

# N.Korea reveals missile plans



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un (L) visiting the Chemical Material Institute of the Academy of Defense Science

**Seoul** **N**orth Korea revealed plans for the development of its missile programme yesterday, as leader Kim Jong-Un ordered stepped-up production of rocket engines and intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) nosecones.

Under Kim, Pyongyang has made rapid strides in its ballistic missile technology, which it is banned from pursuing under United Nations resolutions that have slapped it with seven sets of sanctions.

Last month it carried out two successful ICBM launches, overseen by Kim and apparently bringing

most of its sworn enemy the United States into range for the first time.

A series of threats followed from both sides, and while the rhetoric has since eased, the US and South Korea this week kicked off their annual Ulchi Freedom Guardian military drills, which the North always condemns as dress rehearsals for invasion.

The North says it needs nuclear weapons to protect itself against the US, and analysts said pictures released yesterday of Kim's visit to the Chemical Material Institute of the Academy of Defence Science revealed major technological advances and

ambitions. Kim, in a black suit, was shown next to a large brown tube that Joshua Pollack of the US Middlebury Institute of International Studies said on Twitter was a "wound fibre cylinder, evidently a large-diameter solid-rocket motor casing in the making".

It appeared to be made of Kevlar or fibreglass, added independent missile and nuclear analysts George Herbert.

Other pictures carried by the Rodong Sinmun, the official mouthpiece of the North's ruling party, included missile schematics and what appeared to be production processes. (AFP)

## World's largest samosa record smashed in London



Muslim Aid staff and volunteers work as they attempt to construct and cook the world's largest samosa at the East London Mosque in London

**London** **T**he world record for the largest samosa was smashed in London on Tuesday by a whopping version of the popular Asian snack weighing in at 153.1 (337.5 pounds) kilograms.

A dozen volunteers from the Muslim Aid UK charity built the giant samosa then deep-

fried it in a custom-built vat at an East London Mosque.

Adjudicators from Guinness World Records were on hand to oversee the process and certify that the mega-samosa passed the required tests.

The previous record of 110.8 kg was set by Bradford College in northern England in June 2012.

The samosa was built on a giant wire mesh, then winched into a vat of cooking oil before being hauled out to be weighed.

"My heart was beating really fast," said Farid Islam, 26, the project organiser.

"It was very tense. It looked like it was going to slide off. A crack appeared and I feared the worst," he said.

### #PollToday



North Korea has revealed its missile plans. Do you think Kim Jong Un is actually looking forward to a war?

Yes  No  Cant Say



"I respect the fact that I believe Kim Jong Un is starting to respect us. Maybe, probably not, something positive will come out of it."

Donald Trump  
US President

### Rest in sight

Indian railways chief steps down after crashes



The head of India's railways has quit after a series of deadly accidents on the crumbling network

### S. Korea's first woman PM released from jail

South Korea's first female prime minister was released from prison after completing a two-year sentence for accepting illicit political funds.

### US Treasury chief's wife apologizes over Instagram post

The wife of US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin apologized after she posted an Instagram photo and comments that were slammed as tone deaf and elitist.

### Online rhino horn auction set to open

Several hundred rhino horns will go under the hammer in South Africa's first online auction of the controversial product.

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## US Navy dismisses commander after collision

**Tokyo** **T**he US Navy confirmed yesterday it had sacked the commander of its Seventh Fleet after a deadly collision between a destroyer and a tanker off Singapore, the latest of several accidents involving an American warship in Asian waters.

Vice Admiral Joseph Aucoin was relieved "due to a loss of confidence in his ability to command", a navy statement said.

The navy is undertaking

a fleet-wide global investigation after Monday's incident involving the USS John S. McCain, which left 10 sailors missing and five injured after a gaping hole was torn in the warship's side.

The Seventh Fleet, headquartered at Yokosuka in Japan, is the centrepiece of the US military presence in Asia, undertaking sensitive missions such as operations in the South China Sea and around the Korean peninsula.

## 'Rare' Byzantine mosaic revealed in Jerusalem



Archaeologist works on part of 1,500-year-old mosaic floor Jerusalem

**I**sraeli archaeologists yesterday unveiled a 1,500-year-old portion of mosaic floor bearing the names of Byzantine Emperor Justinian and a senior Orthodox priest.

David Gellman, director of the excavation in east Jerusalem's walled Old City, said that while the area was rich in archaeological finds, few such inscriptions had been found.

"Direct text and letters

from people back then are relatively rare," he said.

The Greek inscription, dated at 550 or 551 AD, commemorates the founding of a building thought to be a hostel for pilgrims near the city's Damascus Gate.

Constantine, the Orthodox priest who founded it, was abbot of the Nea Church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and the largest church in Jerusalem when it was built in 543 AD.

## Headless torso belongs to reporter missing from sub

**Stockholm** **T**he headless torso of a woman found at sea was identified yesterday as a Swedish journalist who likely died aboard a Danish inventor's homemade submarine, in a grisly case that has gripped the nation.

Danish police confirmed they had made a positive identification of the body, which was found on Monday.

"We have a DNA match between a hairbrush and a toothbrush belonging to Kim Wall and the blood in the submarine and the torso we autopsied yesterday," Copenhagen homicide chief

Jens Moller Jensen told reporters.

Danish inventor Peter Madsen has been accused of the negligent manslaughter of the 30-year-old reporter, who went to interview him aboard his 60-foot (18-metre) submarine on August 10.

The torso, whose head and limbs were deliberately cut off, was found in Koge Bay, about 50 kilometres (30 miles) south of Copenhagen, police say.

It also bore injuries which appeared to suggest that air had been forced out of it, Jensen told a news conference.