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Is imposing taxes one of the best ways to overcome Bahrain's economic challenges?
 Yes No Can't Say



The mafia phenomenon, which is the expression of a culture of death, must be resisted and fought"

Pope Francis

Rest in sight

Puppies found alive in Italy avalanche hotel



Rescuers recovered three puppies from under the rubble of Italy's avalanche hotel Monday sparking fresh hopes some of the 23 people still missing after five days could be found alive.

Sex toys 'safer' than kids toys: Swedish study

Fewer sex toys contain dangerous chemicals than children's toys, a Swedish inspection authority said in a report.

Poland mulls bracelets for skipping child support

Thousands of people in Poland sentenced for failure to pay child support could end up being fitted with electronic monitoring bracelets, the deputy justice minister said Monday.

Iceland mourns as missing girl found dead in rare crime

Iceland was in mourning on Sunday after a young woman missing for eight days was found dead on a beach, in a rare crime that gripped the nation.

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A man looks through debris of his home that was damaged by a tornado

Deadly storms batter US

18 killed, several injured

Washington

Powerful weekend storms roared through the southeastern United States, killing 18 people as violent weather left a trail of destruction, authorities said.

Families in Dougherty County in the state of Georgia huddled on the side of a road Sunday, surveying the wrath of a storm that destroyed mobile homes and downed trees, according to video posted by county commission chairman Chris Cohilas.

"This is absolutely devastating," Cohilas said in the video uploaded to Facebook. "It looks like a nuclear bomb went off. I've never seen anything like it."

The county's emergency management agency tweeted that shelters were being set up for displaced residents.

At least 14 people had died in south-central Georgia over the weekend, according to the state's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency.

Hard-hit Georgia declares state of emergency

5 people are missing

Donald Trump vows federal help for victims

And five were still missing according to Adel Mayor Buddy Duke, amid a scene of flattened houses and trees and cars thrown in a heap like toys.

Four others died and 20 were injured on Saturday morning by a tornado that swept through southern Mississippi, according to that

state's emergency services agency.

President Donald Trump said he had offered his condolences to Georgia Governor Nathan Deal, calling the storms "vicious and powerful and strong."

"On behalf of all of us, condolences," Trump said,

noting that Florida and Alabama had also been impacted. Deal had declared a state of emergency in Georgia for seven south-central counties. He said in a statement that the state would request federal assistance in the storms's aftermath. Authorities warned that more severe weather could threaten parts of the Carolinas, southern Georgia and much of Florida with strong damaging gusts, large hail and a risk of tornadoes. - (AFP)

Ten dead, 30 missing in Malaysian boat accident

Kuala Lumpur

Ten people are confirmed dead and about 30 missing after a boat believed to be carrying Indonesian illegal immigrants capsized in rough seas off Malaysia, officials said yesterday.

The bodies of six women and four men were washed

ashore at a beach near the east coast town of Mersing earlier Monday, the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency said.

"We believe there were about 40 Indonesians on the boat and we believe they were illegal immigrants," an agency spokesman said.

'No ransom for kidnappers'

Singapore

The Philippine defence chief said yesterday that 25 hostages are still being held by Islamic militants in the southern Philippines but urged that no ransom be paid for their release.

Delfin Lorenzana also told a security forum in Singapore that President Rodrigo Duterte



Delfin Lorenzana

has been under pressure to declare martial law in at least three southern islands where

jihadists operate, but he did not think there was a need.

The defence secretary (minister) said the companies which employed two recently freed Indonesians had paid a ransom of 20 million pesos (\$400,000).

The two were among seven crew seized from a boat off the southern Philippines in June.

Dozen evacuated after recovery of WW bomb

HongKong

Dozens of people were evacuated yesterday after a World War II bomb was discovered at a construction site in Hong Kong, near a university campus and staff quarters.

67 residents at three blocks of a university hall were moved after the 500-pound (227 kilos) US-made aerial bomb was unearthed on Pok Fu Lam Road, police confirmed.

The bomb was to be

detonated on site yesterday and treated with an "abrasive water-cutting system", a bomb disposal expert told reporters. The whole process was estimated to take around three hours.

Pedestrians and vehicles would be barred from entering the premises, and residents in the blocked area were urged to stay indoors and away from windows in case of accidents.

Unexploded wartime bombs or grenades are frequently

found in the southern Chinese city, which was the scene of fierce fighting between Japanese and British allied forces in 1941.

US and allied air forces bombed Japanese occupiers after the then-British colony fell. Last year police disposed of eight explosive devices found by a hiker.

In 2014 police defused a wartime bomb weighing nearly one ton, the largest yet found in the city.



Representational image