

July 14, 2024, coverage of the Trump assassination attempt

edition.cnn.com/politics/live-news/trump-rally-shooting-07-14-24

Autor: Michelle Shen , Michael Williams , Maureen Chowdhury , Aditi Sangal , Jack Forrest , Isabelle D'Antonio , Lex Harvey a Helen Regan , CNN

14. července 2024



15. července 2024, 11:10 SELČ

Zvuková forenzní analýza naznačuje, že na Trumpově shromáždění byly vypáleny až tři zbraně

Od CNN Gianluca Mezzofiore a Avery Schmitz



Vyšetřovatelé FBI pracují na místě pokusu o atentát na bývalého prezidenta Donalda Trumpa v Butleru v Pensylvánii, den poté, co během předvolebního shromáždění zazněly výstřely.

Jeff Swensen/Getty Images

Forenzní analýza naznačuje, že na Trumpově shromáždění v Butler v Pensylvánii byly v sobotu vypáleny až tři zbraně.

FBI v neděli uvedla, že střelec jednal sám .

První tři výstřely byly v souladu s údajnou zbraní A, dalších pět se shodovalo s údajnou zbraní B a poslední „akustický impuls“ byl vydán možnou zbraní C, podle zvukové analýzy Catalina Grigorase, ředitele Národního centra pro média. Forensics na University of Colorado v Denveru a Cole Whitecotton, Senior Professional Research Associate ve stejné instituci.

Zvuková analýza také potvrdila, že střelec byl podle forenzního experta Roberta Mahera asi 360 až 393 stop od pódia.

Tento závěr je v souladu s analýzou CNN , že střelec byl na střeše 393 až 492 stop od pódia, když zazněly výstřely.

Výstřely znázorňují „crack-pop“ sekvenci, typickou, když nadzvuková kulka projde mikrofonem, před „příchodem odpovídajícího zvuku z tlamy,“ řekl CNN Maher, který vyučuje audio forezní na Montana State University.

Čas mezi těmito značkami umístí střelce 110 až 120 metrů od mikrofonu, řekl Maher za předpokladu, že se kulka pohybuje průměrnou rychlostí 800 až 1 000 metrů za sekundu, což je ekvivalent 2 600 až 3 280 stop za sekundu.

Hannah Rabinowitz, Evan Perez a Ryan Young ze CNN přispěli reportážemi.

15. července 2024, 10:22 SELČ

Bitcoin prudce stoupá, když investoři vsadili na Trumpovu výhru po pokusu o atentát

Od Hanny Ziadyové ze CNN

Bitcoin v pondělí po víkendovém pokusu o atentát na Donalda Trumpa prudce vzrostl, protože investoři viděli větší šanci, že bývalý prezident – skeptik kryptoměn, ze kterého se stal příznivec – vyhraje listopadové volby.

Cena bitcoinu vyskočila o 9,5 % na 62 980 dolarů při ranním obchodování v Londýně, po smrtelné střelbě na sobotním předvolebním shromáždění v Butleru v Pensylvánii, Trump zranil, ale vzdoroval.

Zatímco Trump během svého předsednictví odsoudil kryptoměny a prohlásil, že jejich hodnota je „založena na vzduchu“, předpokládaný republikánský prezidentský kandidát od té doby udělal obrat a jeho kampaň dokonce akceptovala platby kryptoměnami.

Volební platforma republikánské strany zaměřená na Trumpa slibuje „ukončit nezákonný a neamerický zásah proti kryptoměnám demokratů“.

Republikáni se také zavázali bránit právo na těžbu bitcoinů a zajistit, aby každý Američan mohl provádět transakce pomocí digitálních aktiv „bez vládního dohledu a kontroly“.

15. července 2024, 10:44 SELČ

Čínský internet je po střelbě plný chatu „šťastného“ Trumpa a násilných USA

Od Simone McCarthyové ze CNN



Bývalého amerického prezidenta Donalda Trumpa odehnala tajná služba poté, co 13. července zazněly výstřely na předvolebním shromáždění v Butleru v Pensylvánii.

Jeff Swensen/Getty Images

Když se v sobotu po celém světě rozšířily dramatické obrázky neúspěšného pokusu o atentát na bývalého amerického prezidenta Donalda Trumpa, zprávy o útoku také vyvolaly obrovský online zájem – stejně jako ostrou kritiku USA – na silně cenzurovaném čínském internetu.

Diskuse o pokusu o atentát ovládla čínské sociální sítě několik hodin po útoku.

Související hashtagy získaly stovky milionů zhlédnutí na čínské platformě sociálních médií Weibo podobné X, kde Trump – který jako prezident hrál mimořádnou roli při přerámování vztahu mezi USA a Čínou na spornější vztah, který existuje dnes – je již léta častým předmětem diskuse, fascinace a často výsměchu.

Někteří uživatelé sociálních sítí rychle vítali bývalého prezidenta a předpokládaného republikánského kandidáta na prezidenta USA jako „šťastného“, že neutrpěl vážnější zranění, a chválili Trumpovy „rychlé reflexy“, zatímco mnozí jiní dělali vtipy o tom, jak by situace podpořila jeho návrat. -volební nabídka.

„Jen soudě podle jeho rychlé reakce a hbitosti vůči kačení, volil bych Trumpa. Vsadím se, že (americkému prezidentovi Joeovi) Bidenovi bude trvat věky, než se příkrčí,“ četl jeden komentář na sociálních sítích, který získal tisíce lajků a zdá se, že naráží na obavy ohledně Bidenova věku.

Jeden blogger s více než milionem sledujících poznamenal, že díky incidentu Trump vypadal spíše jako „tradiční hollywoodský prezident“.

Došlo také k opakovanému spojení mezi útokem a opakujícími se případy násilí se zbraněmi ve Spojených státech, které čínská státní média často zdůrazňují jako příklad selhání země.

Přečtěte si celý příběh.

9:44 SELČ, 15. července 2024

Bezpečnostní analytik CNN říká, že ředitel tajné služby by měl být „na dovolené“.

Od Lexe Harveyho ze CNN



Ředitelka americké tajné služby Kimberly Cheatle přihlíží během tiskové konference v Chicagské pobočce tajné služby 4. června.

Kamil Krzaczynski/AFP/Getty Images

Seniorní analytička CNN pro národní bezpečnost Juliette Kayyemová uvedla, že prezident Joe Biden by měl dát ředitelku americké tajné služby Kimberly Cheatleovou „na dovolenou“ uprostřed intenzivního zkoumání toho, jak agentura v sobotu nakládá s pokusem o atentát na bývalého prezidenta Donalda Trumpa.

“

"V podstatě měli jednu práci a selhali," řekl Kayyem Rosemary Church CNN.

"If this agency is going to move forward people need to pay the consequences for it."

Kayyem, who served as Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Homeland Security in the Obama administration, said there were a number of unanswered questions

about the Secret Service's preparation and response Saturday — including why the rooftop where the gunman was perched wasn't secure, and whether or not the agents removed Trump swiftly enough.

Footage from the aftermath of the shooting shows a bloodied Trump urging agents to wait for him to put his shoes back on, before looking out over the crowd and punching his fist in the air in what has become a defining image from the rally.

"I've talked to a bunch of secret service agents about needing to ignore the protectee. Their job is to protect the constitutional position," Kayyem said.

Cheatle defended the Secret Service's response in a memo reviewed by the New York Times.

"I am proud of those involved," she wrote.

"In the coming days, the Secret Service will face praise and criticism," she wrote. "Do not get distracted by those who were not there and yet still pass judgment."

CNN has reached out to the Secret Service about the reported memo.

8:31 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Analysis: A nation traumatized and a campaign transformed as Trump is set to reemerge

From CNN's Stephen Collinson



People attend a vigil for Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump at Zeidler Union Square on July 14, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Michael M. Santiago/Getty Images

Donald Trump will reemerge after an attempted assassination as an even greater mythical hero of his MAGA movement with the Republican National Convention opening Monday after an extraordinary two weeks that have transformed the 2024 campaign.

Saturday's shooting is only beginning to distill into a new national trauma. But both the former president and President Joe Biden are gaming out how to navigate the political aftershocks.

An assassination attempt against a presidential candidate, with all the historical allusions it evokes, raises fears that bloodshed will beget more bloodshed as the toxic politics of the last decade threaten to take an even more ominous turn.

“A former president was shot, an American citizen killed while simply exercising his freedom to support the candidate of his choosing. We cannot — must not — go down this road in America,” Biden said, calling for calm and for a polarized nation to unite in an address from the Oval Office on Sunday night.

In his first interview since the attempt on his life, the former president pledged that his RNC keynote address on Thursday — which had been expected to be an update on his “American carnage” inaugural address in 2017 — would be a “lot different.”

“This is a chance to bring the whole country, even the whole world, together,” Trump told Salena Zito of the Washington Examiner.

Read the full analysis.

7:03 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Trump says Secret Service knocked his shoes off when they rushed on stage

From CNN staff

When former President Donald Trump took cover during an assassination attempt at a rally on Saturday, he lost his shoes in the commotion.

In the audio of Trump talking with Secret Service members following the shooting, Trump was heard twice saying he needed to get his shoes on as agents started to move him off stage.

“Let me get my shoes. Let me get my shoes,” Trump says.

“I got you sir. I got you sir,” a male agent says.

“Let me get my shoes on,” Trump says again.

Reflecting on surviving the shooting, Trump said in an interview with the New York Post that when the Secret Service came to protect him on stage, they knocked off his shoes.

“

“The agents hit me so hard that my shoes fell off, and my shoes are tight,” Trump said.

In the interview, the former president praised the Secret Service agents protecting him on Saturday.

“They took him out with one shot right between the eyes,” he said, referring to the shooter.

“They did a fantastic job,” he added. “It’s surreal for all of us.”

6:52 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

"I'm supposed to be dead": Trump reflects on shooting and says he appreciates Biden call

From CNN's Kate Sullivan

Former President Donald Trump has reflected on surviving his assassination attempt, saying in a new interview with the New York Post: “I’m supposed to be dead.”

Trump showed the reporter a large bruise on his right forearm that he said he received when agents rushed on stage like “linebackers” to protect him.

The former president had a “loose, large white bandage that covered his right ear” during the interview and his staff said the outlet could not take any photos of him, according to the Post.

“I’m not supposed to be here, I’m supposed to be dead,” Trump said. “By luck or by God, many people are saying it’s by God I’m still here.”

Trump addressed the photos of him raising his fist and saying “Fight!” as he had blood on his face.

“A lot of people say it’s the most iconic photo they’ve ever seen,” Trump said. “They’re right and I didn’t die. Usually you have to die to have an iconic picture.”

Trump told the paper he wanted to keep speaking following the shooting but Secret Service insisted he go to the hospital.

“

“I just wanted to keep speaking, but I just got shot,” he said.

Trump also said he appreciated the call he received from President Joe Biden, according to the Post, calling it “fine” and “very nice.” The paper reported that Trump suggested the campaign between them could be more civil from now on.

6:34 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Top US general affirms Biden's competence and condemns Trump assassination attempt

From CNN's Oren Liebermann

The top US general said he has no reason to doubt President Joe Biden's ability to lead.

Concerns over Biden's age and health have been mounting following the president's disastrous performance at the CNN presidential debate late last month.

Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Charles Q Brown, Jr. said Biden has been “well engaged” during their meetings.

“I've been able to, in all of my engagements with the President, provide my advice and be engaged with the President,” said Brown, speaking to CNN during a trip to the Philippines and Japan. “There's a lot of debate about the President. I don't get into that debate. All my engagements with him, he's been well engaged.”

Brown also condemned the assassination attempt against former President Donald Trump.

“This is not the way we should work in a democracy. And it's not a way for us to solve our differences.”

5:53 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Democratic adviser apologizes for floating Trump shooting conspiracy theory

From CNN's Fredereka Schouten and Gregory Krieg

A top political adviser to Democratic billionaire Reid Hoffman has apologized for floating the conspiracy theory that the assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump could have been a false-flag operation.

“Last night, I sent an email I now regret. I drafted and sent it without consulting my team. I have apologized to them directly. I also want to apologize publicly, without reservation, for allowing my words to distract from last night’s central fact: political violence took yet another innocent American life,” the strategist Dmitri Mehlhorn said in a statement on Sunday.

“We must unite in condemnation of such violence in every instance, without reservation. Any other topic is a distraction.”

In his memo, which was first reported by [Semafor](#), Mehlhorn wrote that one “possibility – which feels horrific and alien and absurd in America, but is quite common globally – is that this ‘shooting’ was encouraged and maybe even staged so Trump could get the photos and benefit from the backlash.”

Mehlhorn is a longtime adviser to [Hoffman](#), the LinkedIn co-founder and prominent Democratic donor. Hoffman is an outspoken Trump critic and has funded several anti-Trump causes.

Hoffman condemned the assassination attempt in a social media post on Sunday.

5:47 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Rally shooter was member of sportsmen's club with 200-yard rifle range

From CNN’s Jamiel Lynch

Rally shooter Thomas Matthew Crooks was a member of the Clairton Sportsmen's Club in Pennsylvania, which has a rifle range of 200 yards, according to the club's attorney.

Attorney Robert Bootay confirmed Crooks was a member but said the club "is unable to make any additional commentary in relation to this matter in light of pending law enforcement investigations."

"Obviously, the Club fully admonishes the senseless act of violence that occurred yesterday. The Club also offers its sincerest condolences to the Comperatore family and extends prayers to all of those injured including the former President," he said in a statement to CNN.

Bootay did not provide any further information about the last time that Crooks visited the club or whether he used the rifle range.

Clairton is 11 miles east of Bethel Park, where Crooks lived.

CNN has reached out to officers of the club for further comment.

5:39 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

"Your father died a hero": Doctor at rally recalls performing CPR on shooting victim

From CNN's Paradise Afshar

A retired emergency room doctor said he attempted to administer CPR on firefighter Corey Comperatore, who was fatally wounded while trying to protect his family from gunfire during a rally for former President Donald Trump.

Dr. Jim Sweetland told CNN's Abby Phillip on "NewsNight" on Sunday that he heard shots ring out and then "a woman's voice cry out, 'He's been shot! He's down!'"

Sweetland said he tapped into his training as an emergency physician and arrived at Comperatore's side. With the help of other bystanders, Sweetland performed CPR until state troopers arrived.

The look on the faces of Comperatore's family "is something I'll never forget," Sweetland said.

Sweetland said he hasn't spoken to the family but wants to tell them: "Your father died a hero."

As he was leaving the rally, Sweetland said someone stopped him and said, "Brother, there's blood on your face. Here's some water; you can wash your face off with it."

“
“That was another American reaching out to help me after I tried to help Corey, and to me, that's what America is all about,” he said.

5:25 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

MSNBC won't air "Morning Joe" on Monday following Trump assassination attempt

From CNN's Oliver Darcy

MSNBC will not air "Morning Joe," its celebrated politics roundtable program, on Monday, opting to instead air breaking news coverage of the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump.

The progressive news network confirmed that it had decided to preempt its influential and top-rated morning show after a CNN inquiry. The network said the show would resume airing on Tuesday.

The decision by MSNBC to leave one of its most recognizable programs on the sidelines amid a seismic politics-driven news cycle, with the Republican National Convention getting underway in the wake of the Saturday shooting at Trump's campaign rally, is expected to raise eyebrows.

A person familiar with the matter told CNN that the decision was made to avoid a scenario in which one of the show's stable of two dozen-plus guests might make an inappropriate comment on live television that could be used to assail the program and network as a whole.

Given the fast-paced nature of the story, the person said, it made more sense to continue airing rolling breaking news coverage in the fraught political moment.

“Given the gravity and complexity of this unfolding story, NBC News, NBC News NOW and MSNBC have remained in rolling breaking news coverage since Saturday evening,” a spokesperson for NBCUniversal News Group told CNN.

In the wake of the attempt on Trump’s life, some of the former president’s supporters have vehemently criticized the press and liberal media commentators for their hard-knuckled reporting, which has sounded the alarm on what four more years under the former president would look like.

[Read the full story.](#)

5:45 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Security plan for Republican National Convention won't change, Milwaukee mayor says

From CNN's Paradise Afshar



The Fiserv Forum ahead of the Republican National Convention (RNC) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 14.

David Paul Morris/Bloomberg/Getty Images

The security plan for the Republican National Convention, which kicks off Monday in Milwaukee, isn't changing after Saturday's fatal shooting at a rally for former President Donald Trump.

"I have confidence in the Secret Service, I have confidence certainly in the Milwaukee Police Department," Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson told CNN's Abby Phillip on "NewsNight."

Johnson's comments come after the Secret Service said earlier Sunday that there are no plans to tighten security. "The plans that we have in place will continue as is, and we're confident in those plans," Audrey Gibson-Cicchino, the Secret Service's convention coordinator, said at a news conference in Milwaukee.

Johnson said that the city had been working for 18 months to prepare for the convention in Milwaukee and that it has a higher level of security designation than the Butler, Pennsylvania, rally.

“This is the highest level that you can possibly get in terms of the designation that we have for the Republican National Convention,” said Johnson, a Democrat.

When asked about reports that Democratic Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers wanted the Secret Service to reconsider its decision to allow firearms in the “soft perimeter” surrounding the convention, Johnson said state law prevents the enforcement of strict gun restrictions on a local level.

4:45 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Trump underwent precautionary CT scan after assassination attempt, source says

From CNN's Kristen Holmes

Former President Donald Trump underwent a precautionary CT scan after the assassination attempt that came back clear, according to a source familiar with the matter.

It's unclear whether he had any other tests performed.

Moments after he was shot at Saturday at a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, the former president was seen with blood on his ear and cheek as he was rushed off the stage. He later said he was shot in the ear.

5:46 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Trump explains his thinking after assassination attempt and says he rewrote convention speech

From CNN's Kate Sullivan



Trump is rushed off stage by Secret Service agents.

Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

Former President Donald Trump in a new interview described his thinking when he stood up and raised his fist as he was bleeding from the ear and surrounded by Secret Service agents after his assassination attempt at his campaign rally in Pennsylvania on Saturday.

“The energy coming from the people there in that moment, they just stood there; it’s hard to describe what that felt like, but I knew the world was looking. I knew that history would judge this, and I knew I had to let them know we are OK,” Trump told the Washington Examiner.

He said the reality of what happened at the rally is “just setting in.”

“I rarely look away from the crowd. Had I not done that in that moment, well, we would not be talking today, would we?” Trump said.

Trump said his speech at the Republican National Convention — where he is expected to speak Thursday after being formally nominated — would be completely different after what happened Saturday. Trump said on Truth Social that he is going to Milwaukee on Sunday for the conference as scheduled after initially considering delaying his trip following the assassination attempt.

“Honestly, it’s going to be a whole different speech now,” Trump said.

He added, “This is a chance to bring the whole country, even the whole world, together. The speech will be a lot different, a lot different than it would’ve been two days ago.”

5:41 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Catch up on the latest developments after the assassination attempt on Donald Trump

From CNN staff

President Joe Biden gave an Oval Office address Sunday — a rare form of presidential remarks reserved for the most solemn times — and urged Americans to unite and take the temperature down on politics following an assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump during a campaign rally in Pennsylvania.

Here’s what else to know:

Biden’s speech: The president condemned political violence and said “disagreement is inevitable and American democracy is part of human nature, but politics must never be a literal battlefield or, God forbid, a killing field.” He warned against the normalization of this violence and urged Americans to step out of their political silos “where we only listen to those with whom we agree, and where disinformation is rampant, where foreign actors fan the flames of our division to shape the outcomes consistent with their interests, not ours.”

Trump's movements: The former president said on Truth Social that he is going to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Sunday for the Republican National Convention after initially considering delaying his trip. After the assassination attempt at the rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, Trump flew to Newark, New Jersey, and spent time with his daughter Ivanka at his golf club in Bedminster, sources told CNN. The Secret Service said Sunday that there are no plans to tighten security plans for the RNC, saying it is confident in the plans that are in place.

What happened at the rally on Saturday: Trump's rally speech in Butler, Pennsylvania, Saturday evening began just as it had at dozens of rallies previously – his attendees chanted “USA! USA!” and the former president clapped and pointed to faces in the crowd before taking the lectern. About 150 yards to the north, a gunman was climbing onto the roof of a building outside the rally security perimeter. He had an AR-style weapon with him. Six minutes into the former president's speech, the gunman took aim at Trump and squeezed the trigger. Here's a timeline.

Gunman was spotted: A local police officer saw the gunman on a rooftop during campaign rally but was unable to engage him, Butler County Sheriff Michael Slupe told CNN on Sunday. Slupe said that Butler Township officers received calls about a suspicious person outside the perimeter of the rally and went looking to find that person. He said the initial calls that came in did not indicate the suspicious person had a gun.

New investigation details: The shooter, 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks, had no prior contacts with the FBI and had not been previously on its radar or databases. Investigators are struggling to understand his motives. Crooks used an AR-style 556 rifle purchased legally by his father, FBI officials said, and one of the things that investigators are still looking to understand is how Crooks gained access to his father's firearm. He also had “rudimentary” explosive devices in his car, an official said.

About the shooter: A former classmate and co-worker told CNN they remember Crooks as “the sweetest guy.” The colleague said Crooks was “not a radical” and never expressed any political views at work. “It’s hard seeing everything that’s going on online because he was a really, really good person that did a really bad thing. And I just wish I knew why,” the colleague said.

Congress: House Speaker Mike Johnson on Sunday called for the country “to get back to civility” and said he hasn’t gotten a “satisfactory answer” yet from US Secret Service on the “security lapse” at Trump’s Pennsylvania rally.

4:12 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

New York Times photographer near Trump during shooting recounts witnessing the assassination attempt

From CNN's Jack Forrest



Former President Donald Trump speaks onstage as gunshots are fired at his campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday.

Doug Mills/The New York Times/Redux

Doug Mills, a photographer for the New York Times who was feet away from Donald Trump when gunshots erupted at Saturday's rally, detailed the chaotic scene as he captured photos of the attempted assassination.

Mills told CNN's Kaitlan Collins that he was lining up his camera to get a photo of the former president on stage when he "heard the pops."

"I don't have a gun, so I don't know what an AR-15 sounds like — never heard one — I first I thought it was like a motorcycle or some sort of machinery. And then when I saw him grab his ear and he kind of winced and then immediately went down, I thought, 'Oh, my God, he's been shot.'"

"I mean, I get chills saying it now."



New York Times photographer Doug Mills speaks with CNN's Kaitlan Collins on Sunday.

CNN

He added that his "first reaction was to run around to the side and try and get a picture of him down on the ground. And by that time I got there, he was completely covered by the Secret Service agents that

are on his detail.”

Mills, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner who has photographed multiple presidents, said he never thought he’d see an attempted assassination, especially at a campaign rally.

“There’s so much security presence. There’s police everywhere, whether they’re on the roofs or on the ground — you have local police, you have state police, you have police from out of town, Secret Service — so I never, never once, thought it would be, happened right in front of me.”

3:38 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

First lady Jill Biden spoke with Melania Trump this afternoon, White House official says

From CNN's Arlette Saenz

First lady Jill Biden spoke with former first lady Melania Trump Sunday afternoon, a White House official told CNN.

The conversation came one day after the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump. President Joe Biden spoke by phone with Donald Trump on Saturday evening after the shooting in what a source described as a “good” and “short and respectful” call.

The former first lady released a statement Sunday calling on the country to “ascend above the hate” in this moment.

3:29 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

The assassination attempt on Trump, broken down

From CNN's Jeremy Herb and Dakin Andone



Trump can be seen under Secret Service agents covering him onstage at a rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday.

Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

Former President Donald Trump's rally speech in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday evening began just as it had at dozens of rallies previously – his attendees chanted “USA! USA!” and Trump clapped and pointed to faces in the crowd before taking the lectern.

About 150 yards to the north of the former president, a gunman was climbing onto the roof of a building outside the rally security perimeter. He had an AR-style rifle with him. Six minutes into the former president's speech, the gunman took aim at Trump and squeezed the trigger.

What happened next was as miraculous as it was historic. The gunman, later identified by the FBI as 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks, fired multiple shots, including one that Trump said skimmed his ear. Trump ducked to the ground. Five Secret Service agents

rushed to the stage and covered the former president, as the “pop-pop” from another two additional bursts of gunfire rang out across the Butler Farm Show grounds.

Forty-three seconds after the first shot was fired, a Secret Service agent said the shooter was down. Trump, his ear and face bloodied, was brought to his feet. He raised his fist in a defiant pose to his supporters to let them know he was OK before agents took him off the stage and into his SUV.

At least three rally attendees were shot, one of whom was killed.

Read more from CNN’s comprehensive breakdown of Saturday’s events [here](#).

2:50 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Trump rally attendees who filmed shooter describe chaotic scene as assassination attempt unfolded

From CNN's Jack Forrest

Two eyewitnesses who captured cellphone video of a gunman firing at former President Donald Trump during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday said that they attempted to warn authorities of the shooter’s position but that things “got very hectic, very fast.”

Mike and Amber DiFrischia told CNN’s Erin Burnett on “OutFront” Sunday that they first realized something had gone wrong at the event when there was running in the crowd and they were able to spot a man on the roof of a building near them.

“And then shortly after that, a guy behind me said that he had seen him. He had a gun,” Mike DiFrischia said of the shooter. “And then when he said that, I moved over a couple of feet, and I was able to ... see him perfectly.”

Then he began to record.

“My wife ran up to law enforcement — was trying to tell them, you know, where he was, but they couldn’t seem to see him because they weren’t in the right spot to see him on the roof. They were too close to the building. So it just got very hectic very fast,” DiFrischia said.

Law enforcement officials, the DiFrischias told Burnett, asked them, “Where’s he at?” and they pointed toward the shooter’s location.

Shortly after attempting to alert authorities to the shooter’s position, Amber DiFrischia said people began to run. And then they began to hear gunshots.

“And it was just chaotic. It was so fast. First thing is find coverage. And it was just the scariest thing, you know, there’s not a lot of places you can hide there,” she said.

Read more about the DiFrischias’ account [here](#).

2:46 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Speaker Johnson calls for the country "to get back to civility" following assassination attempt

From CNN's Philip Wang

House Speaker Mike Johnson on Sunday called for the country “to get back to civility” following the assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump.

“We need a unified message. We need to turn the temperature down. And I think it’s time for moral clarity,” Johnson told CNN’s Anderson Cooper during an interview ahead of President Joe Biden’s Oval Office speech. “Of course, we’ve got to get back to civility in this country.”

The Louisiana Republican added: “The rhetoric has consequences. When you have a heated environment and you have political division in this country, like we have in the age of social media, everything is

amplified and everyone can go on and turn the dials up every day. We need to work on bringing that down so that we can have thoughtful debate and we can have policy discussions.”

When asked about how the US Secret Service failed to protect Trump, Johnson said he hasn't gotten a “satisfactory answer” from them yet.

“I think pretty clearly, there was a security lapse, at least,” the speaker said. “For example, why were drones not used in the area? I have not gotten a satisfactory answer on that yet.”

2:37 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

"We have lost the plot when it comes to the way we talk to each other," Whitmer says on political violence

From CNN's Ali Main



Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer delivers remarks at a summit in National Harbor, Maryland, on May 4.

Kevin Dietsch/Getty Images/File

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued a lengthy statement on Sunday, condemning the attack on former President Donald Trump.

“The shooting of former President Trump was a disgusting act of violence that caps off an alarming, years-long trend in our politics,” she said.

Whitmer, who was the subject of a thwarted kidnapping plot, decried political violence, also citing other incidents, including the 2017 congressional baseball shooting and attack on Paul Pelosi.

“Violent conspiracies from the seediest corners of the internet have become incorporated into stump speeches. We have lost the plot when it comes to the way we talk to each other and about each other. No matter your age, you have been impacted by this trend,” Whitmer said.

She urged unity and an emphasis on how people communicate on politics.

“We can argue but we must center our common humanity. We must. We cannot forget the values that make us strong. We are a shining beacon of democracy and freedom in the world because we settle our stark differences at the ballot box. That’s what we do,” she said.

2:34 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden says "disagreement is inevitable" but "politics cannot be a literal battlefield"

From CNN's Jack Forrest

President Joe Biden, in his Oval Office address Sunday night, said that while some Americans have a different view about what direction the country should take, “politics must never be a battlefield.”

“

“Disagreement is inevitable and American democracy is part of human nature,” Biden said. “But politics must never be a literal battlefield or, God forbid, a killing field.”

Biden said as the election approaches, there is an “added burden on each of us to ensure that no matter how strong our convictions, we must never descend into violence.”

He added that with the Republican National Convention coming this week, “I have no doubt they’ll criticize my record and offer their own vision for this country. I’ll be traveling this week, making the case for our record and vision.”

“We debate and disagree, we compare and contrast the character of the candidates, the records, the issues, the agenda, the vision for America. But in America, we resolve our differences at the battle box, that’s how we do it, at the battle box, not with bullets,” Biden added later. The president appeared to mean to say political disagreements should be settled at the ballot box but stumbled over his words.

“The power to change America should always rest in the hands of the people, not in the hands of a would-be assassin,” he said.

2:29 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden cites Founding Fathers' vision and says there's nothing more important than "standing together"

From CNN's Michael Williams and Samantha Waldenberg
President Joe Biden on Sunday said unity is America’s “most elusive goal,” and added that nothing is more important to the country “than standing together.”

“We can do this,” Biden said from the Oval Office.

Biden cited the Founding Fathers' vision of democracy in his speech, laying out what has become a central tenet of his reelection campaign.

“Our Founders understood the power of passion. So they created a democracy that gave reason and balance a chance to prevail over brute force,” he said. “That’s the America we must be, an American democracy where arguments are made in good faith, an American democracy where the rule of law is respected. An American democracy where decency, dignity, fair play aren’t just quite notions, but living breathing realities.”

2:23 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden urges Americans to "get out of our silos" where people only hear views with which they agree

From CNN's Aditi Sangal



President Joe Biden addresses the nation from the Oval Office of the White House on Sunday.

Erin Schaff/The New York Times/Pool/AP

President Joe Biden in his Oval Office address Sunday made a plea for Americans to get out of their silos where they only hear opinions with which they agree.

“Everyone in America has been treated with dignity and respect, and hate must have no safe harbor,” he said, referring to the reasons the United States is “special.”

Biden added: “We need to get out of our silos where we only listen to those with whom we agree, and where disinformation is rampant, where foreign actors fan the flames of our division to shape the outcomes consistent with their interests, not ours.”

2:17 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

"We cannot allow this violence to become normalized," Biden says

From CNN's Michael Williams

Listing a series of previous attacks on public figures across the country, President Joe Biden on Sunday said the country cannot allow political violence to become normalized after the shooting of Donald Trump.

“There is no place in America for this kind of violence. Any violence. Period. No exceptions. We cannot allow this violence to be normalized,” Biden said from the Oval Office.

Among the previous attacks he cited the January 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol and the beating of Nancy Pelosi’s husband.

2:07 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

There is a "need for us to lower the temperature in our politics," Biden says

From CNN's Aditi Sangal



President Joe Biden gives an address from the Oval Office at the White House on Sunday evening.

Pool

President Joe Biden began his Oval Office address Sunday evening emphasizing the need “to lower the temperature” in politics.

“I want to speak to you tonight about the need for us to lower the temperature in our politics and to remember, when we disagree, we are not enemies, we are neighbors, we are friends, co-workers, citizens and, most importantly, we are fellow Americans. We must stand together,” he said.

“Yesterday’s shooting at Donald Trump’s rally in Pennsylvania calls on all of us to take a step back, take stock of where we are, how we go forward from here,” he added.

2:02 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

NOW: Biden gives an Oval Office address

From CNN's Aditi Sangal

President Joe Biden is addressing the nation from the Oval Office following the attack on former President Donald Trump.

An Oval Office address is rare. It's only the third time he has chosen to do this. The last time he spoke from the Oval Office was on October 19, 2023, following Hamas' attack on Israel.

Typically, remarks from the Oval Office are reserved for the most solemn and heavy moments in the country, according to CNN's MJ Lee.

The address tonight will be a "forceful" update on the attack and Biden will emphasize the "need for every American to come together to not just condemn, but put an end to political violence in this country once and for all," a campaign official previewing the remarks told CNN.

9:13 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Republicans pray for Trump's recovery ahead of Republican convention

From CNN's David Rind



Supporters of former President Donald Trump attend a prayer vigil near the venue for the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on July 14.

Andrew Kelly/Reuters

At a small park in downtown Milwaukee — ahead of the Republican National Convention set to take place in the city this week — a small group of Donald Trump’s supporters turned up on Sunday to write on a “Get well soon” sign and pray for the former president at a vigil hosted by the right-wing group Turning Point Action.

Jennifer Shoemake told CNN she wrote “I will never surrender and united we stand” on behalf of her whole family on the sign.

“America is with you and your family,” wrote Jefferson Davis, 65. Davis said he doesn’t believe that heated political rhetoric on either side is to blame for the shooting, but instead thinks it’s being used as a talking point to lower the temperature.

“I think what we’re going to find out, I think this is just a very disturbed young man,” he said.

Christine B., however, does think both Trump and President Joe Biden can tone down the inflammatory language. “Both of them have to cool their jets, but especially now,” she said.

Multiple attendees told CNN that they believe God spared Trump from being killed on Saturday— when he was wounded from an assassination attempt at a campaign rally —and the man who led the group in prayer said as much.

“We thank you that you had mercy on our nation by sparing the life of President Trump,” he said.

2:10 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

What CNN’s reporter saw on the ground when Trump was attacked

From CNN's Alayna Treene and Zachary B. Wolf

CNN reporter Alayna Treene, who covers Donald Trump, attended his rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, when shots rang out on Saturday in an assassination attempt.

“

“When interviewing several of the attendees, many of whom were on the bleachers behind him, some who were in one of the very front rows, they had no idea what was going on. Everyone was stunned, including myself. I don’t think anyone had ever expected something like that to happen,” Treene said.

Treene described how she mainly felt a sense of surprise, given the intense security that typically surrounds rallies.

“I often feel like being in a rally is one of the safest places, because there’s always so much Secret Service,” Treene said. “With CNN, we get security for ourselves as well, just given the divisive nature of the politics right now. So it was remarkable to me to see what had happened.”

The Secret Service is currently facing scrutiny about whether it took proper security measures during the rally, with widespread concerns and questions about how a sniper was able to obtain rooftop access roughly 400 feet from the former president’s position at the podium.

[Read the full story on CNN.](#)

1:59 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

A short history of recent Oval Office addresses

From CNN's Sam Fossum



US President Joe Biden addresses the nation from the Oval Office of the White House on October 19, 2023.

Jonathan Ernst/Pool/Getty Images/File

President Joe Biden has delivered an address to the nation from the Oval Office only twice since becoming president.

He will do so again at 8 p.m. ET following the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump.

Oval Office addresses are rare, especially in recent history with Biden and former Presidents Barack Obama and Trump only using the medium a handful of times.

Full list of Oval Addresses since 2008:

Biden:

- October 19, 2023, following the October 7 Hamas attacks on Israel.
- June 2, 2023, after avoiding a catastrophic default.

Trump:

- [March 11, 2020](#), on the Covid-19 pandemic.
- [January 8, 2019](#), on immigration amid partial government shutdown.

Obama:

- [December 6, 2015](#), on his administration's plan to defeat ISIS after San Bernardino shooting.
- [August 31, 2010](#), on officially declaring an end to combat operations in Iraq. [Link](#).
- [June 15, 2010](#), on the Deepwater Horizon BP oil spill.

Before Obama, the Oval address — while rare — was a far more frequent staple with George W. Bush addressing the nation that way six times during his presidency and Bill Clinton doing so 15 times. Reagan holds the record with 29 addresses during his two terms.

Correction: The post was updated with the correct date of Biden's last Oval Office speech, which was October 19, 2023.

1:27 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

MLK Jr.'s son calls for the country to rise above division in wake of Trump assassination attempt

From CNN's Jamiel Lynch

The son of slain civil rights leader the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on Sunday called for the country to rise above division in wake of the [assassination attempt](#) on former President Donald Trump.

A civil rights advocate in his own right, Martin Luther King III told CNN's Wolf Blitzer, "This is another dark period that our nation is facing, and we have to intentionally decide that we are going to do differently and better."

"The nation must find a way to rise above division, fear and hatred, and yet we've not identified that. But this gives us an opportunity – a unique opportunity – to say we're going to rise above this. We're so

much better than the behavior we're exhibiting," he continued.

When asked by Blitzer how this moment compared to 1968, when his father and Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated, King said, "The same kind of hostility and hatred is still being propagated in our society and so ... we shouldn't be surprised when the climate is what it is today."

"I know humankind is far better than the way we're exhibiting ourselves today," King added. "We've got to find out how do we turn to each other and stop turning on each other."

1:11 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Minute by minute: Visual timeline of the Trump assassination attempt

From CNN Staff



Former President Donald Trump was injured in a shooting during his rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, in what the FBI says was an assassination attempt on Saturday night. One rally attendee was killed and two others were seriously injured.

The rally marked Trump's last public appearance before the scheduled start of the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, where the Republican Party is set to formally select him as its presidential nominee.

Through videos, maps and photos, CNN pieced together what occurred from the start of the rally to the chaotic moments when gunshots erupted to, ultimately, when Trump landed in Newark, New Jersey, early Sunday morning.

View CNN's timeline [here](#).

1:06 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Trump's plane seen landing in Milwaukee ahead of the RNC

By CNN's Rashard Rose and Michelle Shen



Former President Donald Trump's plane is seen on the ground in Milwaukee on Sunday evening.

WISN

Donald Trump's plane was seen landing moments ago in Milwaukee, the site of the Republican National Convention.

The visit comes only a day after an assassination attempt against Trump at a Pennsylvania rally. Despite the attack, the Secret Service said Sunday that there are no plans to tighten its security plans for the RNC, which begins Monday.

Trump will be joined by his wife, Melania Trump, in one of her rare appearances on the campaign trail, two sources familiar with the plans told CNN.

After the rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, Trump flew to Newark, New Jersey, and spent time with his daughter Ivanka at his golf club in Beminster, sources told CNN.

12:59 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

House Homeland Security chair holds call with Secret Service director about security failures at Trump rally

From CNN's Annie Grayer



US Secret Service Director Kimberly Cheatle speaks a news conference on June 6 in Milwaukee.

Morry Gash/AP/File

House Homeland Security Chairman Mark Green held a call with US Secret Service Director Kimberly Cheatle on Sunday afternoon with pressing questions on what led to Saturday's historic security failures, a committee source familiar with the call told CNN.

Green, a Tennessee Republican, also detailed the information requests that he has out with Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, which include Secret Service communications and documents surrounding the rally, the source added.

Cheatle committed to providing requested documents to the committee promptly as able, per the source.

The committee majority now plans to hold a virtual briefing with Cheatle on Monday for members to voice their concerns and ask questions, according to the source.

President Joe Biden said earlier Sunday that "I've directed an independent review of the national security at yesterday's rally to assess exactly what happened. And I'll share the results of that independent review with the American people."

12:50 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau spoke with Trump on Sunday afternoon

From CNN's Paula Newton

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau spoke with former President Donald Trump on Sunday afternoon, according to a statement from the prime minister's office.

"The Prime Minister condemned yesterday's appalling assassination attempt and reiterated there's no place for political violence," the statement read. "The Prime Minister wished the former President

well and offered condolences to the shooting victims and to the family of Corey Comperatore.”

12:49 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

US markets are steady following assassination attempt on Trump

From CNN's Jordan Valinsky

US stock futures barely budged after an assassination attempt on former President Donald Trump on Saturday, signaling calm in the markets as Trump survived the incident.

Dow futures rose 65 points, or 0.2%, while S&P 500 futures rose 0.1% and Nasdaq Composite futures were unchanged.

Markets crave stability, and an assassination attempt against the presumptive GOP nominee might have thrown that into chaos. But Trump appears to have escaped with mostly superficial injuries, and the market's thesis of the race hasn't changed.

A Trump win in November likely means the preservation or expansion of tax cuts and increased tariffs. During last month's presidential debate hosted by CNN, he reiterated his desire to impose a 10% tariff on all imports, which would likely increase inflation and cast doubt on interest rate cuts.

Morgan Stanley research estimates that an expansion of the 2017 tax cuts would boost deficits sharply, sending the US dollar, which is already trading high, even higher. But it could also exacerbate America's inflation crisis, which has begun to show signs that it is ending.

12:56 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Forensic audio analysis confirms shooter's location at Trump rally

From CNN's Gianluca Mezzofiore and Avery Schmitz

Audio analysis confirms that the gunman who fired shots Saturday at former President Trump was situated approximately 110 to 120 meters (360 to 393 feet) from the podium, according to forensics expert Robert Maher.

This conclusion aligns with CNN's analysis that the suspected gunman was situated on a rooftop 120 to 150 meters (393 to 492 feet) from the podium when shots rang out.

The shots exemplify a “crack-pop” sequence, typical when a supersonic bullet passes a microphone, before the “arrival of the corresponding muzzle blast sound,” Maher, who teaches audio forensics at Montana State University, told CNN.

The time between these markers places the shooter 110 to 120 meters from the microphone, Maher said, assuming the bullet is moving at an average speed of 800 to 1,000 meters per second, the equivalent of 2,600 to 3,280 feet per second.

12:40 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Democratic lawmaker whose staff was attacked last year says violence shouldn't be "cost of doing business"

From CNN's Jack Forrest

Democratic Rep. Gerry Connolly of Virginia, whose staff was attacked last year in his district office, said political violence can't just be the “cost of doing business” following the attempted assassination on former President Donald Trump.

“

“That kind of violence can't be considered normal or just a cost of doing business. We've got to address this and address it fundamentally,” he told CNN's Wolf Blitzer on Sunday.

Last May, two staffers were injured by a man wielding a bat who came into Connolly's district office in Fairfax. The assailant entered his office and attacked two of his aides, striking one senior aide in

the head with the metal bat, he said. The attacker also hit an intern – on her first day on the job – in the side with the bat.

“My hope is that we’ll see an opportunity at the Republican Convention to tone down that rhetoric and that all of us will be more conscious of the implications of heightened rhetoric and the impact that can have on unstable individuals and that we bear responsibility as elected officials and candidates to tone down the temperature and have rational conversations about the future of the country,” he said.

12:26 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Co-worker and former classmate says rally shooter gave no indication of trouble

From CNN's Holmes Lybrand and Majlie de Puy Kamp

A former classmate and co-worker of Thomas Matthew Crooks, the gunman at Donald Trump’s Saturday rally, told CNN they remember Crooks as “the sweetest guy.”

“He was a friendly face in the hallway,” the co-worker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told CNN. “He was kind of scrawny, nerdy and very smart. Not traditionally like the most popular person, but from what I saw, I didn’t think that he was super bullied.”

The person, who worked with Crooks at Bethel Park Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, added that in high school, Crooks “had a good friend group, and from what I saw, he seemed happy.”

“

“He was always a pleasant face to see. ... He’s always receptive to my small talk,” they said. “Very polite, a little quiet, but that’s fine.”

Earlier this week, Crooks and his colleague worked together to figure out an easier way for the nursing home residents to open packets of ranch dressing, an act the colleague said was indicative of how helpful and caring Crooks was.

They added: “He was honestly so sweet and a really a pleasure to work with. So that has made all of this really hard because his name will probably go down in infamy, but to me, he will always just be like the super sweet kid from work.”

The colleague said they didn’t recognize the picture painted of Crooks after his actions.

“He’s not a radical,” they said, noting that he never expressed any political views at work. “It’s hard seeing everything that’s going on online because he was a really, really good person that did a really bad thing. And I just wish I knew why.”

CNN’s Alli Gordon contributed to this report.

12:28 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden’s Oval Office speech will be a "forceful and needed address" to update nation about the attack, official says

From CNN's MJ Lee

President Joe Biden’s address tonight will be a “forceful” update on the “horrifying” attack on former President Donald Trump, a campaign official says.

Biden’s rare Oval Office address to the nation tonight will be a “forceful and needed address to update the nation on the horrifying attack on Donald Trump and the need for every American to come together to not just condemn, but put an end to political violence in this country once and for all,” a campaign official previewing the remarks tells CNN.

The official said that Biden will use his interview with NBC News’ Lester Holt tomorrow – now set to take place at the White House instead of Texas – to “expand” on this evening’s speech.

As for the rest of the week, both the Biden campaign and the Democratic National Committee will “continue drawing the contrast between our positive vision for the future and Trump’s and Republicans’ backwards-looking agenda over the course of the week,” the official said.

That comment marks a notable first acknowledgement from the Biden campaign that its brief hold on the politics in the immediate aftermath of the assassination attempt on Trump will — at least in part — resume in the coming days.

The official did not say when the Biden campaign will resume running TV ads, which were immediately put on hold following Saturday’s attack on Trump.

12:25 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Some Trump supporters blame the media for assassination attempt

From CNN's Oliver Darcy



Former President Donald Trump is helped off the stage during the rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, on Sunday.

Gene J. Puskar/AP

Moments after Donald Trump was rushed to safety following a failed assassination attempt at a Saturday rally, some of his supporters turned toward the press pen with obscenities as they fingered reporters for blame.

“This is your fault!” one attendee emphatically yelled, pointing at individual journalists as he approached the fence line separating them from attendees. “This is your fault!”

“It is your fault!” exclaimed another.

Axios reporter Sophia Cai, who quoted some in the crowd warning the press, “you’re next” and that their “time is coming,” even reported that a few rallygoers tried to breach the barriers establishing the press pen, but that they were stopped by security personnel.

In the immediate wake of the horrific shooting, the news media has quickly emerged among some Trump supporters as a body to assign blame.

While the Trump campaign urged its staff to “condemn all forms of violence” and said it “will not tolerate dangerous rhetoric on social media,” some of the former president’s supporters in MAGA media vehemently assailed the press for its hard-knuckled reporting on Trump, which has sounded the alarm on what four more years under the former president would look like.

Over the course of the campaign cycle, news organizations have, among other things, reported at length on Trump’s plans to warp the federal government for his own ends, including to seek vengeance against his political opponents. That reporting is now facing scrutiny, with some Trump supporters blaming it for producing a charged atmosphere that gave way to the assassination attempt, while mostly looking past the incendiary rhetoric of the former president himself.

12:23 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden and his campaign grapple with how and when to resume advertising against Trump

From CNN's Priscilla Alvarez, Jeff Zeleny and Kayla Tausche
President Joe Biden and his campaign are facing an abrupt pivot point: After spending the last two weeks trying to salvage the president's reelection bid, they are now grappling with a delicate national moment following the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump.

The Biden campaign and Democrats across the party scrambled Sunday to determine how to adjust their plans to counter messaging at the Republican National Convention, which had been in the works for some time.

“The big issue is how to campaign against him or attack him,” a senior Democratic adviser told CNN. “Can we even do that this week?”

The Biden campaign has yet to decide when to resume its advertising campaign against Trump after pulling the ads Saturday. But that, a separate Democratic strategist said, was the easy decision. A harder question is how and when to resume, with 114 days until the election.

Biden is rescheduling his trip to Texas on Monday, the White House said Sunday afternoon. He was set to deliver remarks at the LBJ Library in Austin as part of an event celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

Read more on how the Biden campaign is handling this moment.

12:27 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

BlackRock pulls commercial that included rally shooter

From CNN's Jordan Valinsky

BlackRock is pulling an ad that had included Thomas Crooks in it, the gunman that shot at former President Donald Trump, injuring the former president and killing an attendee at a rally near Pittsburgh on Saturday.

“In 2022, we ran an ad featuring a teacher from Bethel Park High School, in which several unpaid students briefly appeared in the background, including Thomas Matthew Crooks,” a spokesperson for the investment company said Sunday.

“We will make all video footage available to the appropriate authorities, and we have removed the video from circulation out of respect for the victims.”

The 30-second video focused on a teacher at the high school, with Crooks sitting in class. The video went viral on X and other social media platforms Sunday.

BlackRock said the “assassination attempt on former President Trump is abhorrent.”

“We’re thankful former President Trump wasn’t seriously injured, and thinking about all the innocent bystanders and victims of this awful act, especially the person who was killed. As our leadership team communicated to colleagues last night, BlackRock strongly condemns political violence of any kind and will do our part to promote civility and unity in the country.”

11:55 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Secret Service says there are no plans to tighten security for RNC after Trump assassination attempt

From CNN’s Andy Rose

statements following the shooting in Butler, Pennsylvania, but did not appear during a law enforcement news conference there late Saturday.



Audrey Gibson-Cicchino, the convention coordinator for the Secret Service, speaks at a news conference in Milwaukee on Sunday

Jae C. Hong/AP

The Sunday afternoon news conference on preparations for the RNC did not address the assassination attempt, but federal officials said there were no signs of increased danger at the convention following the shooting.

“Currently there are no known articulated threats against the RNC or anyone visiting the RNC,” said Michael Hensle, the special agent in charge of the FBI field office in Milwaukee.

Firearms will be permitted in a “soft perimeter” around the Fiserv Forum, the venue where the convention will take place, and local officials said state law does not permit them to change those plans.

“Wisconsin is an open-carry state, and therefore Milwaukee and no other jurisdiction in this state can supersede state law,” said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson.

“Our state law allows for the particular right to carry a firearm,” said Milwaukee Police Chief Jeffrey Norman. “We as a city cannot legislate out of that.”

11:21 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Trump is on his way to Milwaukee to attend RNC

From CNN's Kate Sullivan

Former President Donald Trump is on his way to Milwaukee for the Republican National Convention, Trump aide Dan Scavino said in a post on X, adding a video of Trump's motorcade at the airport.

Trump faced an assassination attempt on Saturday at a rally in Pennsylvania and said he was shot in the ear. Advisers to Trump say he is “doing well” and “looks forward” to the GOP conference in Milwaukee.

“He is so grateful for all of your prayers, support, and well wishes out there,” Scavino wrote. “Wheels up ... to the Great State of Wisconsin!”

11:07 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Local officer tried to stop gunman on rooftop, Butler County sheriff tells CNN

From CNN's Pamela Brown and Shoshana Dubnow

A local police officer saw the gunman on a rooftop during Saturday's rally but was unable to engage him, Butler County Sheriff Michael Slupe told CNN on Sunday.

Slupe said that Butler Township officers received calls about a suspicious person outside the perimeter of the rally and went looking to find that person. He said the initial calls that came in did not

indicate the suspicious person had a gun.

During the search for the suspicious person, officers with township police discovered that the gunman was on the roof and one local officer hoisted another to get up to the ledge. The shooter turned around, saw the officer peering over and pointed his gun at him. The officer let go of the ledge to “take cover” and save his life. The gunman then started firing from the rooftop and hitting Trump.

When asked if the overall security lapse of a gunman having a direct line of sight to Trump was a failure, Slupe said it “obviously” was.

“

“This is being investigated and obviously at the end of the day we’re going to learn something from it,” Slupe said.

He went on to say the agencies were not made aware of intel or red flags ahead of the rally in Butler, which the Trump campaign announced on July 3.

About a week before the rally, Slupe said there was a meeting where the Secret Service, state police, local police, bomb squads and other law enforcement divisions discussed roles and responsibilities.

“Everyone who had a potential role was in that meeting,” Slupe told CNN.

There were other meetings for security preparations, but this was the only one Slupe was aware of that involved all law enforcement divisions.

Slupe, who was positioned inside the perimeter near the firing line during the rally, said he didn’t think actual gunfire was going on when he first heard the popping noises. He described turning around to see where the noise was coming from and seeing that a rally attendee had been shot.

He said had he known there were any threats of a gunman, he would have done “everything to stop him (Trump) from coming out.”

11:09 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

FBI says shooter's motives are unclear so far

From CNN's Hannah Rabinowitz



Law enforcement block a street near the residence of Thomas Matthew Crooks in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, on Sunday.

Joshua A. Bickel/AP

FBI officials repeatedly emphasized Sunday that their investigation into Saturday's shooting at former President Donald Trump's rally is in its preliminary stages and agents are still working to understand what happened.

The shooter, 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks, had no prior contacts with the FBI and had not been previously on its radar or databases. Investigators are struggling to understand Crooks' motives.

FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate told reporters during a call on Sunday that law enforcement officers are sifting through Crooks' background, his day-to-day activities and social media presence, though have so far not "seen anything threatening."

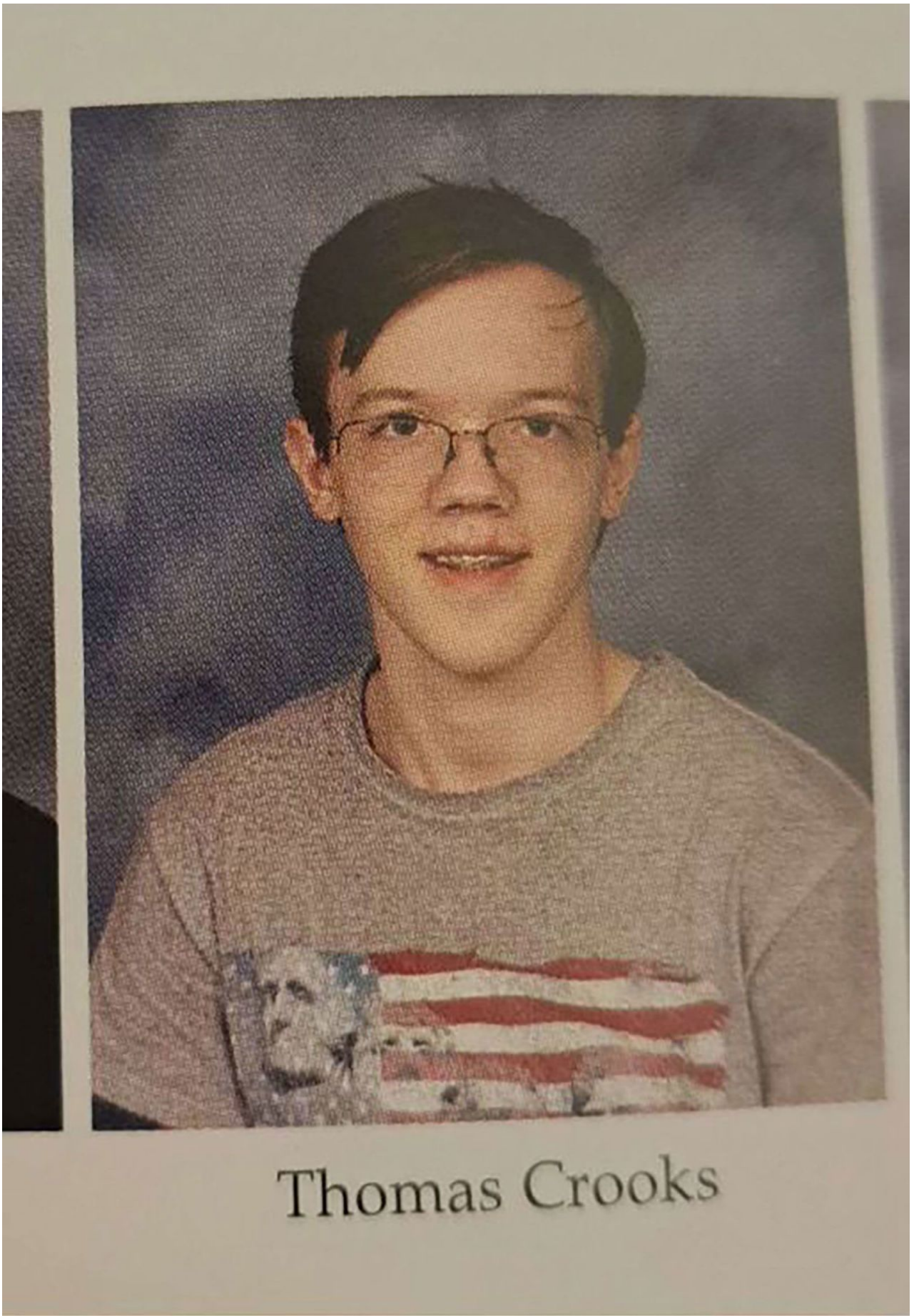
Abbate said that they had "some limited insights into recent communications that he's made, text and phone call detail information." That information has thus far not "revealed anything with regard to motive or the involvement or knowledge of anyone else" in the shooting, Abbate said.

Crooks used an AR-style 556 rifle purchased legally by his father, FBI officials said, and one of the things that investigators are still looking to understand is how Crooks gained access to his father's firearm. He also had "rudimentary" explosive devices in his car, Abbate said, which are being investigated at Quantico.

10:33 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Here's what we know about the Trump rally gunman so far

From CNN's Holmes Lybrand, Casey Tolan, Majlie de Puy Kamp, Curt Devine and Allison Gordon



An undated yearbook photo of Thomas Matthew Crooks.

Obtained by CNN

Authorities identified 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks as the gunman who allegedly tried to assassinate former President Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania rally on Saturday.

So far, investigators haven't found any evidence on social media or other writings of Crooks that might help identify his motive for the attempted assassination. The FBI is working to gain access to his phone, the agency said Sunday.

As investigations into the shooting continue, here's what we know so far about the gunman:

- Crooks lived in the Pittsburgh suburb of Bethel Park, about 35 miles south of the Trump rally.
- The gun Crooks used in the shooting was an AR-style weapon, according to the FBI. According to law enforcement officials, the gun was traced to Crooks' father, which helped to determine the gunman's identity because he was not carrying identification.
- He was registered to vote as a Republican and had previously made a small contribution to a Democratic-aligned group, according to public records. He cast a ballot only once, in the 2022 midterm general election, an Allegheny County spokesperson told CNN. This year's presidential election would have been the first for which he was old enough to vote.
- Crooks worked as a dietary aid at Bethel Park Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a nursing home less than a mile from his family's home, the facility confirmed. According to a nurse at the facility, who asked not to be named, law enforcement had been searching the center Sunday.
- Crooks was bullied in high school, did not fit in with other students and was described as quiet by former classmates. He graduated from Bethel Park High School in 2022, according to a local media report and a video of the school's commencement.

- Both of Crooks' parents worked as social workers, according to state license records. His father is registered to vote as a Libertarian and his mother is registered as a Democrat, state voter records show.
- When reached by CNN late Saturday night, Crooks' father, Matthew Crooks, said he was trying to figure out "what the hell is going on" but would "wait until I talk to law enforcement" before speaking about his son. He could not be reached again Sunday.

10:16 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

FBI focus is on gaining access to the shooter's phone, says shooter acted alone

From CNN's Hannah Rabinowitz and Evan Perez

The FBI said Sunday that the shooter at Trump's rally in Pennsylvania acted alone and that it is still actively investigating the shooter's background – including working to gain access to his phone.

"We are working to get access to the phone," Kevin Rojek, special agent in charge of the FBI's Pittsburgh field office, said Sunday. "We have shipped the phone to our lab at Quantico."

Rojek also said the FBI has "not identified an ideology associated with the subject," but cautioned that "we're still very early in this investigation."

Rojek said the FBI doesn't "have any kind of fidelity right now on the shooter's actions immediately prior to him engaging the former president."

He added that the shooter's family has been cooperative in the investigation.

Rojek confirmed the gun used in the shooting was an AR-style rifle that was purchased legally. He also said law enforcement located a "suspicious device" in the suspect's car and the device was

“rendered safe and is being analyzed.”

Bobby Wells, assistant director of the Counterterrorism Division at FBI Headquarters in Washington, D.C, said the FBI is investigating this as an assassination attempt, but also looking into it as a potential domestic terrorist attack.

Rojek said that “at this time we have no indication of any mental health issues.” He urged the public to call in any information they may have on the shooting, saying that the FBI has already received over 2,000 tips.

FBI Deputy Director Paul Abbate also said the FBI is “seeing that tick up in the aftermath of this event. We’ve seen individuals go online and attempt to mimic or pose as the shooter, who obviously is now deceased.”

Attorney General Merrick Garland said he spent the morning in briefings with DOJ personnel and “briefed President Biden in the Situation Room” on the investigation.

“The violence we saw yesterday is an attack on democracy itself,” Garland said. “This must stop.”

1:01 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Police identify 2 rally shooting victims who are now stable

From CNN's Andy Rose

Two people who were shot during Saturday’s Donald Trump rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, and who are now stable were identified Sunday by state police.

Pennsylvania State Police identified David Dutch, 57, of New Kensington, Pennsylvania, and 74-year-old James Copenhaver from Moon Township, Pennsylvania, in a Sunday press release.

The state police also confirmed the name of Corey Comperatore, 50, as the victim who was killed in the assassination attempt. His identity was announced earlier in the day by Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro.

The Marine Corps League of Pennsylvania, Inc., identified Dutch as a commandant in its organization in Westmoreland County. MCL Vice Commandant Matt Popovich said on Facebook that Dutch underwent two surgeries after being “shot in the liver and chest.”

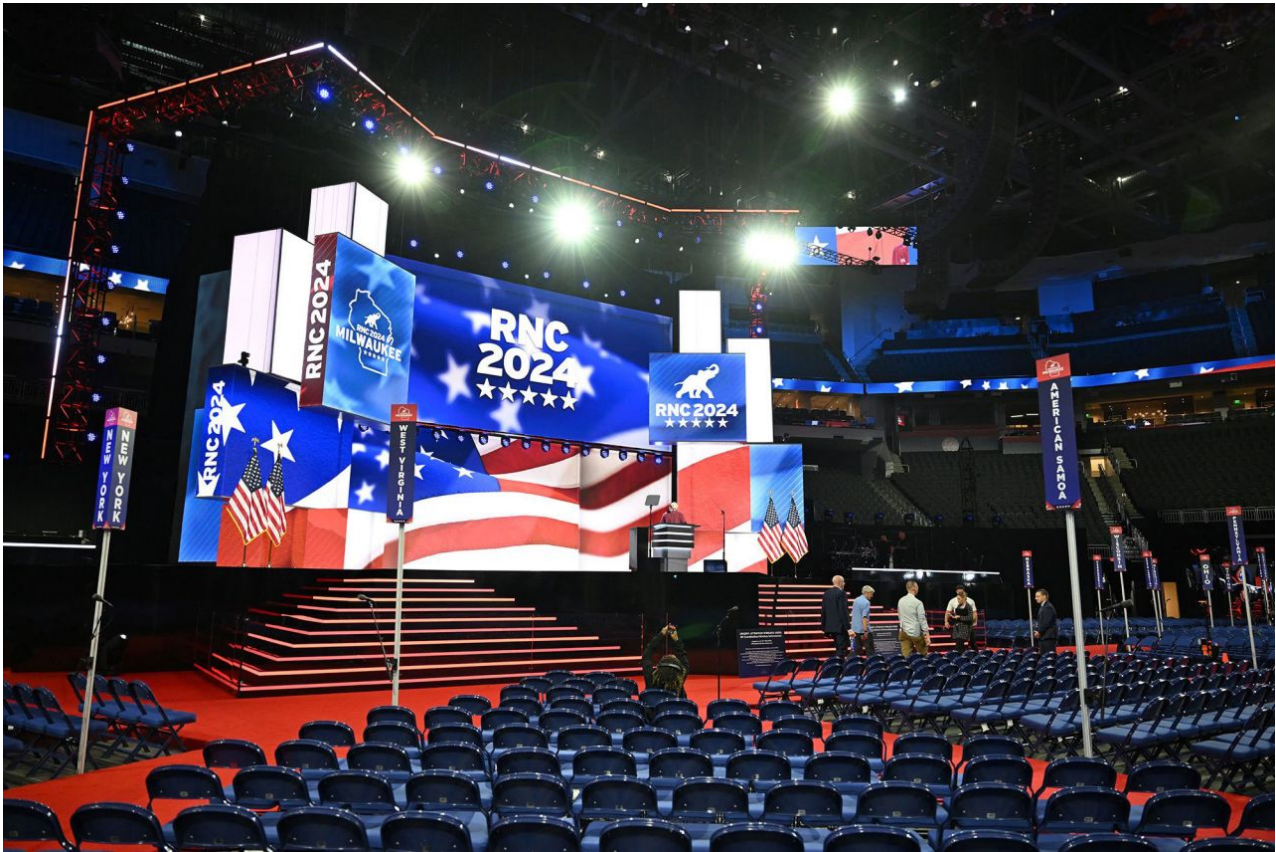
“These victims and their families are certainly in our thoughts today,” said Col. Christopher Paris, the state police commissioner. “The Pennsylvania State Police continue to work tirelessly alongside our federal, state and local partners as this investigation continues.”

CNN's Sara Smart contributed to this report.

9:53 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Discussions underway about adding more federal law enforcement agents in Milwaukee, source says

From CNN's Whitney Wild



A view of the convention floor and stage ahead of the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee on Sunday.

Patrick T. Fallon/AFP/Getty Images

A law enforcement source familiar with the Republican National Convention planning tells CNN there are discussions underway about adding more federal law enforcement agents to post positions in light of the recent shooting.

However, the perimeter is unlikely to change, the source said, noting preparations for the RNC have been underway for a year and a half.

The source said that there have been discussions about adding additional security for high-profile GOP members as well.

The source said another major concern for law enforcement are events — such as dinners — outside the perimeter that are associated with the RNC but do not have the same level of security and are considered “soft targets.”

The source noted this concern had also been discussed before Saturday's shooting.

12:06 a.m. SELČ, July 15, 2024

Biden's closely watched interview with NBC is still happening tomorrow

From CNN's MJ Lee and Sam Fossum

President Joe Biden will move forward with a planned interview with NBC News on Monday afternoon, following another briefing that morning from law enforcement officials in the Situation Room.

The White House announced earlier today that Biden's trip to Texas – where the interview was originally set to take place – is being rescheduled. The interview will now take place at the White House, per an official.

Before the events of Saturday roiled the 2024 presidential race, Biden's sit-down with the network's Lester Holt was viewed as the latest key test of the president's capabilities, following his poor showing in the CNN debate and ensuing defections from some members of his party.

On Tuesday, Biden will participate in another national interview before delivering remarks at the NAACP National Convention in Las Vegas, followed by an economic summit. Nevada is a key swing state that the president has frequented this campaign cycle.

On Wednesday, Biden will deliver remarks at the UnidosUS Annual Conference and then a campaign community event.

This post has been updated with the new location of the interview and additional details about the president's schedule.

9:26 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Shooter was a dietary aid at a nursing and rehabilitation center, facility confirms

From CNN's Yahya Abou-Ghazala

Marcie Grimm, the administrator of Bethel Park Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, confirmed to CNN that Thomas Matthew Crooks, the man identified as the shooter at the Donald Trump rally, was a dietary aide at the facility.

“We are shocked and saddened to learn of his involvement as Thomas Matthew Crooks performed his job without concern and his background check was clean,” Grimm said.

Grimm added that the facility is cooperating with law enforcement and that “Our thoughts and prayers go out to Former President Trump and the victims impacted by this terrible tragedy.”

9:45 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Biden will address nation from Oval Office tonight

From CNN's Betsy Klein



President Joe Biden delivers remarks alongside Vice President Kamala Harris at the White House on Sunday.

Susan Walsh/AP

President Joe Biden will deliver a rare address to the nation from the Oval Office on Sunday at 8 p.m. ET in the aftermath of the assassination attempt of former President Donald Trump, the White House said.

“I’ll be speaking more about this tonight at greater length from the Oval Office,” Biden said in brief remarks from the Roosevelt Room on Sunday afternoon.

Biden last addressed the nation on October 20, 2023, following the Hamas’ October 7 attacks on Israel.

9:17 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Trump says he's traveling to Milwaukee on Sunday

From CNN’s Kate Sullivan

Former President Donald Trump said on Truth Social that he is going to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on Sunday as scheduled after initially considering delaying his trip following the assassination attempt.

Here’s what Trump wrote on Truth Social:

“Based on yesterday’s terrible events, I was going to delay my trip to Wisconsin, and The Republican National Convention, by two days, but have just decided that I cannot allow a “shooter,” or potential assassin, to force change to scheduling, or anything else. Therefore, I will be leaving for Milwaukee, as scheduled, at 3:30 P.M. TODAY. Thank you! DJT”

Trump’s post comes after Wisconsin Republican Party Chairman Brian Schimming said that there are no major changes being made to the Republican National Convention schedule.

CNN’s Alayna Treene and Alison Main contributed to this report.

9:46 p.m. SELČ, July 14, 2024

Pennsylvania governor identifies firefighter as victim killed at Trump rally

From CNN's Kit Maher



Corey Comperatore, who was killed after a gunman targeted former President Donald Trump at a rally on Saturday.

From Facebook

Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro confirmed the man who was killed at Saturday's rally is Corey Comperatore and that he dove on his family to protect them as shots were fired at former President Donald Trump.

"I just spoke to Corey's wife and Corey's two daughters," Shapiro said. "Corey was a girl dad. Corey was a firefighter. Corey went to church every Sunday. Corey loved his community. Most especially, Corey loved his family."

Shapiro described Comperatore as an "avid supporter of the former president" and said he was excited to be at the rally.

“I asked Corey’s wife if it would be okay for me to share that we spoke. She said yes. She also asked that I share with all of you that Corey died a hero,” Shapiro continued. “Corey dove on his family to protect them last night at this rally,” he said.

Shapiro said that “all leaders need to take down the temperature and rise above the hateful rhetoric that exists and search for a better brighter future for this nation.”

The governor ordered that flags across the state be flown at half-staff in Comperatore’s memory.

Shapiro also said he has “not spoken directly” to Trump but he did speak with President Joe Biden over the phone.