

1429

English siege of Orleans broken by Joan of Arc and the French army

1867

Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel patents dynamite in England, the first of three patents he receives for the explosive material



1912

Columbia University approves plans to award the Pulitzer Prize in several categories, after establishment by Joseph Pulitzer

1915

RMS Lusitania is sunk by a German submarine off the southern coast of Ireland, with 1,198 lives lost

NATO chief says Europeans have 'gotten message' from Trump on defence

AFP | Yerevan, Armenia

Europeans have "heard" US President Donald Trump's message of frustration over the Iran war and are "stepping up", NATO chief Mark Rutte said yesterday after Washington announced it would withdraw 5,000 troops from Germany.

"European leaders have gotten the message. They

heard the message loud and clear," Rutte said before talks with European leaders in Armenia, acknowledging "disappointment on the US side" faced with European allies' resistance to joining the war. "Europeans are stepping up, a bigger role for Europe and a strong-

er NATO," Rutte insisted ahead of a European Political Community meeting dominated by the twin security threats posed by the Ukraine and Middle East wars.

"We have seen all these countries now participating with their bilateral agreements making sure that when it comes to basing requests and all the logistical support," Rutte said.

EU top diplomat Kaja Kallas called the announcement's "timing" a "surprise".

"I think it shows that we have to really strengthen the European pillar in NATO, and

we have to really do more," Kallas said, while stressing that "American troops are not in Europe only for protecting European interests, but also American interests."

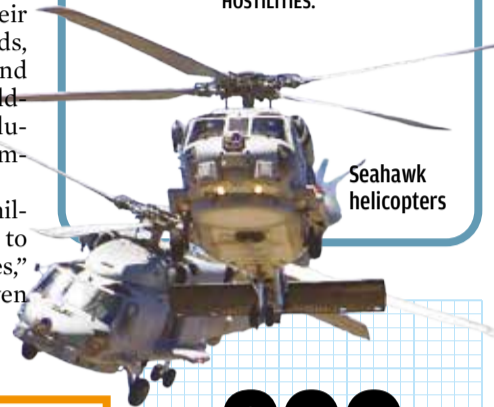
"Europeans are taking their destiny into their own hands, increasing their defence and security spending, and building their own common solutions," French President Emmanuel Macron said.

"We have to step up our military capabilities to be able to defend and protect ourselves," EU chief Ursula von der Leyen told reporters.



Other than the South Korean Ship, there has been, at this moment, no damage going through the Strait

TRUMP SAID ON HIS TRUTH SOCIAL PLATFORM AS OIL PRICES JUMPED OVER THE RENEWED HOSTILITIES.



Seahawk helicopters

900

As of April 29, more than 900 commercial vessels were located in the Gulf,

Israel military says army on high alert after US downs missiles

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

An Israeli military official said yesterday that the army remained on high alert and was monitoring the situation

after a US admiral said forces destroyed six Iranian boats and shot down missiles. "The IDF (Israeli military) is closely monitoring the situation and remains on

high alert... our air defence systems and offensive capabilities remain at a high state of readiness," the official said in a statement sent to AFP.

Trump says 'no damage' from Iran's Hormuz strikes, except for S Korean ship

Destroyers deployed

The warships are currently operating in the Arabian Gulf



Modern US Navy destroyers—especially the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer—are equipped with the Aegis Combat System, which allows them to track and engage multiple threats simultaneously, including aircraft, ships, and ballistic missiles.



US Navy destroyers carry the Tomahawk cruise missile, which can strike targets over 1,500 km away with high precision from the sea. These missiles are launched from the Mk 41 Vertical Launch System (VLS), allowing a single destroyer to carry dozens of missiles for different missions—from land attack to air defence.

The Fars news agency had earlier reported that Iran hit a US warship with missiles, a claim that CENTCOM immediately denied.



Yesterday afternoon, CENTCOM said "guided-missile destroyers are currently operating" in the Gulf, having transited Hormuz.

For the good of Iran, the Middle East, and the United States, we have told these (non-combatant) countries that we will guide their Ships safely out of these restricted Waterways. Operations would begin on Monday. Once out they will not be returning until the area becomes safe for navigation

TRUMP POSTED ON TRUTH SOCIAL

US says Rubio to discuss Mideast in Vatican visit

AFP | Washington, United States

The United States confirmed Monday that Secretary of State Marco Rubio will visit Rome this week, saying he will discuss the Middle East in

the wake of President Donald Trump's criticism of Pope Leo XIV. The Vatican earlier announced that Rubio would meet privately with the pontiff on Thursday, with an Italian source

telling AFP he would also see Italian officials and had sought a meeting with Prime Minister Georgia Meloni.

In a brief statement, the State Department confirmed that Ru-

bio would travel to Rome from Wednesday through Friday.

"Secretary Rubio will meet with Holy See leadership to discuss the situation in the Middle East and mutual interests in the

Western Hemisphere," the State Department said.

"Meetings with Italian counterparts will be focused on shared security interests and strategic alignment."



TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Moldova is a European success story in the making.

Today we reaffirmed our support:

A 1.9bn Growth Plan that is delivering.

And an EU path that's increasingly credible.

You can count on Europe's full support, dear @sandumaiamd.

@vonderleyen

02



We're very close to a new breakthrough in science. Clinical trials for new tuberculosis #TB vaccines remain on track, and will deliver efficacy results within the next two years showing how well the vaccines work.

TB is still the world's deadliest infectious disease, yet no new vaccine has been approved in over 100 years.

As these clinical trials proceed, we need to ensure that the novel TB vaccines, will be available equitably across the world to meet the global target of reducing new cases by 80% by 2030.

@DrTedros

03



I am immensely proud that Anga, Banga, and Kalinga—these three pillars—have chosen the BJP for the grand campaign of developed India and placed their trust in the NDA.

@narendramodi

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