

MUSTREAD

Trump administration might deport Kilmar Abrego Garcia

Washington: The Trump administration might try to deport Kilmar Abrego Garcia to Uganda in the coming days, according to a notice sent by a Department of Homeland Security official to his lawyers. The notice, made public on Friday in a court filing in Abrego Garcia's human smuggling criminal case in Tennessee, came minutes after he was released from criminal custody pending his trial on the federal charges, and Abrego Garcia's lawyers accused the government of using the notice to try to "coerce" Abrego Garcia to accept a plea deal in his case, reports CNN. "Let this email serve as notice that DHS may remove your client, Kilmar Armando Abrego Garcia, to Uganda no earlier than 72 hours from now (absent weekends)," the notice read in part.

Truck rollover kills 3, injures 11 in SE Tunisia

Tunis: A light truck rollover left three people dead and 11 others injured, private radio station Mosaique FM reported. The accident took place in the Shokat area in the southeastern province of Sfax, a source from the Civil Protection told the radio. Preliminary reports indicate that the truck, carrying passengers on their way to a wedding, overturned, causing the fatalities and injuries on Saturday afternoon. Civil protection units and emergency medical services quickly responded, dispatching several ambulances to transport the victims to hospitals.

Fire breaks out at Kursk nuclear power plant

Moscow: A fire broke out at a transformer unit on the premises of the Kursk Nuclear Power Plant in Russia's Kurchatov, local media reported Sunday. According to a statement from the plant's press service, the transformer unit was operating at a 30 percent capacity and is not the nuclear power plant's core infrastructure, reported REN TV. The fire has not affected the local electricity supply, which continues to operate normally, the statement said. Firefighters are working to bring the blaze under control, and authorities have confirmed there is no threat to public safety.

3 hospitalised after being found unresponsive at home

Sydney: Three people have been hospitalised, including two with stab wounds, after being found unresponsive at a home west of Sydney on Sunday morning. Police in the Australian state of New South Wales said that emergency services were called to conduct a welfare check at the home in the suburb of Leura, 80 km west of central Sydney, at around 7:30 a.m. local time on Sunday. Officers arrived and found two men, both believed to be aged in their 40s, with multiple stab wounds, and a woman believed to be in her 60s, unconscious at the scene. All three were unresponsive. They were treated by ambulance paramedics before being taken to hospital.

Pakistan: Man chops off wife's leg over minor dispute

Sargodha, Pakistan: A man has been arrested after an encounter with the Sadr police in Pakistan, over allegedly chopping off his wife's leg over a minor dispute, Dawn reported on Sunday. According to Dawn, the police have identified the suspect as Mazhar, who critically injured his wife, Iqra Bibi (22), after a domestic dispute. The police said that the suspect tied his wife and chopped off her leg with a meat cleaver and fled. She was shifted to the Dr Faisal Massood Teaching Hospital by Rescue 1122.

UAE sends 30 tonnes of medical supplies to Chad

Abu Dhabi: The United Arab Emirates has sent 30 tonnes of medical supplies, including emergency medicines to the Republic of Chad to help contain the outbreak of cholera. This comes as part of the UAE's leading global humanitarian role in supporting the healthcare sector across Africa and taking immediate measures to prevent the spread of diseases.

Ukraine intensifies attacks on Russian energy



Kyiv (UNI)

A dramatic rise in Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil refineries has sent gasoline prices in Russia to record highs, despite the government banning petrol exports to cope with the

crunch.

Ukraine is focusing drone attacks on refineries, pumping stations and fuel trains in an effort to hurt the Russian war machine - but also to disrupt daily life in Russia. Summer

sees peak demand among Russia's drivers and farmers for petrol, reports CNN.

Ukrainian drones have struck at least 10 key Russian energy facilities this month alone, according to a CNN tally of attacks.

And the strategy seems to be working. The refineries struck account for more than 44 million tons of products annually - more than 10 percent of Russia's capacity - according to Ukraine's intelligence service.

Among the targets is the giant Lukoil refinery in Volgograd, the largest in southern Russia, another large refinery in Saratov, also in southern Russia, one more refinery in Rostov region, according to Robert Brovdi, Commander of Ukraine's Unmanned Systems.

Iraq conducts airstrike on IS hideout, killing "terrorists"

Baghdad: Iraqi security forces carried out an airstrike early Saturday on an Islamic State (IS) hideout in Salahuddin province, killing the "terrorists" inside, the Iraqi Joint Operations Command (JOC) said. Acting on intelligence information and several days of surveillance, the strike was carried out at 2:00 a.m. local time (2300 GMT Friday) on a hideout in the eastern part of Salahuddin province, the JOC said in a statement.

The airstrike resulted in the destruction of the hideout and the elimination of all "terrorists" inside, the statement said. It added that Iraqi security forces will continue to pursue the remnants of terrorism in Iraq. A security source told Xinhua that at least three IS militants were killed in the strike, including a senior group leader.

North Korea test-fires new air defence missiles under Kim Jong-un's watch

Agencies, Seoul

North Korea has test-fired two types of newly developed air defence missiles under the supervision of its leader Kim Jong-un, Yonhap news reported, citing state media.

According to the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), the country's Missile Administration carried out the test on Saturday, firing the missiles at different targets to assess their combat capabilities. Kim was present at the launch, along with senior party and military officials, including Air Force Commander Marshal Kim Kwang-hyok, as per Yonhap news.

The KCNA claimed that the test demonstrated the missiles' "superior combat capability" in responding to aerial threats such as attack drones



and cruise missiles, adding that the systems were based on "unique and special" technology.

"The firing particularly proved that the technological features of two types of projectiles are very suitable for destroying various aerial tar-

Wickremesinghe hospitalised

Agencies, Colombo

Sri Lanka's jailed former president, Ranil Wickremesinghe, was hospitalised on Saturday, local media reported, a day after his arrest on allegations that he misused public funds while in office.

Wickremesinghe, 76, who led the South Asian island nation during a devastating economic crisis, was arrested and taken into custody on Friday, police said.

The next day he was taken to the emergency care unit at Colombo National Hospital with complications from dehydration, diabetes and high blood pressure, the hospital director, Dr. Rukshan Bellana, told reporters. Wickremesinghe was later transferred to the intensive care unit where his condition was stable, Bellana was quoted as saying.

Wickremesinghe's office and the hospital did not immediately respond on Sunday to emailed requests from Reuters for comment on his hospitalisation.

Wickremesinghe, a six-time prime minister who lost the presi-



dency last year, had been investigated over a visit he made to Britain to attend a special graduation lunch to celebrate his wife's honorary professorship at a university there, local media reported.

On Saturday, his office did not respond to a request for comment on his arrest. An ally from his United National Party said Wickremesinghe was innocent and suggested the case was politically motivated.

Cyril engages with European leaders on Russia-Ukraine conflict

Johannesburg: South African President Cyril Ramaphosa held a telephone conversation with European leaders on Saturday to discuss the Russia-Ukraine peace efforts, according to the Presidency.

This follows meetings hosted by U.S. President Donald Trump with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and several other European leaders.

"In all the discussions, European leaders openly shared their perspectives, appreciated South Africa's role in engaging with both sides to the conflict, and provided President Ramaphosa with a firm commitment to supporting efforts aimed at ending the war between Russia and Ukraine," said Vincent Magwena, spokesperson to the president.

gets," Yonhap news reported, citing KCNA.

Kim reportedly issued an "important task" for the defence science sector ahead of a key ruling party session, though details were not disclosed.

According to Yonhap news, the missile test coincided with the ongoing Ulchi Freedom Shield military exercises between South Korea and the United States. The drills, which began on August 18, will continue for 11 days.

Pyongyang has repeatedly opposed such joint activities. Last week, Kim accused Seoul and Washington of trying to "ignite a war." His sister, Kim Yo-jong, also criticised South Korean President Lee Jae Myung, calling him unfit to "change the course of history."

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Monsoon woes: 19,000 evacuated Pakistan's Punjab on high alert for floods



Agencies, Lahore, Pakistan

Pakistan's Punjab has been put on high alert as over 19,000 people have been evacuated from multiple flood-affected areas of the province ahead of a fresh monsoon spell, Dawn reported on Sunday.

The Punjab government on Saturday

day evacuated thousands of people along the Sutlej River. Rescue 1122 spokesperson Farooq Ahmad said that over 19,000 people were evacuated from multiple flood-affected areas of the province, as reported by Dawn.

It reported that the epicentre of the crisis remains Sutlej, where authorities were focusing on evacuation efforts. With the new monsoon spell impending, the next 96 hours are critical for Pakistan's Punjab. The rain spell is also expected to bring heavy rain and flash floods to Gilgit-Baltistan — a region already reeling from successive floods, Dawn reported.

The situation remains dire as survivors in the flood-hit areas faced a shortage of water for drinking and irrigation.

Iranian forces smash "terror" team, kill 6 members

Tehran (UNI)

Iran's Intelligence Ministry said on Saturday its forces had smashed a "terrorist" team in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan, killing six of its members and arresting two others.

Members of the "terror" team, seven non-Iranian nationals, had entered Iran through the country's eastern border during the past days and sought to perpetrate "precarious and targeted terrorist operations," according to a statement published on the ministry's website, which did not specify the date of the operation.

The statement added the members were equipped with different kinds of weapons, ammunition and

explosive devices, saying among the items seized from the "terrorists" were laser-guided grenade launchers, U.S.-made machine guns, grenades, explosive vests, two-way radios, ammunition as well as a number of vehicles and motorcycles.

According to the ministry, the team sought to attack a critical center east of Iran, "exactly the kind of military targets attacked by Israel during its 12-day war" with Iran in June. It said the available evidence was indicative of the "terrorist" cell's Israeli-affiliated nature.

According to the statement, during the clash with the "terrorists," which took several hours, three Iranian security forces were wounded.

Israel pounds Gaza City suburbs

Agencies, Cairo/Jerusalem

Israeli planes and tanks pounded the eastern and northern outskirts of Gaza City overnight Saturday to Sunday, destroying buildings and homes, residents said, as Israeli leaders vowed to press on with a planned offensive on the city.

Witnesses reported the sound of explosions non-stop overnight in the areas of Zeitoun and Shejaija, while tanks shelled houses and roads in the nearby Sabra neighbourhood and several buildings were blown up in the northern town of Jabalia.

The Israeli military said on Sunday that its forces have returned to combat in the Jabalia area in recent days, to dismantle militant tunnels and strengthen control of the area.

It added that the operation there "enables the expansion of combat into additional areas and prevents

Vows to press on with offensive



Hamas terrorists from returning to operate in these areas."

Israel approved a plan this month to seize control of Gaza City, describing it as Hamas' last bastion. It is not

expected to begin for a few weeks, leaving room for mediators Egypt and Qatar to try and resume ceasefire talks between the sides.

WE ARE NOT LEAVING

Around half of the enclave's two million people currently live in Gaza City. A few thousand have already left, carrying their belongings on vehicles, and rickshaws.

"No place is safe, but I can't take the risk. If they suddenly begin the invasion, they will use heavy fire," he told Reuters via a chat app.

Others say they will not leave, no matter what.

"We are not leaving, let them bomb us at home," said Aya, 31, who has a family of eight, adding that they couldn't afford to buy a tent or pay for the transportation, even if they did try to leave. "We are hungry, afraid and don't have money," she said.

Teenage killed, 4 injured as explosive device goes off

Kabul: A teenage boy lost his life and four others sustained injury as an unexploded ordnance, which had been left over from the past wars, went off in eastern Afghanistan's Wardak province on Saturday, said a news release of the provincial police office on Sunday.

The incident took place in Chak district when some teenagers were playing on a ground, killing one on the spot and injuring four others, the news release added without providing more details.

The war-torn Afghanistan reportedly is one of the mine-contaminated countries in the world, as the unexploded devices left over from the past more than four decades of war often kill or maim people, mostly children, every month in the country.

Taiwan, China battle it out in competing World War Two narratives



Agencies, Taipei

Veteran Pan Cheng-fa says he clearly remembers fighting for China against the Japanese in World War Two, but gets agitated when asked about the role of communist forces who at the time were in an uneasy alliance with his republican government.

"We gave them weapons, equip-

ment - we strengthened them," Pan, 99, said at an event in Taiwan's capital Taipei to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War Two.

As China gears up for a mass military parade in Beijing next month to mark the war's end, both Taiwan - whose formal name remains Republic of China - and the People's Republic of China are locked in an increasingly bitter war of words about historical narrative and who should really be claiming credit for the victory.

Fighting in China began in earnest in 1937 with the full-scale Japanese invasion and continued until the surrender of Japan in 1945, when the island of Taiwan was handed over to the Republic of China after decades of Japanese rule.

Widespread protests held in Australia to support Palestinians

Agencies, Sydney

Thousands of Australians joined pro-Palestinian rallies on Sunday, organisers said, amid strained relations between Israel and Australia following the centre-left government's decision to recognise a Palestinian state.

More than 40 protests took place across Australia on Sunday, Palestine Action Group said, including large turnouts in state capitals Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne. The group said around 350,000 attended the rallies nationwide, including around 50,000 in Brisbane, though police estimated the numbers there at closer to 10,000. Police did not have estimates for crowd sizes in Sydney and Melbourne.

In Sydney, organiser Josh Lees said Australians were out in force to "demand an end to this genocide in Gaza and to demand that our government sanction Israel" as rallygo-



ers, many with Palestinian flags, chanted "free, free Palestine".

Alex Rychin, co-CEO of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, the umbrella group for Australia's Jews, told Sky News television that the rally

Anthony Albanese over his government's decision this month to recognise a Palestinian state.

Diplomatic ties between Australia and Israel soured after Albanese's Labor government said it would conditionally recognise Palestinian statehood, following similar moves by France, Britain and Canada.

The August 11 announcement came days after tens of thousands of people marched across Sydney's iconic Harbour Bridge, calling for peace and aid deliveries to Gaza, where Israel began an offensive nearly two years ago after the Hamas militant group launched a deadly cross-border attack.

Palestinian authorities say the conflict has claimed the lives of more than 60,000 people in Gaza, while humanitarian organisations say a shortage of food is leading to widespread starvation.

Syria delays parliamentary vote in 3 provinces due to security reasons

Damascus: Syria's supreme committee for parliamentary elections announced Saturday the postponement of parliamentary elections, scheduled for September, in three provinces due to security challenges.

The committee said the elections in Sweida, Hasakah, and Raqqah will be deferred "until suitable conditions and a safe environment are available," stressing that the parliamentary seats allocated to the provinces will remain reserved until ballooning can take place.

The decision underscores the challenges facing the interim authorities. Sweida has witnessed violent sectarian clashes in recent weeks, while Hasakah and Raqqah remain volatile due to the presence of rival armed groups and lingering security threats.