

HSAS COMMON SENSE: CURRENT EVENTS RELEASE

WRITTEN AND REVIEWED BY AMENA STEENHUIS, ARI SCHAER, JESSI ZHENG, JOYCE LEE, THEODORE CACY, JACK MCCURRY, JACKSON PARKER, TAHSAN LATIF, EVANGELINA BENAKIS, ZARA RASUL, SEBASTIAN KOPP, VERONICA MOLLOD, KAELA GLASER, MAYA BRENER, AND ADAM RIPP

Global Conflict: Iranian proxy group attacks American base in Jordan

Adam Ripp and Maya Brener, Grade 11, News Editors

- Three U.S. service members killed and at least 34 injured in a drone attack in Jordan, organized by an Iran-backed militia.
 - The attack occurred in northeast Jordan, at a remote American outpost where Jordan, Iraq, and Syria's borders meet.
 - The drone which conducted the attack got past American air defenses as a result of a mix-up; an American drone was returning to the base as the hostile one began to attack.
 - Pressure is placed on President Biden to retaliate more forcefully, especially amidst growing tension in the Middle East from the Israel-Hamas conflict. Biden announced that his response was decided, but has not said what it will be.
 - Both America and Iran have declared that they do not want to go to war and the militia that conducted the attack stated it would not target American bases in the future.
 - The Iran-backed militias have claimed responsibility and stated it was part of their approach to resist American forces in Iraq and the region. A spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry stated that their actions were not ordered by Iran, rather fueled by American and Israeli action.
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American Politics: Humanitarian migration crisis reaches new heights

Kaela Glaser, Grade 10, Staff Writer

- Thousands of migrants are arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border every day, propelled by violence, abuse, and poverty among other reasons.
 - Since pandemic-era border restrictions were lifted in May, crossings have grown exponentially as the Biden administration struggles to act with both humanity and efficiency.
 - Although many migrants come to the U.S. seeking asylum, their requests are not filtered at the border, meaning the majority of asylum-seekers are released and must wait years for a court date to decide whether they can stay in America.
 - Scott Carmon, a Border Patrol authority, highlights the desperation of the situation: "It's a humanitarian crisis. Why [the National Guard] isn't down here helping us transport [migrants] to safety and warmth, I don't know."
 - While President Biden took office promising compassion to those seeking safety, his attempts have since unraveled due to an overwhelmed immigration system unable to handle the influx of migrants.
 - Cities all over the U.S. are buckling under the strain of continuous immigrant arrivals, unequipped with the infrastructure to provide much-needed support.
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Miscellaneous News:

Jessi Zheng and Joyce Lee, Grade 11, Staff Writers

- Novak Djokovic lost in the Australian Open semifinals for the first time to rising star Jannik Sinner on January 25th.
- Disney's lawsuit against Florida governor Ron DeSantis and the oversight board of their tax district was dismissed by Judge Allen Winsor on January 31st on the grounds that Disney lacked the standing to sue the governor and that the company's claims against the governor's oversight board failed on merit.
- Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Meta, apologized to the families of victims of online child sexual exploitation during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on child online safety on January 31st.

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