The Washington Post

Visual evidence for investigative reporting

KPF Media Conference

November 9, 2023

Visual Forensics

A team that harnesses visual information, open-source evidence and traditional investigative reporting methods to produce detailed documentaries and multimedia stories that emphasize accountability and revelatory findings.

Our work

















Identifying stories



Is this a visual story?

Who can we hold accountable?

Can visual reporting add new or relevant information about the event?

Would uncovering this have impact?

What sets us apart

Breaking news, new/exclusive findings, a visual-first approach

Israel-Gaza War

Israel appears to use white phosphorus in Gaza, video shows

The controversial munition, which is commonly used to create smoke to mark targets, can cause severe harm when used against civilians.

Meg Kelly

Middle East

How a night of dancing and revelry in Israel turned into a massacre

At least 260 bodies have been recovered from the site of a trance music festival in Israel, one of the first targets for Hamas militants as they launched their surprise attack Saturday.

Loveday Morris, Imogen Piper, Joyce Sohvun Lee and Susannah George

Hamas took at least 64 captives into Gaza, visual evidence suggests

The hostages include nine children, according to an examination of hundreds of videos and images posted on social media since the fighting began.

Evan Hill, Joyce Sohyun Lee, Sarah Cahlan and Gabòr Friesen

Mapping Israel's ground assault into Gaza

The Washington Post geolocated videos, photos and satellite images to understand where Israeli's ground assault has reached within Gaza.

Meg Kelly, Imogen Piper, Evan Hill, Joyce Sohyun Lee and Laris Karklis

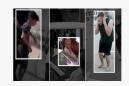


Video shows apparent death of Israeli hostages in Hamas custody

At least four Israelis taken hostage by Hamas on Saturday were killed soon after being taken captive, according to videos reviewed by The Washington Post.



Meg Kelly and Sarah Cahlan



Videos show how Hamas achieved its unprecedented surprise attack on Israel

Militants entered Israel in at least five places, videos verified by The Post show.

Samuel Oakford, Evan Hill, Joyce Sohyun Lee and Meg Kelly



Israeli strikes on Gaza refugee camp offer glimpse of war's destruction

By <u>Miriam Berger</u>, Hajar Harb and <u>Meg Kelly</u> November 1, 2023 at 4:49 p.m. EDT



Here's how the Seoul Halloween crush happened

By Joyce Sohyun Lee, Samuel Oakford, Adam Taylor and Tim Meko

Updated October 30, 2022 at 4:55 p.m. EDT | Published October 29, 2022 at 6:59 p.m. EDT







Videos show the deadly crowd crush in Seoul during Halloween celebrations on Oct. 29. (Video: Twitter)



Crucial lapses led to tragically delayed rescue in a Seoul alley

By <u>Michelle Ye Hee Lee, Meg Kelly, Atthar Mirza, Grace Moon, Min Joo Kim</u> and Stefanie Le

November 16, 2022 at 7:36 p.m. EST



Videos posted online show the streets of Itaewon in Seoul throughout the night of Oct. 29 when a fatal crowd crush occurred during Halloween festivities. (Video: @limesarah1 via TikTok; @iwanderlista via TikTok;

top EXCLUSIVE

Alleged leaker fixated on guns and envisioned 'race war'

Videos and chat logs reveal Jack Teixeira's preparations for a violent social conflict, his racist thinking and a deep suspicion of the government he served

₩p EXCLUSIVE

Video shows 5 officers tackling mentally ill man. Experts question why.

The Arlington police officers took down Delgardo Franklin II after he refused to surrender. It defied their training, a Post investigation found.

₩ EXCLUSIVE

How police action in Indonesia led to a deadly crush in the soccer stadium

₩ EXCLUSIVE

Satellite images show crowds at China's crematoriums as covid surges





CLIMATE

America underwater

Extreme floods expose the flaws in FEMA's risk maps

By Samuel Oakford, John Muyskens, Sarah Cahlan and Joyce Sohyun Lee













Our techniques

Discovery, organization and analysis of open source evidence

Discovery: How and where to look for visual evidence



Ростов-на-Дону filter:videos

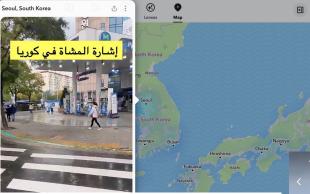
люди стали разбегаться.

Бойцы ЧВК "Вагнер" призвали собравшуюся в центре Ростова-на-Дону огромную толпу разойтись. В Телеграм-

#ростовнадону #стрельба #пригожин #чвк #ростов #вагнер #переворот

каналах появились сообщения о выстрелах,





#MarchForTrump

5.9K people are posting about this







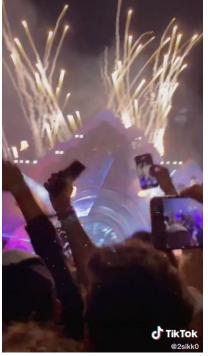


Артур Погосов ② @ArPogosov · 1h #RostovOnDon #ростовнадону



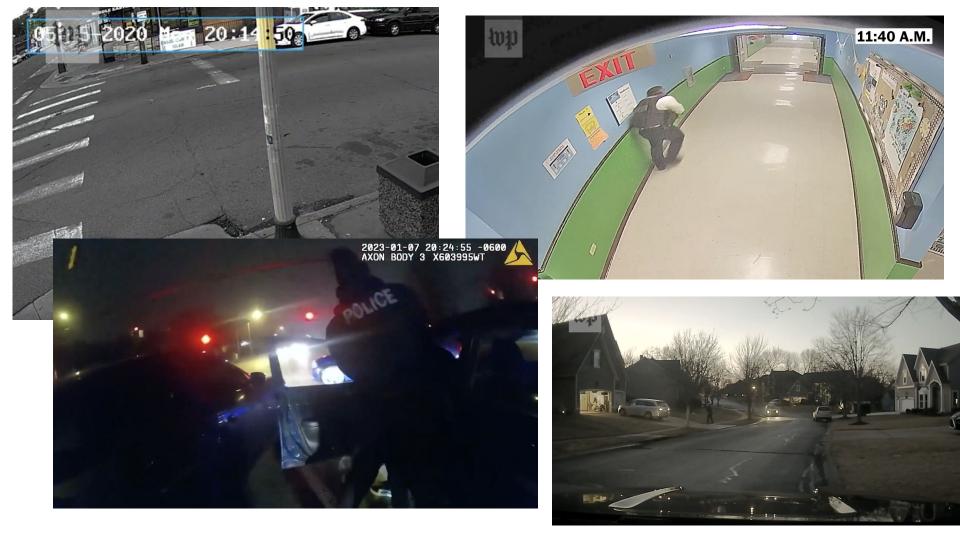




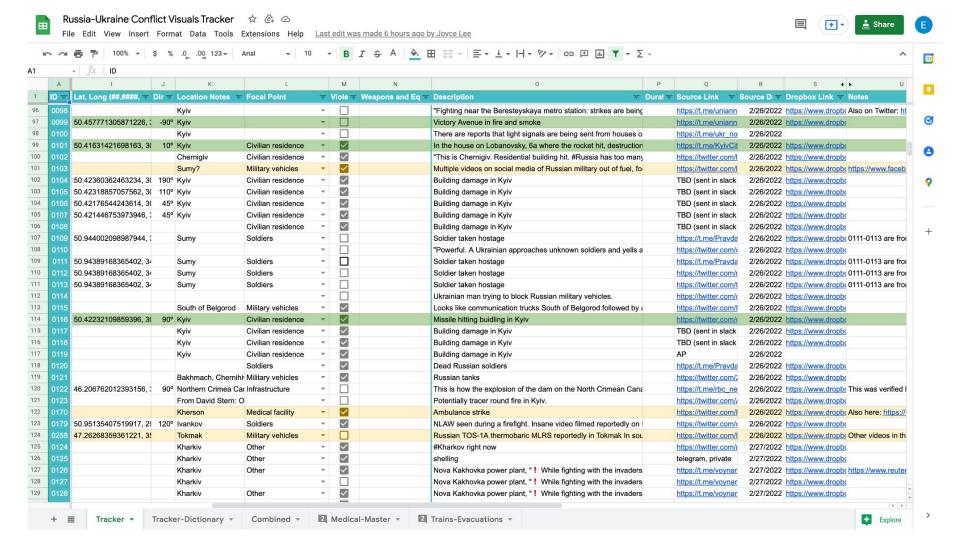








Organization: Treating visual evidence as data



Database of 305 videos exposes the horrors of war in Ukraine

By Washington Post Staff

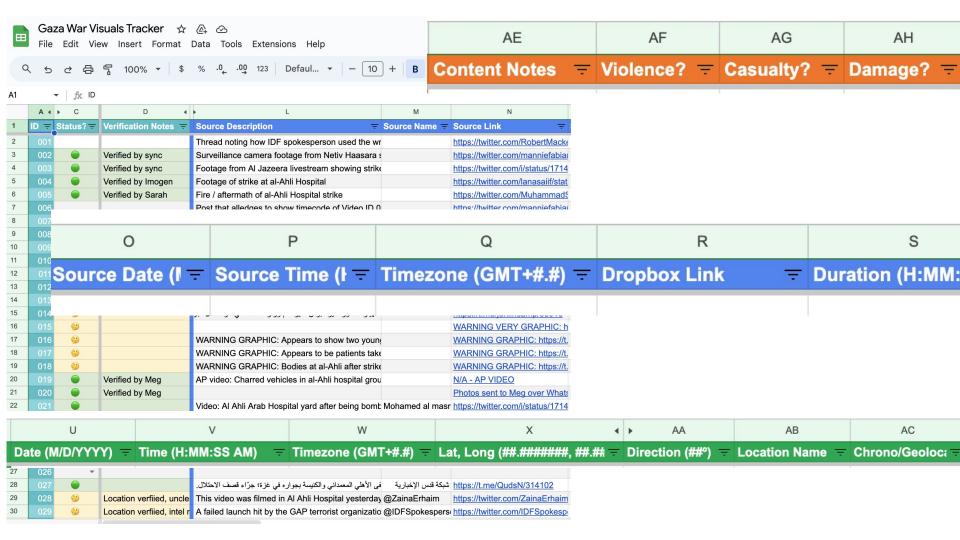
Updated Feb. 24 at 8:40 p.m. Originally published May 9, 2022

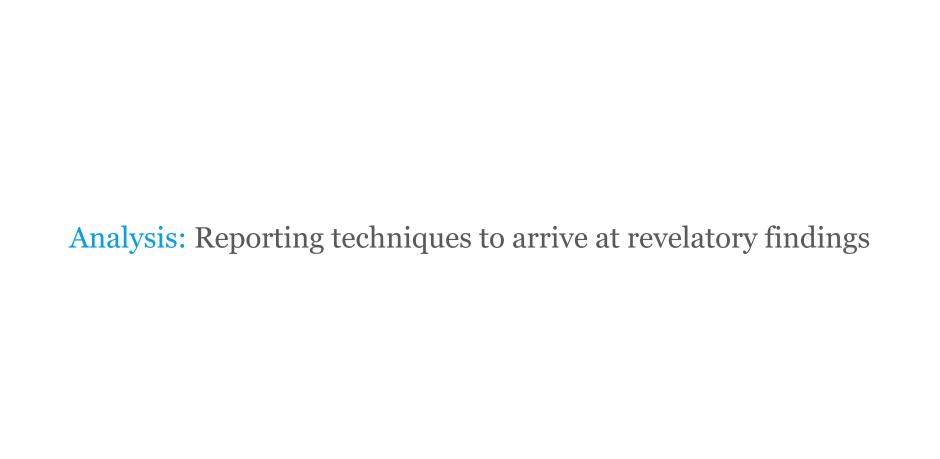












← Tweet

t.me/dsns_telegram/...

Translated from Ukrainian by Google

Chernihiv M

On March 5, at about 12:40 a.m., an enemy plane was shot down over Chernihiv. causing it to crash on the outskirts of the private sector.

The information is being clarified 2 people were rescued.

23 people and 4 units were involved from the SES. techniques

#stoprussia

t.me/dsns_telegram/...



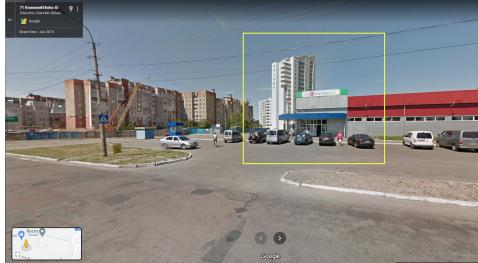






Open - Closes 6PM V

Website

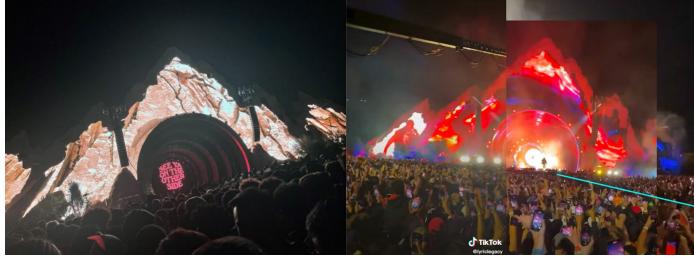


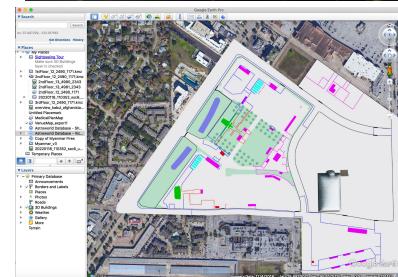


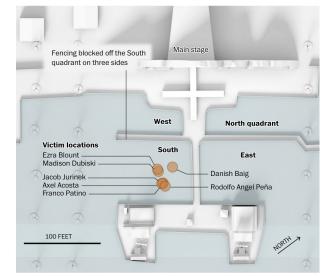


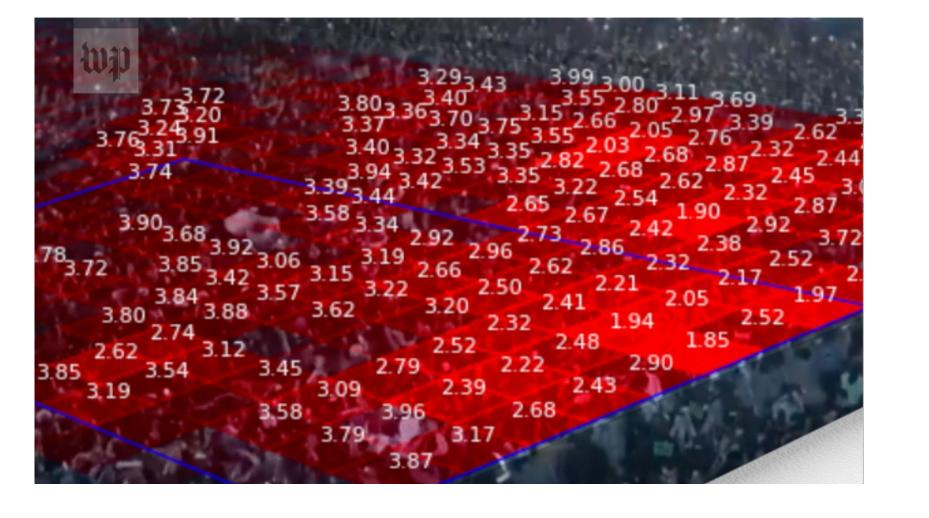


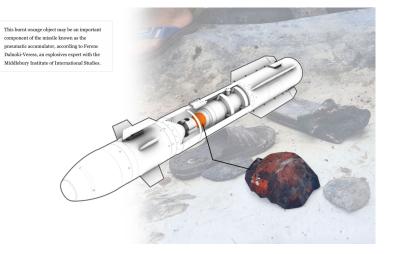






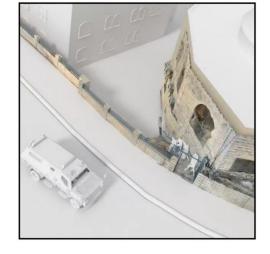














3D analysis shows how Israeli troops fired into group of civilians

In an incident last month that left two Palestinians dead, troops shot at least 14 times in four seconds while civilians would have been visible.

The final 11 seconds of a fatal Tesla **Autopilot crash**

A reconstruction of the wreck shows how human error and emerging technology can collide with deadly results









Organizing a long story

Always ask: "Is this point relevant to the main thesis"

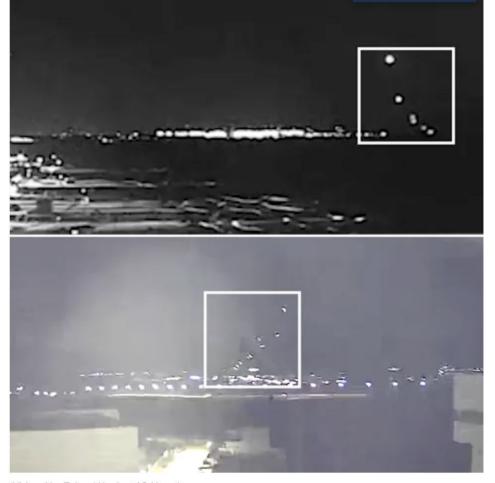
VISUAL FORENSICS

A barrage and a midair explosion: What visual evidence shows about the Gaza hospital blast

Videos analyzed by The Post reveal that rockets were launched from Gaza in the direction of the hospital 44 seconds before an explosion there

By Evan Hill, Meg Kelly and Imogen Piper

October 26, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. EDT



(Video: YouTube / Keshet 12 News)



A year after Uvalde, officers who botched response face few consequences

A Post investigation finds numerous higher-ranking officers who made critical decisions remain on the job

By Joyce Sohyun Lee, Sarah Cahlan and Arelis R. Hernández

May 24, 2023 at 4:51 a.m. EDT



The age of AI

Treat audio and visual content like you would any other source



Fact Checker

How to spot a fake video

Learn how to be your own video investigator with The Washington Post's Fact Checker team

The 5 W's

- Who:
 - Consider the source who is posting this material?
- What:
 - Question the premise is the material outrageous or provocative?
- Where:
 - Verify the location of a video or photo through geolocation
- When:
 - Confirm the timing of a video or photo through chronolocation
- Why:
 - Think of the motivation behind a post why is someone sharing this?







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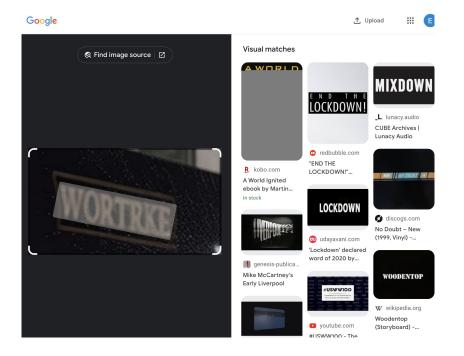
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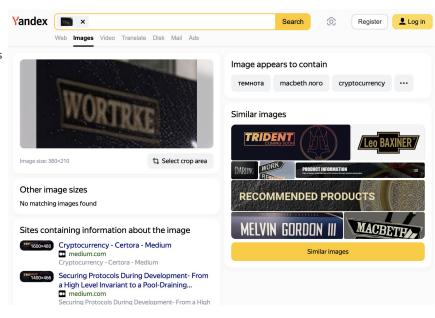




0 matches

TinEye searched over 59.7 billion images but didn't find any matches





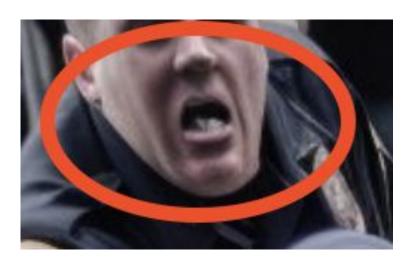


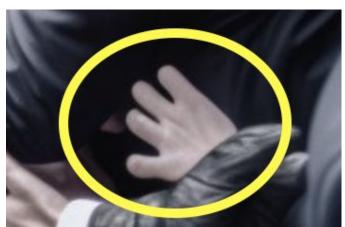














Cross-verification

Check other reports, photos and videos (especially from different angles) of the same event

Examples:

- Pool reports
- Wires
- Photos and videos from trusted news outlets and reporters
- User generated content

Questions?

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https://www.washingtonpost.com/visual-forensics/