



BRYAN DENTON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Afghan Campaign Enters Final Days

Ashraf Ghani, a candidate for Afghan president. Security concerns are likely to keep some voters at home Saturday. Pages A8-9.

Crime Inquiry
Said to Open
On Citigroup

By BEN PROTESS
and MICHAEL CORKERY

Just as Citigroup was putting a troubled past of taxpayer bailouts and risky investments behind it, the bank now finds itself in the government’s cross hairs again.

Federal authorities have opened a criminal investigation into a recent \$400 million fraud involving Citigroup’s Mexican unit, according to people briefed on the matter, one of a handful of government inquiries looming over the giant bank.

The investigation, overseen by the F.B.I. and prosecutors from the United States attorney’s office in Manhattan, is focusing in part on whether holes in the bank’s internal controls contributed to the fraud in Mexico. The question for investigators is whether Citigroup — as other banks have been accused of doing in the context of money laundering — ignored warning signs.

The bank, which also faces a parallel civil investigation from the Securities and Exchange Commission’s enforcement unit, hired the law firm Shearman & Sterling to lead an internal inquiry into the fraud, said the people briefed on the matter, who spoke

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Iraq Veteran at Fort Hood Kills 3 and Himself

This article is by Dave Montgomery, Manny Fernandez and Ashley Southall.

KILLEEN, Tex. — A soldier who was being evaluated for post-traumatic stress disorder opened fire at Fort Hood on Wednesday, killing three people and wounding 16 before killing himself, the authorities said. The shooting set off a huge police response and shut down the sprawling Army base, the same facility where a deadly rampage by an officer resulted in 13 deaths in 2009.

Fort Hood’s commanding general said the gunman, an Army specialist who had served in Iraq and was being treated for behavioral and mental health issues, had died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The commander, Lt. Gen. Mark A. Milley, told reporters that the soldier’s motive remained unclear, but that the shooting did not appear to be related to terrorism.

A Pentagon official said the suspected gunman was Army Specialist Ivan Lopez. General Milley, while not identifying Specialist Lopez by name, said the gunman had served four months

in Iraq in 2011 and was being evaluated for post-traumatic stress disorder, but had not yet been diagnosed with the condition. There were indications that he had self-reported a traumatic brain injury when he returned from Iraq, General Milley said.

Reports of the shooting sent dozens of local, state and federal law enforcement officials rushing to the base in Killeen as they had in November 2009. In Chicago, President Obama said that White House and Pentagon officials were following the events closely. “We are going to get to the bot-

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DEBORAH CANNON/AMERICAN-STATESMAN, VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lucy Hamlin and her husband waited for permission to re-enter Fort Hood on Wednesday.

G.M. Secrecy on Crashes Adds to Families’ Pain

By RACHEL ABRAMS
and DANIELLE IVORY

There is anger that General Motors did not come forward sooner with information about its faulty cars. There is grief that loved ones were lost in crashes that might have been preventable. And there is outrage that federal safety regulators did not intervene.

But what is now most upsetting to many relatives of people

killed in accidents involving recalled G.M. cars is the uncertainty and secrecy surrounding the crashes — the fact that G.M. won’t tell them what they most want to know.

Not only has G.M. twice adjusted the number of deaths it says are linked to an ignition switch defect, but it has also refused to disclose publicly the list of the confirmed victims, now said to be 13. The enduring mystery has left scores of grieving families playing a guessing

game, including the relatives of one accident victim, identified by The New York Times and confirmed by the office of Senator Claire McCaskill, a Missouri Democrat, to be among the 13.

“Why do you think G.M. has not contacted us? It’s not like they don’t know where we live,” said Cathy Sachse, whose mother-in-law was killed in 2009 while driving a Saturn Ion in Missouri. “Trust me, we have been haunted

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For Cuomo, Pivotal Role in Charter School Push

By JAVIER C. HERNÁNDEZ
and SUSANNE CRAIG

It was a frigid February day in Albany, and leaders of New York City’s charter school movement were anxious. They had gone to the capital to court lawmakers, but despite a boisterous showing by parents, there seemed to be little clarity about the future of their schools.

Then, as they were preparing to head home, an intermediary

called with a message: Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo wanted to meet.

To their surprise, Mr. Cuomo offered them 45 minutes of his time, in a private conference room. He told them he shared their concern about Mayor Bill de Blasio’s ambivalence toward charter schools and offered to help, according to a person who attended but did not want to be identified as having compromised the privacy of the meeting.

In the days that followed, the governor’s interest seemed to in-

tensify. He instructed charter advocates to organize a large rally in Albany, the person said. The advocates delivered, bringing thousands of parents and students, many of them black, Hispanic, and from low-income communities, to the capital in early March, and eclipsing a pivotal rally for Mr. de Blasio taking place at virtually the same time.

The moment proved to be a turning point, laying the ground-

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Introductions Required

Muriel E. Bowser, who upset Mayor Vincent C. Gray of Washington in a primary election on Tuesday, is largely unknown to voters — or was. PAGE A14

Democrats’ Hopes Lifting

The Affordable Care Act’s high number of enrollees could provide leverage against the G.O.P. this fall. PAGE A18

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A Rebooted Russian Army

Across Crimea in the past few weeks, a sleek new vanguard of the Russian military has been on display. PAGE A12

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Amazon’s Big Bet on Video

Amazon Fire TV is part of a multibillion-dollar effort toward a future in which consumption and viewing content become tightly linked. PAGE B1

Fake Meats, but Real Taste

Demand for meat alternatives is growing, spurring investors who see a solution to a big problem. PAGE B1

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A Quotation’s Grim Origins

Questions have been raised about an inscription at the National September 11 Memorial Museum. PAGE A20



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Kitchen Art With a Past

Paintings by Gauguin and Bonnard hung for decades on an Italian factory worker’s wall. Now identified, they are worth over \$15 million. PAGE C1

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Moss, Without the Mystery

Many gardeners grow patches accidentally, but only a few manage to cultivate moss into an entire lawn, more lush and verdant than grass. PAGE D1

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Fashion’s Unfashionable Turn

Hip urbanites wearing unhip suburban gear: Is “normcore” style an inside joke or a philosophical statement? PAGE E1

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