

US to withdraw troops from Afghanistan by Sept. 11

By AAMER MADHANI and MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden said Wednesday he will withdraw remaining U.S. troops from the “forever war” in Afghanistan, declaring that the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks cannot justify American forces still being there 20 years after the deadliest terror assault on the United States.

His plan is to pull out all American forces — numbering 2,500 now — by Sept. 11, the anniversary of the attacks, which were coordinated from Afghanistan.

The U.S. cannot continue to pour resources into an intractable war and expect different results, Biden said.

The drawdown would begin rather than conclude by May 1, which has been the deadline for full withdrawal under a peace agreement the Trump administration reached with the Taliban last year.

“It is time to end America’s longest war,” Biden said, but he added that the U.S. will “not conduct a hasty rush to the exit.”

“We cannot continue the cycle of extending or expanding our military presence in Afghanistan hoping to create the ideal conditions for our withdrawal, expecting a different result,” said Biden, who delivered his address from the White House Treaty Room, the same location where former President George W. Bush announced the start of the war. “I am now the fourth United States president to preside over an American troop presence in Afghanistan. Two Republicans. Two Democrats. I will not pass this responsibility to a fifth.”

The decision marks perhaps the most significant foreign policy decision for Biden in the early going of his presidency.

He’s long been skeptical about the U.S. presence in Afghanistan. As former President Barack Obama’s vice president, Biden was a lonely voice in the administration who advised the 44th president to tilt towards a smaller counterterrorism role in the country while military advisers were urging a troop buildup to counter Taliban gains. Biden has also made clear he wants to recalibrate U.S. foreign policy to face bigger challenges posed by China and Russia.

Withdrawing all U.S. troops comes with clear risks. It could boost the Taliban’s effort to claw back power and undo gains toward democracy and women’s rights made over the past two decades. It also opens Biden to criticism, mostly Republicans and some Democrats, even though former President Donald Trump had also wanted a full withdrawal.

“This administration has decided to abandon U.S. efforts in Afghanistan which have helped keep radical Islamic terrorism



Andrew Harnik/AP Photo
President Joe Biden visited Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia on Wednesday after announcing the withdrawal of the remainder of U.S. troops from Afghanistan by Sept. 11.

in check,” said Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell. “And bizarrely, they have decided to do so by September 11th.”

While Biden’s decision keeps U.S. forces in Afghanistan four months longer than initially planned, it sets a firm end to two decades of war that killed more than 2,200 U.S. troops, wounded 20,000, and cost as much as \$1 trillion.

Biden spoke with Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani on Wednesday ahead of his speech. The White House said in a statement that Biden told Ghani the United States would continue to support the Afghan people through development, humanitarian and security assistance.

“The Islamic Republic of Afghanistan respects the U.S. decision, and we will work with our U.S. partners to ensure a smooth transition,” Ghani said in a Twitter posting.

Biden spoke with Bush ahead of announcing his decision. He also spoke with allies, military leaders, lawmakers and Vice President Kamala Harris to help make his decision, according to the White House.

He emphasized that his administration will continue to support peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban and assist international efforts to train the Afghan military.

OBITUARIES

Katelynn Renee Tamez

Warrenton

June 17, 2003 — April 9, 2021

Katelynn Renee Tamez was born on June 17, 2003, in Granbury, Texas, and was the beloved daughter of Darla Bishop and Dan Tamez, and died in Portland on April 9, 2021.

She had attended Seaside High School where she was a cheerleader and an awesome volleyball player.

She loved music and the outdoors. She was an amazing mother, daughter and granddaughter.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her precious daughter, Aviana, her brother, sister, grand-

parents, aunts and uncles, as well as a large extended family.

All are invited to join her family for a graveside service on Friday at 2 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery on Beerman Creek Road in Seaside.

Friends have established a GoFundMe page to assist her family with memorial expenses for those who would like to contribute.

Ocean View Funeral & Cremation Service of Astoria is in charge of the cremation and burial arrangements.



Katelynn Tamez

Officer will be charged in Black motorist shooting

By SCOTT BAUER and MIKE HOUSEHOLDER
Associated Press

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. — A prosecutor said Wednesday that he will charge a white former suburban Minneapolis police officer with second-degree manslaughter for killing 20-year-old Black motorist Daunte Wright in a shooting that ignited days of unrest and clashes between protesters and police.

The charge against former Brooklyn Center police Officer Kim Potter was set to be filed Wednesday, three days after Wright was killed during a traffic stop and as the nearby murder trial progresses for the ex-officer charged with killing George Floyd last May, Washington County Attorney Pete Orput said.

The former Brooklyn Center police chief has said that Potter, a 26-year veteran and training officer, intended to use her Taser on Wright but fired her handgun instead. However, protesters and Wright’s family members say there’s no excuse for the shooting and it shows how the justice system is tilted against Blacks, noting Wright was stopped for expired car registration and ended up dead.

Intent isn’t a necessary component of second-degree manslaughter in Minnesota. The charge — which carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison — can be applied in circumstances where a person is suspected of causing a death by “culpable negligence” that

creates an unreasonable risk or consciously takes chances to cause the death of a person.

Asked how he arrived at the charging decision, Orput said: “I think it’ll be evident when you read the complaint,” which was not yet available.

Potter, 48, was arrested Wednesday morning at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension in St. Paul. Her attorney did not immediately respond to messages from the Associated Press.

Potter and Police Chief Tim Gannon both resigned Tuesday.

In Portland, police declared a riot for the second night in a row Tuesday after a crowd of about 100 people set out on a “direct action”

march from Kenton Park to the Portland Police Association office — where fires were ignited in reaction to Wright’s death. One person was arrested and charged with second-degree arson, Portland police said. In Seattle, three people face charges after demonstrators gathered outside the Seattle Police Department’s West Precinct for a vigil for Wright, police said. Two people were arrested for graffiti and another for obstruction, police said.

The Star Tribune reported that concrete barricades and tall metal fencing had been set up around Potter’s home in Champlin, north of Brooklyn Center, with police cars guarding the driveway. After Floyd’s death last year, protesters demonstrated several times at the home of Derek Chauvin, the former Minneapolis officer now on trial in Floyd’s death.



Kim Potter



“ Our weekly ad in the Coast Weekend is working well! We have had customers come into the shop saying they haven’t been in to see us for a while, and saw our ad in the paper, so decided to stop in! ”

Kelly Mauer, owner

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- Find New Customers.

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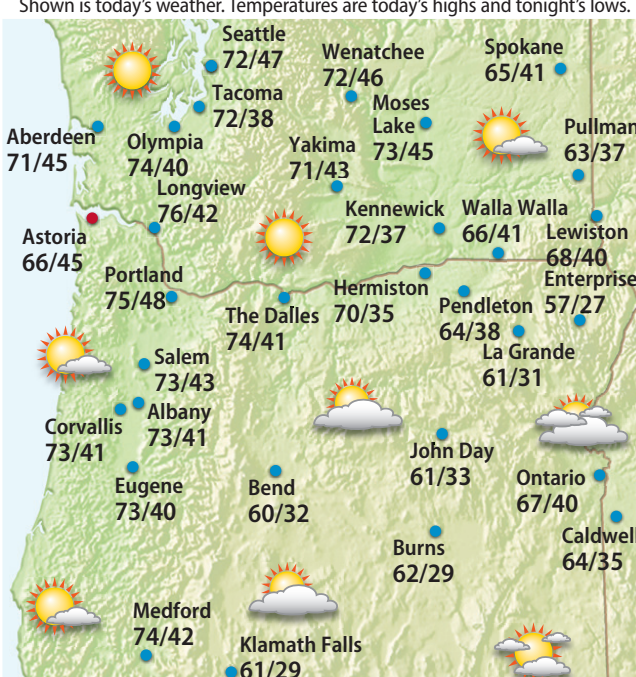
503.325.3211

SEVEN-DAY FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
66 / 45	73 / 48	72 / 46	65 / 43	62 / 44	57 / 43	58 / 42
Mostly sunny and mild	Sunny and mild	Sunny and mild	Mostly sunny and nice	High clouds; pleasant	Showers possible	Chance of a shower

REGIONAL FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W	
Seattle	72/47	72/38	
Wenatchee	72/46	73/45	
Spokane	65/41	63/37	
Aberdeen	71/45	74/40	
Olympia	74/40	76/42	
Longview	76/42	72/37	
Yakima	71/43	66/41	
Moses Lake	73/45	68/40	
Pullman	63/37	64/38	
Walla Walla	66/41	61/31	
Lewiston	68/40	61/31	
Enterprise	57/27	61/31	
Astoria	66/45	61/31	
Portland	75/48	61/31	
The Dalles	74/41	61/31	
Hermiston	70/35	61/31	
Pendleton	64/38	61/31	
La Grande	61/31	61/31	
Salem	73/43	61/31	
Albany	73/41	61/31	
Corvallis	73/41	61/31	
Eugene	73/40	61/31	
Bend	60/32	61/31	
John Day	61/33	61/31	
Burns	62/29	61/31	
Ontario	67/40	61/31	
Caldwell	64/35	61/31	
Medford	74/42	61/29	
Klamath Falls	61/29		

ALMANAC

Astoria through Tuesday

Temperatures

High/low 65/48

Normal high/low 56/41

Record high 82 in 1926

Record low 29 in 1968

Precipitation

Tuesday 0.00"

Month to date 0.34"

Normal month to date 2.52"

Year to date 33.15"

Normal year to date 27.36"

Forecasts and graphics provided by **AccuWeather, Inc.** ©2021

UNDER THE SKY

Tonight's Sky: Hercules, the Hero, emerging in the east after sunset.

Source: Jim Todd, OMSI

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 6:29 a.m.

Sunset tonight 8:03 p.m.

Moonrise today 8:19 a.m.

Moonset today 12:00 a.m.

Phase	Date
First	Apr 19
Full	Apr 26
Last	May 3
New	May 11

TODAY'S TIDES

Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
3:21 a.m.	8.1	10:23 a.m.	0.1
4:43 p.m.	6.5	10:07 p.m.	2.7

Cape Disappointment

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
3:04 a.m.	7.9	9:31 a.m.	0.1
4:11 p.m.	6.5	9:20 p.m.	3.1

Hammond

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
3:12 a.m.	8.2	9:51 a.m.	-0.1
4:27 p.m.	6.7	9:39 p.m.	2.8

Warrenton

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
3:16 a.m.	8.5	10:07 a.m.	0.2
4:38 p.m.	6.9	9:51 p.m.	2.8

Knappa

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
3:58 a.m.	8.4	11:24 a.m.	0.0
5:20 p.m.	6.8	11:08 p.m.	2.3

Depoe Bay

Time	High (ft.)	Time	Low (ft.)
2:15 a.m.	8.1	9:02 a.m.	0.0
3:31 p.m.	6.7	8:49 p.m.	3.2

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Fri. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	70/48/pc	68/52/pc
Boston	50/42/c	46/39/r
Chicago	54/38/pc	54/39/c
Dallas	66/56/c	63/48/t
Denver	43/27/sh	39/23/sn
Honolulu	82/67/pc	81/67/pc
Houston	74/63/sh	75/60/t
Los Angeles	67/54/pc	72/56/pc
Miami	83/67/s	90/70/s
New York City	54/41/r	52/42/r
Phoenix	82/59/pc	85/60/pc
San Francisco	63/49/s	63/50/pc
Wash., DC	65/45/pc	61/44/c

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, l-ice.