeles, that hosts a weekly story time for Iranian-American children that she began six years ago. At a recent gathering, a dozen young children sat cross-legged on the floor, listening to a parent volunteer read the Farsi-language version of the storybook about “Elmer” the patchwork elephant. One girl performed a Persian dance for the group, and the children twirled scarves and sang in Farsi. “For younger kids to see kids their age coming to the library and speak Farsi, it’s a good feeling for them and it makes me happy,” Sharifan said. “For us coming from another country, (a) sense of belonging to the group is very important.”

### Nearly a Half-Million People in the U.S.

The 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran overthrew the shah, a close U.S. ally, and installed Shiite clerics in power

and a government headed by the anti-American Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Tens of thousands of Iranians fled to the United States. Today, there are nearly a half-million people in the U.S. with Iranian ancestry. More than 40 percent live in California, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. The biggest community is in Los Angeles, which has led some to adopt the nickname “Tehrangeles.” Beyond Southern California, other significant populations live in the New York and Washington metropolitan areas, and in Florida and Texas. Many who came to the United States after the revolution thought they would someday return to Iran but decided to stay amid icy relations between the countries. Many were upper-class and highly educated in Iran and pursued careers as doctors, entrepreneurs and professionals in America.

In recent years, Iranian-Americans also have taken on a more visible role in politics, winning seats for state office in California, Florida and elsewhere. In Beverly Hills, which has a sizable Iranian-American community, Iran-born engineer and entrepreneur Jimmy Delshad served as mayor. That doesn’t mean the road has been easy. Many Iranian immigrants recall being taunted as children after Americans at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran were taken hostage and held for 444 days. Today, many are separated from their relatives overseas by the Trump administration’s travel ban, which has made some Americans of Iranian heritage feel their standing is in question despite their citizenship status and longstanding ties to the U.S.

“In economic terms, it has been a pretty successful community, however, we have been dogged by 40 years of bad relations between the United States and Iran,” said Persis Karim, chair of San Francisco State University’s Center for Iranian Diaspora Studies. “People feel like their place in the U.S. has kind of continuously been under question, or not completely at ease, because of...

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# IN HOUSE'S YEMEN VOTE, CONGRESS REASSERTS WAR-MAKING POWERS

AP Photo/Hani Mohammed, File

February 13, 2019 | AP News

WASHINGTON — Asserting congressional authority over war-making powers, the House passed a resolution Wednesday that would force the administration to withdraw U.S. troops from involvement in Yemen, in a rebuke of President Donald Trump's alliance with the Saudi-led coalition behind the military intervention.

Lawmakers in both parties are increasingly uneasy over the humanitarian crisis in Yemen and skeptical of the U.S. partnership with that coalition, especially in light of Saudi Arabia's role in the killing of Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi, a critic of the royal family.

Passage would mark the first time Congress has relied on the decades-old War Powers Resolution to halt military intervention. It also would set up a potential confrontation with the White House, which has threatened a veto. The House voted 248-177 to approve the measure, sending it to the Senate, where a similar resolution passed last year.

"We have helped create, and worsen, the world's largest humanitarian crisis," said Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., during the debate. "Our involvement in this war, quite frankly, is shameful." The chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, Rep. Eliot Engel, D-N.Y., said the vote represents...

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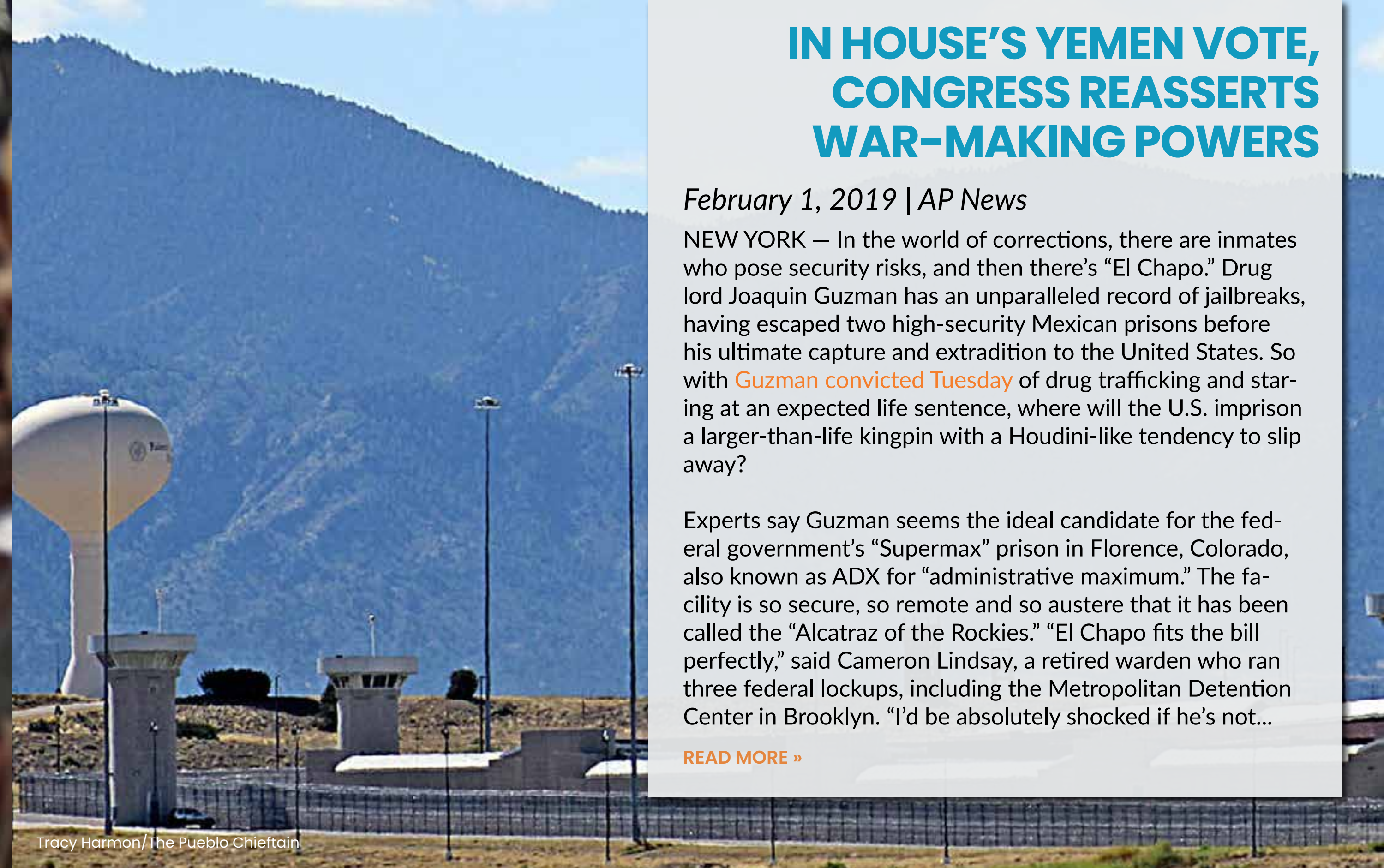
## IN HOUSE'S YEMEN VOTE, CONGRESS REASSERTS WAR-MAKING POWERS

February 1, 2019 | AP News

NEW YORK — In the world of corrections, there are inmates who pose security risks, and then there's "El Chapo." Drug lord Joaquin Guzman has an unparalleled record of jailbreaks, having escaped two high-security Mexican prisons before his ultimate capture and extradition to the United States. So with **Guzman convicted Tuesday** of drug trafficking and staring at an expected life sentence, where will the U.S. imprison a larger-than-life kingpin with a Houdini-like tendency to slip away?

Experts say Guzman seems the ideal candidate for the federal government's "Supermax" prison in Florence, Colorado, also known as ADX for "administrative maximum." The facility is so secure, so remote and so austere that it has been called the "Alcatraz of the Rockies." "El Chapo fits the bill perfectly," said Cameron Lindsay, a retired warden who ran three federal lockups, including the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn. "I'd be absolutely shocked if he's not..."

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Tracy Harmon/The Pueblo Chieftain

## SUICIDE BOMBER TARGETING REVOLUTIONARY GUARD KILLS 27

February 13, 2019 | AP News

TEHRAN, Iran — A suicide car bomber claimed by an al-Qaida-linked group attacked a bus carrying members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guard paramilitary force Wednesday, killing at least 27 people and wounding 13 others, state media reported.

Tehran immediately linked the attack in Iran's restive southeastern Sistan and Baluchistan province to an ongoing U.S.-led conference in Warsaw largely focused on Iran, just two days after the nation marked the 40th anniversary of its 1979 Islamic Revolution.

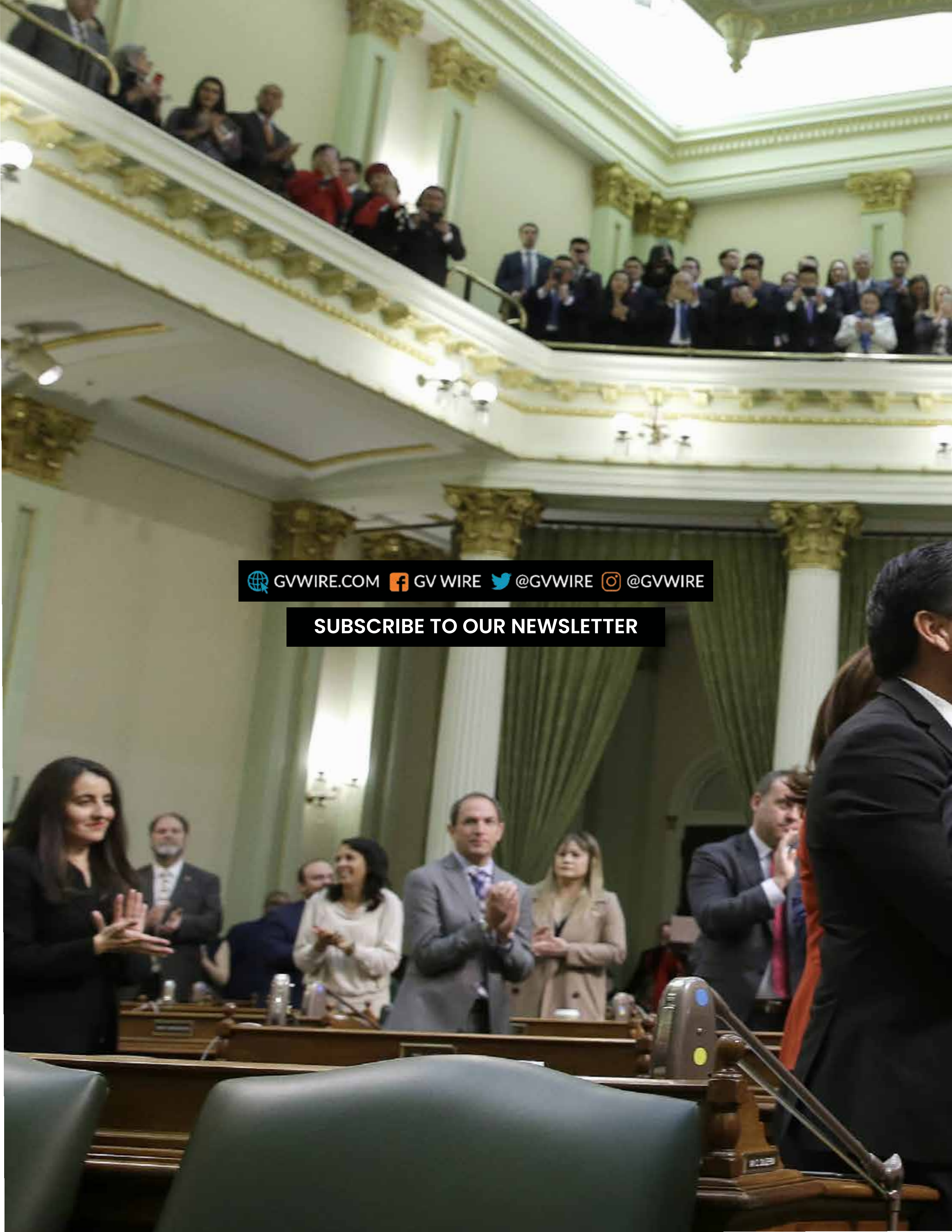
The bombing also raised the specter of possible Iranian retaliation targeting a Sunni militant group called Jaish al-Adl that claimed the attack, which largely operates across the border in nuclear-armed Pakistan. Recent militant assaults inside Iran have sparked retaliatory ballistic missile strikes in Iraq...

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