

1801

Thomas Jefferson is the first US President to be inaugurated in Washington, D.C.

1861

Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated as the 16th US President

1933

Franklin D. Roosevelt inaugurated as 32nd US President, pledges to pull US out of the Depression, "We have nothing to fear but fear itself"



1936

1st flight of the airship Hindenburg at Friedrichshafen, Germany



Tear gas is used to disperse an anti-coup protest in Mandalay, Myanmar



Protesters cover with makeshift shields during an anti-coup protest in Mandalay

Myanmar crackdown

Myanmar security forces shoot dead 13 anti-coup protesters

words can describe the situation and our feelings," youth activist Thinzar Shunlei Yi told Reuters via a messaging app.

A spokesman for the ruling military council did not answer telephone calls seeking comment.

The heaviest toll was in the central town of Monywa, where five people - four men and one woman - were killed, said Ko Thit Sar, editor of the Monywa Gazette.

"We've confirmed with family members and doctors, five people have been killed," he told Reuters. "At least 30 people are wounded, some still unconscious."

In the main city Yangon, witnesses said at least three people were killed when security forces opened fire with automatic weapons in the early evening.

"I heard so much continuous firing. I lay down on the ground, they shoot a lot and I saw two people killed on the spot," protester Kaung Pyae Sone Tun, 23, told Reuters. He said several people were wounded and carried away.

Two people were killed in the country's second-biggest city

35
At least 35 people have been killed since the coup.

Mandalay, a witness and media reports said. Two people were killed in the northern mining town of Hpakant, a resident there said, and one person was killed in the central town of Myingyan.

At least 35 people have been killed since the coup.

The violence came a day after foreign ministers from Southeast Asian neighbours urged restraint but failed to unite behind a call for the release Suu Kyi and the restoration of democracy.

"The country is like the Tiananmen Square in most of its major cities," the Archbishop of Yangon, Cardinal Charles Maung Bo, said on Twitter, referring to the vio-

lent suppression of student-led protests in Beijing in 1989.

Security forces breaking up protests in Yangon detained about 300 protesters, the Myanmar Now news agency reported.

Video posted on social media showed lines of young men, hands on heads, filing into army trucks as police and soldiers stood guard. Reuters was unable to verify the footage.

'CONTINUE THIS FIGHT'

Images of a 19-year-old woman, one of the two shot dead in Mandalay, showed her wearing a T-shirt that read "Everything will be OK".

Police in Yangon ordered three medics out of an ambulance, shot up the windscreen and then kicked and beat the workers with gun butts and batons, video broadcast by US-funded Radio Free Asia showed. Reuters was unable to verify the video independently.

Democracy activist Esther Ze Naw told Reuters that the sacrifices of those who died would not be in vain.



The military justified the coup saying its complaints of voter fraud in the Nov. 8 vote were ignored. Suu Kyi's party won by a landslide, earning a second term. The election commission said the vote was fair.

"We will continue this fight and win. We shall overcome this and win," she said.

On Tuesday, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) failed to make a breakthrough in a virtual foreign ministers' meeting on Myanmar.

While united in a call for restraint, only four members - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines

and Singapore - called for the release of Suu Kyi and other detainees.

"We expressed ASEAN's readiness to assist Myanmar in a positive, peaceful and constructive manner," the ASEAN chair, Brunei, said in a statement.

Myanmar's state media said the military-appointed foreign minister, Wunna Maung Lwin, attended the conference and "apprised the meeting of voting irregularities" in a November election.

Junta leader Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has pledged to hold new elections but given no time frame.

Suu Kyi, 75, has been held incommunicado since the coup but appeared at a court hearing via video conferencing this week and looked in good health, a lawyer said. She is one of nearly 1,300 people who have been detained, according to activists.

Ousted President Win Myint is facing two new charges, his lawyer, Khin Maung Zaw, said, including one for a breach of the constitution that is punishable by up to three years in prison.



Reuters | Bangkok

Thai navy sailors braved choppy waters to launch a dramatic rescue this week after discovering four cats had been abandoned on a sinking ship that caught fire off a paradise island.

After the crew had been taken to safety on Tuesday, the navy was sent to the site of the capsized vessel to check for an oil spill, but discovered a few crew members had been forgotten.



"I used my camera to zoom in to the boat, and I saw one or two cats popping their heads out," said First-Class Petty Officer Wichit Pukdeelon of the navy's air and coastal defence division.

A sailor in a life vest swam out to the capsized boat, on which four ginger cats were huddled together on a wooden beam.

The rescuer brought the cats to his boat on his shoulder above the water level, with his team pulling him in by rope.

His posts on the res-



cue received more than 2,500 comments on Facebook on Wednesday praising the crew.

The cats are now being cared for by their rescuers at their command post on the island of Koh Lipe.

Purrfect rescue



Cambodia's Royal Turtle lays eggs in captivity for first time



AFP News

An endangered turtle bred in captivity laid eggs for the first time in Cambodia, conservationists said this week, in a massive win for animal protection in the kingdom.

The animal was among five Royal Turtles -- once feared extinct in the country -- that laid more than 70 eggs.

Cambodia is home to several populations of endangered turtles, whose numbers have dwindled due to demand for them in Vietnam and China as delicacies and for use in traditional medicine. Royal Turtles, formally classified as Southern River Terrapins, were pushed to the brink of extinction by hunting and sand mining, which destroys the banks where they lay their eggs.

Spanish king's sisters spark outcry by getting early vaccine in Abu Dhabi

Reuters | Madrid

The sisters of Spain's King Felipe were vaccinated against the coronavirus in Abu Dhabi last month while visiting their father, online newspaper El Confidencial reported yesterday, sparking outrage at home where most Spaniards are still awaiting shots.

Elena de Borbon and her sister Cristina visited former king Juan Carlos who has been living in the United Arab Emirates since leaving Spain in August amid a cloud of scandal.

It was not clear how the two got their shots, as the UAE only provides free COVID-19 vaccinations to residents and citizens, and requires a valid identification card. According to statistics from World in Data, as many as 60% of the UAE's population have received a vaccine so far.

"It is very unpleasant, very ugly," Labour Minister Yolanda Diaz told Spanish state television TVE.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



On #WorldWildlifeDay, I salute all those working towards wildlife protection. Be it lions, tigers and leopards, India is seeing a steady rise in the population of various animals. We should do everything possible to ensure protection of our forests and safe habitats for animals.

@narendramodi

02



Landmark Event! #Gambia has just received its first batch of 36 000 doses of the #AstraZeneca #COVID19 vaccine via #COVAX. This is a giant step towards our goal in ensuring equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines worldwide.

@DrTedros

03



An educator is leading the Department of Education once again. I look forward to working with @SecCardona to safely reopen our nation's schools and ensure every child has access to a quality education.

@JoeBiden

04



Today is #WorldWildlifeDay. It should be a day of celebration, but instead we've turned it into day of sorrow. The loss of wildlife habitat and biodiversity is still being completely ignored in every aspect of our lives and societies.

@GretaThunberg

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