

1494

Treaty of Tordesillas: Spain and Portugal divide the new world along a meridian 370 leagues west of the Cape Verde islands, off the west coast of Africa

1654

Louis XIV crowned King of France



1753

British Museum founded by an Act of Parliament with royal assent from King George II (opens in 1759)

1753

Vatican City becomes a sovereign state

Egypt, Israel pledge cooperation



Israeli soldiers are pictured outside the Mount Harif military base near the city of Mitzpe Ramon in Israel's southern Negev desert, adjacent to the border with Egypt

AFP | Cairo

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to boost cooperation yesterday after an Egyptian policeman shot dead three Israeli soldiers before being killed, officials said.

Sisi received a telephone call from Netanyahu about Saturday's deadly violence on the normally calm border, the spokesman for the Egyptian president said.

During the conversation, the two leaders stressed "the importance of coordination between the two countries to clarify the circumstances", he said.

Egypt has said the police-

man crossed into Israel while chasing drug smugglers, leading to exchanges of fire with Israeli soldiers.

On Saturday, Netanyahu called the Egyptian shooter a "terrorist" although he has since mostly spoken of the shootings as an "incident".

Sisi offered Netanyahu his "deep condolences", the Israeli prime minister's office said.

"The two leaders expressed their commitment to further strengthening peace and security cooperation, which is an essential value for both countries," it added.

Israel's border with Egypt has been largely quiet since Egypt became the first Arab country to make peace with Israel following the Camp David accords of 1978.

Iran unveils hypersonic missile



The unveiling ceremony of the new 'Fattah' hypersonic missile in Tehran

● **Missile capable of speeds between 13 and 15 times the speed of sound with a "range of 1,400 kilometres"**

● **Hypersonic missiles can be equipped with nuclear warheads**

AFP | Tehran

Iran's Revolutionary Guards unveiled an intermediate range ballistic missile yesterday capable of travelling at hypersonic speeds of up to 15 times the speed of sound, state television reported.

President Ebrahim Raisi hailed the new missile's hypersonic capability, saying it would boost Iran's "power of deterrence" and "bring peace and stability to the countries of the region".

The official IRNA news agency published photographs of

the ceremony in a closed area it did not identify. Several top military commanders were present, including Guards chief General Hossein Salami.

"The range of the Fattah missile is 1,400 kilometres (870 miles) and its speed before hitting its target" is between 13 and 15 times the speed of sound, IRNA said.

Like slower ballistic missiles, hypersonic missiles can be equipped with nuclear warheads.

Unlike conventional ballistic missiles, hypersonic ones fly on a trajectory low in the atmosphere, enabling them to reach their targets more quickly and with less chance of being intercepted by modern air defences.

When the programme was announced last year, Guards aerospace chief General Amirali Hajizadeh said the system was developed to "counter air defence shields", adding that he believed it would take decades before a system capable of intercepting it is developed.

UK reputation at 'rock bottom' because of media, govt: Prince Harry



Harry

AFP | London

Prince Harry yesterday hit out at close ties between the UK media and government as he sued a tabloid newspaper group for illegal reporting methods, accusing both of damaging the country.

British royals have largely followed the same practice as the monarch, who as head of state of a constitutional monarchy is supposed to be above politics.

As such, they have steered clear of publicly commenting about the government of the day. But Harry -- now self-exiled in the United States -- waded into a longstanding debate about government links to news organisations, as part of his case against Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) Ltd.

The Duke of Sussex, as he is formally known, maintained in his witness statement to London's High Court that he was not bringing the case out of a vendetta against the tabloids.

Instead, he said, he wanted to "properly hold the people who have hijacked" the "privileges and powers of the press and have used illegal or unlawful means for their own gain and agendas".

Harry, 38, said those responsible had "showed no willingness to change" and needed to be exposed, to prevent others suffering the same fate as he had.

"On a national level, at the moment, our country is judged globally by the state of our press and our government, both of which I believe are at rock bottom," he said.



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TWEETS

01



Primarily relying on GDP as a metric of progress does not accurately reflect the world as it is -- nor the world that we want for future generations. By moving beyond GDP, we can measure what we truly value.

@antonioguterres

02



Congratulations to Rashtrapati Ji on being conferred the highest civilian award of Suriname -- Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star. This special gesture from the Government and people of Suriname symbolizes the enduring friendship between our countries. @rashtrapatibhvn

@narendramodi

03



Over 7,000 pounds of new solar arrays, and other cargo has arrived at the station after the @SpaceX Dragon cargo craft docked to the Harmony module at 5:54am ET today.

@elonmusk

04



American food--and the people behind it--are vital to how we connect with the world, so we have teamed up with the James @Beard-Foundation to relaunch the Diplomatic Culinary Partnership. Congrats to this year's awardees, who are bringing their history and heritage to their plates.

@SecBlinken

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

UK orders China to shut unofficial police stations on British soil

AFP | London

The UK government has ordered China to shut unofficial police stations operating on British soil, Security Minister Tom Tugendhat told parliament yesterday.

The Foreign Office "told the Chinese Embassy that any functions related to such 'police service stations' in the UK are unacceptable and that they must not operate in any form," a written statement said.

The embassy "responded that all such stations have closed permanently", it added.

British police began investigations after the human rights group Safeguard Defenders reported their existence in the UK, Tugendhat said.

According to the group, they were officially set up to provide administrative services but were also used "to monitor and harass diaspora communities and, in some cases, to coerce



Fuzhou Police Station for Overseas Chinese in Manhattan's Chinatown. UK Foreign Office has informed the Chinese Embassy that such 'police service stations' are unacceptable. (Courtesy of The Citizen)

people to return to China outside of legitimate channels", he added.

Tugendhat said police visited each location identified by Safeguard Defenders and "have not, to date, identified any evidence of illegal activity on behalf of the Chinese state across these sites".

"We assess that police and

public scrutiny have had a suppressive impact on any administrative functions these sites may have had," he added.

"However, these 'police service stations' were established without our permission and their presence... will have worried and intimidated those who

have left China and sought safety and freedom here in the UK," Tugendhat said.

In April, *The Times* newspaper reported that Chinese businessman Lin Ruiyou, with links to the ruling Conservative party, operated a food delivery business in the London suburb of Croydon that doubled as an undeclared Chinese police station.

Beijing's embassy in London denied the *Times* report at the time and warned against "false accusations" spread by the media.

Similar operations have been investigated in the United States, Canada and several European countries.

US authorities in April arrested two men for allegedly setting up one such outpost in New York and charged dozens of Chinese security officials over a campaign to monitor and harass US-based dissidents.

US fines Microsoft \$20 million over child data violations

Washington

Microsoft will pay \$20 million to settle government charges that it collected personal information from children without their parents' consent, officials said Monday.

The Federal Trade Commission alleged that from 2015 to 2020 Microsoft collected personal data from children under age 13 who signed up to its Xbox gaming system without their parents' permission and retained this information.



Visitors take a photo of the Xbox logo at the Gamescom video game fair in Cologne

To open an account, users had to provide their first and last names, an email address, and date of birth.

The FTC said Microsoft violated a law called the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA.

"Our proposed order makes it easier for parents to protect their children's privacy on Xbox, and limits what information Microsoft can collect and retain about kids," said Samuel Levine, head of the FTC's Bureau of Consumer Protection.

"This action should also make it abundantly clear that kids' avatars, biometric data, and health information are not exempt from COPPA," Levine

added. The decision still needs the approval of a federal court before it can be implemented.

The FTC said Microsoft will be required to take several steps to bolster privacy protections for child users of its Xbox system.

Under the COPPA law, online services and websites aimed at kids under 13 must notify parents about the personal information they collect and obtain verifiable parental consent before collecting and using any personal information collected from children.