In Tehran, Iranians brace for what's next in unpredictable war

BY GOLNAR MOTEVALLI AND ABEER ABU OMAR Bloomberg News/The Tribune Content Agency

It started with her neighbor frantically knocking on her front door, panicking at the sound of explosions. Then she taped her windows to prevent them from shattering and packed an

emergency backpack. By Tuesday, Neda was on a gridlocked highway, joining thousands of other Tehranis trying to flee the Iranian capital. Their aim was to find somewhere more remote where they wouldn't be near any of the hundreds of sites that Israel might target.

"My biggest fear is the uncertainty and the ambiguity of it all," Neda, 35, said by social media chat from a suburb on the outskirts of northern Tehran. "Will this go on for a week or for eight years? Will we have to keep on improvising life one day at a time?"

For the past five days, Israel has subjected Iran to its worst military attack since the Islamic Republic was invaded by neighboring Iraq in 1980. What's clear in the metropolis of 10 million people, is that people don't expect things to be the same again in a country whose leadership is hobbled and its economy shattered.

A snapshot of the mood among people contacted in Tehran suggests they expect the regime will be weakened further, but it won't be toppled. Neda, for one, said she's no supporter of the Iranian leadership, but right now her ire is directed at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Whenever the conflict ends, though, major reforms will be inevitable,

ident and chief executive of Tehran-based consul-

ed intelligence apparatus that's repeatedly failed to intercept clandestine Issoil that include successive, audacious strikes killing the country's top military and security offi-

"The Islamic Republic won't emerge from this conflict unchanged," Razzaghi said. "Even if regime change is unlikely in the near term, significant internal shifts are expected once the dust settles."

U.S. President Donald Trump's increasingly bellicose rhetoric - on Tuesday he told Iranians to evacuate Tehran and demanded surrender - is fanning concerns that the U.S. will join Israel's assault. Netanyahu has said he is targeting the establishment of the Islamic Republic, not just its nuclear facilities, which he's threatened to strike for

He's appealed directly to the Iranian public, encouraging them to see his attack as an opportunity for them to oust their oppressive rulers. His military offensive has so far killed 224 Iranians, most of them civilians, according to Iran's government.

Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and the Islamist system of rule that he's fortified around himself have faced unprecedented levels of unpopularity in recent years. They've been challenged by some of the biggest protests since the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Their demands have been ignored and the authorities have mostly doubled down on their intolerance for any dissent.



ATTA KENARE AFP/Getty Images/TNS

People stand on a rooftop amid billowing smoke following an overnight Israeli strike in Tehran, Iran, on Tuesday. A snapshot of the mood among people contacted in Tehran during the attacks by Israel suggests they expect the regime will be weakened further, but it won't be toppled.

BIRTHDAYS: JUNE 20

Britannica

Biographical information from June 20 is from Encyclopaedia Britannica. Explore more at britannica.com.

Nicole Kidman, Australian actress (b. 1967). Cyndi Lauper, American singer and songwriter (b. 1953).

John Goodman, American actor (b. 1952). Lionel Richie, American singer, songwriter, and producer (b.

Audie Murphy, American war hero and actor (b. 1925). Howlin' Wolf, American musician (b. 1910). Errol Flynn, Australian actor (b. 1909).

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That firstly would mean an overhaul of a fragmentraeli operations on Iranian



Lisa Lopez-Galvin's family files wrongful death lawsuit against event organizers, gun sellers and others after Chiefs rally shooting in Kansas City. This photo placed on Facebook in tribute to Lopez-Galvan, who was killed in the shooting.

Family sues KC, others over fatal shooting at Chiefs rally

BY ROBERT A. CRONKLETON bcronkleton@kcstar.com

The family of Lisa Lopez-Galvin has sued Kansas City and other defendants, including event organizers and gun sellers, over the mass shooting at the Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl rally, calling her death a "preventable tragedy.'

Lopez-Galvin, along with her husband, Michael Galvan, and their children, Marc and Andriana Lopez-Galvan, traveled to downtown Kansas City to celebrate the Kansas City Chiefs' Super Bowl victory on February 14, 2024.

They gathered with thousands of other Chiefs fans, as they crowed in the area surrounding Union Station to watch and listen as the Chiefs players celebrated.

A flurry of gunfire erupted at the end of the rally, striking around 24 people, including Lopez-Galvin and her son. Lopez-Galvin, a 43-year-old mother and beloved local party DJ, died in the shooting.

"This was a preventable tragedy," the family con-

tends in the lawsuit, filed Wednesday evening in **Jackson County Circuit** Court.

'Gun sellers ignored their responsibilities under the law. Premises owners and event planners turned a blind eye to foreseeable risks of violence," the lawsuit said. "And young men armed with pistols and rifles turned a mass gathering into a mass shooting. Each defendant played a part in this tragedy. So each must be held accountable."

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS SUPER BOWL RALLY **SHOOTING**

Police have said that an argument between two groups of people erupted into gunfire. Besides the nearly two dozen struck by gunfire, nearly half of whom were children under 16 years old, about 60 others were injured in the stampede that followed as they fled the area.

Prosecutors have filed criminal charges against Dominic Miller, Lyndell Mays, Terry Young and three youths following the shooting. The lawsuit names them as defendants, saying

they "discharged their firearms with the intent to injure, maim, or kill."

Also charged were Fedo Manning, Ronnel Williams Ir. and Chaelyn Groves, in connection with guns that were used in the shooting, and those three men are also named as defendants in the civil lawsuit. Although they were not among the shooters, the charges alleged the men were involved in illegal straw purchases and trafficking of firearms, including purchasing two guns found outside Union Station following the shooting.

In addition to Kansas City, the lawsuit names as defendants Union Station Kansas City Inc., The **Greater Kansas City Sports** Commission, O'Neill Events & Marketing and Flyover Event Co. LLC. which organized the event.

Frontier Justice LS LLC, The Ammo Box LLC and R.K. Shows MO Inc., which the lawsuit states were connected to the sales of guns used in the shooting, were also named.

The lawsuit makes wrongful death and negligence claims, contending that Lopez-Galvin's death was preventable and resulted in the negligence of multiple parties.

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The suit contends the gun sellers were negligent in selling firearms to straw purchasers, failed to properly vet buyers and made false certification on federal forms.

The lawsuit also contends the event organizers failed to provide adequate security and safety measures at the rally, despite knowing the risk of violence at large public

Lopez-Galvin's lawsuit is similar to other lawsuits recently filed by some of those injured in the mass shooting at the Super Bowl celebration.

Earlier this month, three woman, Erika Reyes, Esmeralda Ortiz and Kathleen Martinez, filed a lawsuit against similar defendants. Reyes, her two children and one of Martinez's children were struck by gunfire.

In early March, James Lemons of Harrisonville, who was shot when he attended the rally with his wife and two children, filed a lawsuit against the **Greater Kansas City Sports** Commission, alleging negligence and poor event security protocol.

The sports commission filed a response, denying Lemons' allegations in the lawsuit, according to court documents.

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Temperatures soaring across US

BY JUDSON JONES NYT News Service

Summer isn't wasting any time. A "significant and ex-

tremely dangerous heat wave" is expected to send temperatures soaring across much of the United States in the coming days, stretching from the Central Plains to the East Coast, according to forecasters with the Weather Prediction Center.

"This will certainly be the first big heat wave of 2025 for the Northeast and mid-Atlantic, as well as a large portion of the Midwest," said Alex Lamers, a forecaster with the center, a part of the National Weather Service.

Temperatures at the end of spring have been relatively mild across the East. Lamers warned that those cooler-than-normal temperatures may mean that this sudden first burst of extreme heat is all the more dangerous because people in many areas have not acclimated to it yet.

The warmer temper-

atures have been trapped over the West for a little while, but Thursday the warm air mass accompanying them will begin moving east.

The Central Plains and Upper Midwest, from Texas up through Minnesota, will begin to heat up Friday. By Saturday, the heat will have reached the East Coast, stretching all the way from Denver to Washington, D.C.

On Sunday, while most of the Eastern U.S. will be above average, there are some outliers on the edge of the weather pattern where thunderstorms may form. These thunderstorms are often called ridge riders: They ride around the bubble of warm, moist air, and their rainfall and cloud cover will potentially lower afternoon temperatures in the Northeast, including New York City, and some coastal areas along the Gulf Coast.

But by Monday and Tuesday, the Northeast is expected to be well above average, potentially even warmer than the South-

Many cities across the Midwest, the Great Lakes, the mid-Atlantic states and the Northeast have not recorded a single 90degree day so far this year. And those that have, like the suburbs of New York City, have recorded only one or two.

The number of 90degree days is likely to double, triple or even quadruple by next week. Temperatures will soar well above 90 degrees and will feel even hotter, especially this weekend into the middle of next week.

Heat is likely to reach dangerous levels over much of the central and eastern United States. Forecasters have particular concern for the Ohio Valley, the eastern Great Lakes, parts of the South away from the coast and much of the East Coast, where the heat will be most persistent.

Not only will temperatures be warm, but the air will also be thick with humidity. This will make the temperatures feel more relentlessly oppressive during the day and muggy overnight.

Numerous records are likely to be broken, and light winds, sunny days and a lack of overnight cooling will significantly increase the danger.

"Things like cooler nights and stronger breezes are a natural way of providing heat relief. When these don't exist, heat can become very dangerous for anyone who does not limit or break their exposure by seeking out an air-conditioned building or some other form of relief," Lamers said.

The persistence of a heat wave for an extended period is another factor that can increase the danger of heat, and the duration of this heat wave is likely to last longer in the eastern United States.

While the weather computer models are in agreement on when the heat wave begins, they disagree on when it will end. But generally, the heat wave is forecast to persist through at least the middle of next week.

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