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TIME-CHANGE DISPUTE WREAKS HAVOC. **A2**

THE THOUGHTS AND WORDS OF MISS MARPLE, HERCULE POIROT AND OTHER AGATHA CHRISTIE CHARACTERS HAVE BEEN REWRITTEN IN A MODERN MAKEOVER OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL NOVELIST OF ALL TIME. **PAGE A2**

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CHENEY ORR / REUTERS

Family members of Rolling Fork's police chief search for belongings in the wreckage of their home after deadly storms ripped through Mississippi.

HELP IS POURING IN AFTER A TORNADO KILLED DOZENS IN SOUTHERN U.S., INCLUDING A MAN WHO DIED WHEN HIS TRAILER HOME FLIPPED OVER MULTIPLE TIMES. **PAGE A5**

Federal budget faces 'tricky' balancing act

NOJOU AL MALLEES
in Ottawa

The federal Liberals are set to unveil a budget on Tuesday intended to showcase their plans to keep Canada competitive amid the clean energy transition while supporting Canadians who are struggling with affordability.

Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland has promised to accomplish as much over the last few weeks, while also pledging to keep the budget fiscally restrained.

But that balancing act isn't expected to be easy. A slowing Canadian economy

BIG-TICKET SPENDING, ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY SQUARE OFF IN TUESDAY'S UNVEILING

could weigh on government coffers. "It's going to be very tricky for the federal government," said Randall Bartlett, a senior director of Canadian economics at Desjardins.

The Liberals are expected to invest considerably in Canada's clean energy transition, in an attempt to keep Canada competitive with the United States as it launches its own aggressive measures.

The Inflation Reduction Act, signed into law last August by U.S. President Joe Biden, invests nearly US\$400 billion in everything from critical minerals to battery manufacturing, electric vehicles and clean electricity, including hydrogen.

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NATO SLAMS PUTIN'S NUCLEAR REMARKS

'IRRESPONSIBLE'

DAN PELESCHUK

KYIV • NATO on Sunday criticized Vladimir Putin for what it called his "dangerous and irresponsible" nuclear rhetoric, a day after the Russian president said he planned to station tactical

nuclear weapons in Belarus.

Putin likened the move on Saturday to the U.S. stationing its weapons in Europe, while insisting that Russia would not violate its nuclear non-proliferation promises.

Although not unexpected, the plan is one of Russia's clearest nuclear signals since the beginning of its invasion of Ukraine 13

months ago, and Ukraine called for a meeting of the UN Security Council in response.

While Washington, the world's other nuclear superpower, played down concerns about Putin's announcement, NATO said the Russian president's non-proliferation pledge and his description of U.S. weapons deployment overseas were way off the mark.

"Russia's reference to NATO's nuclear sharing is totally misleading. NATO allies act with full respect of their international commitments," a NATO spokesperson said in emailed comments to Reuters on Sunday.

"Russia has consistently broken its arms control commitments," the unnamed spokesperson said.

A top security adviser to Ukrainian President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Oleksiy Danilov, said Russia's plan would also destabilize Belarus, which he said had been taken "hostage" by Moscow.

Experts said Russia's move was significant since it had until now been proud that, unlike the United States, it did not deploy nuclear weapons outside its borders.

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MILITARY UNDER FIRE FOR CUTTING TROOPS' ALLOWANCE. **PAGE A3**