

910

The last major Viking army to raid England, led by King Edward and Earl Æthelred, is defeated at the Battle of Tettenhall by the allied forces of Mercia and Wessex

1305

Scottish resistance leader William Wallace is captured by the English near Glasgow and transported to London for trial and execution



1583

Humphrey Gilbert claims Newfoundland for the English crown, establishing the first English colony in North America and the beginning of the British Empire

1864

Battle of Mobile Bay won by the Union Navy, led by Rear Admiral David Farragut with the cry "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!"

Trump board reassures Israel after objections on Gaza pullout

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

US President Donald Trump's Board of Peace on Monday assured Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that Israel's withdrawal in Gaza would only begin after Hamas's complete disarmament, following his objections.

Two members of Netanyahu's security cabinet had urged a vote to tear up the deal championed by Trump after the board released a text that called for Israel to begin a phased withdrawal.

Netanyahu's office said it had raised concerns to the United States, after Trump on Friday hailed as a "major milestone" an agreement by Hamas to hand over weapons to a nascent Palestinian governing committee.

Nickolay Mladenov, the high representative for Gaza under the Board of Peace, met with Netanyahu on Monday for what he acknowledged was difficult work.

But the board said it had reached a "common understanding of the shared objec-



A Palestinian child walks past the rubble of destroyed buildings in the Jabalia camp for Palestinian refugees in the northern Gaza Strip

tives" with Israel.

Israel's withdrawal beyond the Yellow Line, which demarcates the area in which Hamas still has control, "will take place only once decommissioning (of weapons) is complete, as Hamas committed to the mediators", the board said on X.

Even if Israel withdraws under the plan, it would maintain control of much of Gaza under a Trump-led October ceasefire.

Hamas said late Monday that it was adhering to "what was agreed upon regarding the implementation of the second phase of the ceasefire agreement, including the commitments of all parties".

The group was "awaiting a clear and official response" from Mladenov and the mediators on what was agreed upon, according to the statement posted on Telegram.

Lebanon, Israel hold direct talks in Rome



This photograph taken from the southern Lebanese village of Chaqra shows Israeli military D9 armoured bulldozers carrying out land-clearing operations in a wooded area near the entrance to the village of Houla, in the Wadi al-Slouqi

● This week's negotiations are the seventh round of Washington-mediated talks

AFP | Rome, Italy

Lebanon and Israel held a fresh round of US-sponsored talks in Rome yesterday, with Beirut seeking Israel's phased withdrawal from the country's south.

Convoys carrying delegations from the two countries arrived in the morning to the US embassy in the Italian capital, where discussions are scheduled to run until Thursday.

At negotiations in Washing-

ton in June, Israel and Lebanon agreed to a framework deal that involves the disarmament of Hezbollah, a gradual withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon's south and the deployment of the Lebanese army to the region, starting in test areas known as "pilot zones".

This week's negotiations are the seventh round of Washington-mediated talks since Hezbollah drew Lebanon into the Middle East war in March with rocket fire at Israel in support of its backer Iran.

Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem said yesterday that the direct negotiations would bring "nothing but shame, humiliation, and successive compromises" for Lebanon.

In a televised address, he also criticised Lebanon's President

Joseph Aoun, saying he "has not acted as an arbiter, nor as a unifying figure, but has become biased and divisive, which is incompatible with his role and with Lebanon's strength".

On Monday, Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani urged Lebanon and Israel to "continue in a constructive spirit, identifying shared solutions that will allow for the full implementation of the framework agreement", his ministry said.

After talks last month, Israel's military withdrew from the outskirts of the village of Zawtar al-Gharbiya, one of the first pilot zones.

The Lebanese army deployed to the area and has allowed residents to inspect their homes and businesses.

Aramco's profits soar 44%

AFP | Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Saudi Aramco yesterday said its net profit rose 44 percent in the second quarter year-on-year as the Middle East war pushed oil and gas prices higher.

Aramco, majority-owned by the state, reported net income of 122.6 billion Saudi riyals (\$32.7 billion) from April to June, up from 85 billion riyals (\$22.67 billion) in 2025.

Crude prices have been volatile throughout the war and were far higher in the second quarter of 2026 compared with a year earlier.

"Despite the unprecedented supply disruption through the Strait of Hormuz, we continued to demonstrate our ability to maintain business continuity," Aramco president and CEO Amin H. Nasser said in a statement.



He cited Aramco's "diverse asset base and multi-decade planning, including strategic infrastructure such as the East-West Pipeline, storage capacity, and export terminals".

Stripping out exceptional items, adjusted net income came in at 125.1 billion Saudi riyals (\$33.4 billion).

The median analyst consensus for the second quarter adjusted net income was \$31.16 billion -- an external estimate based on 12 forecasts.

More than 170 migrants rescued after boat catches fire during Channel crossing



Migrants board a bus after disembarking from a French rescue ship following their rescue at sea after their boat caught fire during an attempt to cross the English Channel from France to Britain, at the Port de Commerce in Boulogne-sur-Mer, northern France

AFP | Boulogne-Sur-Mer, France

Migrants wrapped in red blankets stepped off a rescue ship in France yesterday, a reporter said, after French and British authorities saved 173 people whose boat caught fire as they tried to cross the Channel.

It was one of the largest rescue operations reported since records began in 2018 of such dangerous sea journeys from France to the United Kingdom.

"A small boat caught fire on the boundary between French and British waters, forcing its occupants to jump overboard" on Tuesday morning, the prefect's office in France's Pas-

de-Calais region said. French maritime authorities later Tuesday revised the number of people rescued to 173 from an earlier figure of 157. Rescue services official Thierry Darras said some had sustained burns, grazes or bruises, but no serious injuries.

They had left the coastal village of Veules-les-Roses in Normandy on Monday, French maritime authorities said.

A spokesman for the British coastguard said UK vessels and a lifeboat were assisting after "a vessel caught fire earlier this morning" in French waters. The Royal National Lifeboat Institution charity said it had launched a boat to help at 6:00 am.

Fuego volcano



Fuego volcano erupts in Alotenango, some 65 kilometers southwest of Guatemala City. Guatemalan authorities issued the country's second-highest emergency alert level on August 4 after a major eruption of Central America's most active volcano, prompting the evacuation of nearby villages.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



When Europe invests in its innovators, Europe invests in its future. This is the goal of our Sca-leup Europe Fund. From to-day, it will ensure our scale-ups can find what they need right here in Europe to grow into world-leading companies. To turn European innovation into our competitive edge.

@vonderleyen

02



Let us continue to pray for peace, so that wars throughout the world may cease and diplomatic solutions to conflicts may be found. Let us remember all the victims of hostilities, especially the weakest and most defenceless: children, the elderly and the sick. May the Lord comfort those who suffer and bless the work of those who bring aid and consolation.

@Pontifex

03



Diseases don't stop at borders. Pandemics, the climate crisis and conflicts demand a collective approach. The need for a science-led, evidence-based, impartial and globally representative health organization has never been greater. 80 years on, the @WHO constitution remains a living promise:

@DrTedros

04



15 months of ZERO border crossings. The border is locked. America is secure. Promises Made, Promises Kept.

@POTUS

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