



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Calling all young leaders: bring your energy and ideas to help shape the @WorldBank 's future. Apply for the Young Professionals Program to strengthen our Knowledge Bank, drive digital transformation, and deliver impact on the ground.

@AxelVT_WB

02



California has officially joined the Northwest Wildland Fire Fighting Compact to share resources, tech, and expertise. While the Trump Administration retreats from firefighting, California is proud to join forces with our neighbors to protect our communities.

@CAgovernor

03



New #Ebola outbreak in Kasai, DRC: 15 deaths, including 4 health workers. Humanitarians moving fast to support authorities: @WHO engaged, rapid response teams deployed, supplies delivered, surveillance scaled up. In awe of courage and expertise.

@UNReliefChief

04



We welcome the #UK's and other European countries' efforts to lower access and consumption of energy drinks among youth. We call on all countries to strengthen their policies to protect our children from #SilentKillers.

@DrTedros

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

Seoul says over 300 South Koreans held in US battery plant site raid



A handout photo shows a raid at a Hyundai facility in Georgia on Thursday
AFP | London

More than 300 South Koreans were among 475 people arrested by US immigration officials in a raid on a Hyundai-LG battery plant being built in the southern US state of Georgia, the foreign minister in Seoul said yesterday.

Steven Schrank, a Homeland Security Investigations special agent in Atlanta, earlier said Thursday's operation was the largest single site raid carried out so far under US President Donald Trump's nationwide anti-migrant drive.

The raid stemmed from a "criminal investigation into allegations of unlawful employment practices and serious federal crimes" at the Hyundai Motor-LG Energy Solution

joint venture plant in the town of Ellabell, Schrank told reporters on Friday.

"This was not an immigration operation where agents went into the premises, rounded up folks and put them on buses," he said. "This has been a multi-month criminal investigation."

Foreign Minister Cho Hyun said at an emergency meeting in Seoul that, of the 475 arrested, "more than 300 are believed to be our nationals".

"We are deeply concerned and feel a heavy sense of responsibility over this matter," Cho said, adding that he would go to Washington for talks if necessary.

Schrank said that those arrested were "illegally present in the United States" and "working unlawfully".

Versace leads crowds bidding farewell to Giorgio Armani



People queue to see the coffin of late Italian fashion designer Giorgio Armani lying-in state for two days at the Armani Theatre in Milan as a picture of him is seen on a screen

AFP | Milan

Thousands of mourners paid homage yesterday to Italian fashion legend Giorgio Armani, who died this week aged 91, as his coffin was put on public display in Milan.

Italian fashion icon Donatella Versace was among those who filed past Armani's closed casket at the headquarters of his multi-billion-euro lifestyle company, which marked its 50th anniversary this year.

Adorned with a bouquet of white roses, the designer's closed wooden casket was laid out in a darkened room lit by paper candles, an image of Armani shown on a big screen.

The Italian died Thursday after months of fragile health and will be laid to rest at a private funeral on Monday.

Hundreds of people queued up for the start of the two-day public viewing at the Teatro Armani, the company's minimalist but luxurious headquarters in Milan.

Among the first mourners through the door was a large group of Armani staff, all in black mourning wear and black sunglasses.

"It's so emotional," said Silvia Albonetti, an Emporio Armani saleswoman. "He was an incredible man... sometimes curt, but human."

Tributes have flooded in for Armani from across the fashion industry and also Hollywood, where his understated but exquisitely tailored creations were beloved of the A-list.

Ferrari chairman John Elkann was also among the mourners yesterday, many of whom were greeted by the coffin by Armani's partner Pantaleo Dell'Orco.

Throughout his remarkable career, Armani kept top-to-bottom control of his company as it moved from fashion into luxury hotels, cosmetics, accessories and interiors.

When he died, he was one of the richest men in the world, with a net worth estimated at \$11.8 billion, according to Forbes magazine.

Venezuela's Maduro urges dialogue after Trump threat



The United States is deploying 10 F-35 fighter jets to Puerto Rico

AFP | Washington

Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro on Friday called for dialogue with Washington, hours after President Donald Trump threatened to shoot down Venezuelan military jets if they pose a danger to US forces.

Tensions between the two countries soared in recent days after the Pentagon accused Venezuela of buzzing its ships in the Caribbean following a deadly US strike on an alleged Venezuelan drug boat.

"None of the differences we have and have had can lead to a military conflict," Maduro said in a message broadcast on all of Venezuela's radio and television networks.

"Venezuela has always been willing to talk, to engage in dialogue, but we demand respect," he added.

As tensions mount, Washington is deploying F-35 warplanes to Puerto Rico as part of Trump's war on drug cartels.

The 10 aircraft will join US warships already present in the southern Caribbean as Trump steps up pressure on Maduro, whom the United States accuses of leading a drug cartel.

Flexfuels Can Power Future Mobility of Bahrain



SRIRAJ KOTA

Flex fuels or flexible fuels and biofuels are rapidly gaining attention around the world today as environmentally conscious consumers and carbon-footprint aware governments and organisations are increasingly including flex fuels in the future policies and planning. Flex fuels are those that can be used in automobiles whose engines are designed to run on a variety of gasoline-ethanol blends, most commonly up to E85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline). These engines have sensors and control systems that automatically adjust to the fuel mixture, optimising performance and emissions for different blends. Flex fuel technology needs changes in automotive engine design which in turn can help progress towards environmentally sustainable transportation..

Currently the majority of Bahrain's transportation needs are catered to by fossil fuels. But proactive initiatives by Bahrain have also helped in ramp up renewable fuel production, especially ethanol. Ethanol plays a very vital role in establishing a flex fuel system and thanks to policies such as the Renewable Energy Law and National Energy Efficiency Action Plan, Bahrain has accelerated ethanol production. Moreover the increasing demand for renewable fuels and support for sustainable energy has helped encourage advancements in production technology which is expected to grow at a significant compound annual growth rate of 8.2% between 2024 and 2030.

Bahrain's ethanol production is anticipated to progress well in the coming years, underpinned by increasing trends towards sustainability and technological advancements in biofuel production. Expanding feedstock diversification and continual innovation in processing techniques present significant opportunities for ethanol. Additionally, ongoing governmental support and rising local demand for cleaner fuel alternatives position the market future positively, despite potential challenges in raw material supply.

In order for a renewable fuel to successfully emerge as a viable and sustainable alternative to fossil fuel, the steady supply of the same is critical. In light of the inherent supply challenges existing in ethanol, Bahrain has done well to align its focus on used cooking oil (UCO) and date palm waste (DPW) to turn them zero-carbon diesel alternative and biofuel respectively. Purely from uninterrupted supply point of view, the locally produced and environmentally friendly fuel sources such as UCO and DPW are the need of the hour. Scientific studies have shown the possibility of extracting biofuel oil from the nuclei of date palms, a resource-rich waste product in Bahrain, suggesting a path for local biofuel production from agricultural waste.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

US Navy SEALs botched secret 2019 mission in North Korea: report

AFP | Washington

Elite US Navy SEALs launched an audacious operation in 2019 to plant a listening device in North Korea to spy on the country's reclusive leader Kim Jong Un, the New York Times reported Friday, but the mission quickly unraveled and culminated in the deaths of multiple civilians.

The operation came in the first administration of President Donald Trump during sensitive nuclear talks with Kim, whom the US leader met three times.

The mission was considered so risky that it required direct presidential approval, the Times said, but Trump insisted Friday he had no knowledge of the operation.

"I don't know anything about it. I'm hearing it now for the first time," the president told journalists.

Despite months of practice, the mission still went horribly wrong, the Times reported.

The SEALs -- from the same unit that killed Osama bin Lad-



US Navy SEALs perform training in adverse conditions in Alaska

en in 2011 -- approached North Korea in mini-submarines that exposed them to frigid water for hours, then swam ashore, according to the newspaper, which interviewed two dozen people to piece together the account.

The special forces personnel thought they were alone, but didn't see a small boat in the area.

The boat later approached

the mini-sub, with the crew carrying flashlights. One person jumped into the water.

Thinking the mission was compromised, the senior enlisted SEAL ashore opened fire on the boat, as did the others with him.

When they reached the boat, they found two or three bodies, but no guns or uniforms: the dead were apparently civilians who were diving for shellfish.