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The national debt is actually double what people think it is because of our future obligations. "The government's one big pyramid scheme. Social Security is the biggest Ponzi scheme of all time. People pay into Social Security and the money goes out of Social Security

@elonmusk

02



Interacted with Mr. António Guterres, @UN Secretary General, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

@narendramodi

03



Great to meet with Prime Minister @narendramodi at the #BRICS2025 Summit, as @WHO works closely with #India for the official opening of our Traditional Medicine Centre in December.

@DrTedros

04



President Trump is "forging peace as we speak, in one country and one region after the other. So, I want to present to you, Mr. President, the letter I sent to the Nobel Prize committee. It's nominating you for the peace prize, which is well-deserved

@netanyahu

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

US to send Ukraine 'more weapons': Trump

Kremlin warned arms to Ukraine only serves to prolong the conflict

● Washington said last week it was halting some weapons shipments to Kyiv

● Trump has reportedly promised to immediately send 10 Patriot interceptors

● Putin launched the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump has said the United States will send additional weapons to Ukraine, triggering Russian criticism after Moscow claimed new gains in its grinding war against its neighbor.

The Kremlin warned yesterday that sending arms to Ukraine only serves to prolong the conflict, a day after Trump's pledge for "more weapons" for Ukraine to defend itself.

"It is obvious of course that these actions probably do not align with attempts to promote a peaceful resolution," Kremlin

spokesman Dmitry Peskov was quoted by Russian news agencies as saying in a briefing.

Trump's announcement to send weapons to Ukraine Monday followed Washington saying last week that it was halting some weapons shipments to Kyiv, leaving Ukrainian officials caught off guard and scrambling for clarity.

A pause poses a potentially serious challenge for Kyiv, which is contending with some of Russia's largest missile and drone attacks of the more than three-year war.

"We're going to have to send

more weapons -- defensive weapons primarily," Trump told journalists at the White House.

"They're getting hit very, very hard," he said of Ukraine, while adding that he was "not happy" with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Trump has reportedly promised to immediately send 10 Patriot interceptors -- anti-missile systems -- to Ukraine, according to US news website Axios.

Putin launched the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and has shown little willingness to end the conflict despite pressure from Trump.



Medics provide assistance to a wounded woman following a drone attack in Kharkiv

The US president's pledge to ship more arms to Ukraine came after Moscow said Monday that its forces captured its first village in Ukraine's central Dnipropetrovsk region after advancing towards it for months.

Russia launched a fresh large-scale drone and missile barrage before the announcement, including on Ukraine's military recruitment centers.

Kyiv also said it carried out a drone attack on a Russian ammunition factory in the Moscow region.



Under the Biden administration, Washington committed to providing more than \$65 billion in military assistance to Ukraine.

Trump has announced no new military aid packages for Kyiv since taking office for the second time.

Iran says it has not requested US talks since war



AFP | Tehran, Iran

Iran said yesterday it has not made any request for talks with the United States, after President Donald Trump said Tehran was seeking negotiations following last month's war with Israel.

"No request for a meeting has been made on our side to the American side," said Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei, according to Tasnim news agency.

Trump said Monday that Iran was seeking talks with the United States and that talks have been scheduled, without specifying the time or the location.

"We have scheduled Iran talks. They want to talk," Trump told reporters in the White House where he was meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"They want to meet. They want to work something out. They're very different now than they were two weeks ago."

Three dead in Red Sea attack as Huthis resume campaign

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

An ongoing attack on a cargo vessel in the Red Sea has killed three people, an EU maritime force said yesterday, after Yemen's Huthi rebels resumed their campaign against shipping in the vital waterway.

The Eternity, a Liberian-flagged bulk carrier, had been badly damaged and was under "continuous attack" since Monday in waters off Yemen, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) said.

"The vessel has sustained significant damage and has lost all propulsion," UKMTO, which is run by the British navy, said in a statement.

"The vessel is surrounded by small craft and is under continuous attack."

Operation Aspides, the European Union military force deployed in the Red Sea in response to the Huthi's attacks on shipping, told AFP that "the chief engineer, an oiler and an engine cadet" were killed.

It also reported "at least two injured, including a Russian electrician who lost a leg".

All but one of the 22 crew are Filipino, according to Philippines officials.

Texas flood toll passes 100

● Forecasters have warned of more flooding as rain falls on saturated ground

● President Donald Trump confirmed he planned to visit Texas on Friday

AFP | Hunt, United States

The death toll from catastrophic flooding in Texas rose to more than 100 Monday, as rescuers continued their grim search for people swept away by torrents of water.

Among the dead were at least 27 girls and counselors who were staying at a youth summer camp on a river when disaster struck over the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

Forecasters have warned of more flooding as rain falls on saturated ground, complicating recovery efforts involving helicopters, boats, dogs and some 1,750 personnel.

"There is still a threat of heavy rain with the potential to cause flooding," Texas Governor Greg Abbott said in a statement Monday, with the number of victims expected to rise still.



Members of a rescue team look for missing people on the Guadalupe River in Kerrville, Texas

President Donald Trump confirmed he planned to visit Texas on Friday, as the White House slammed critics claiming his cuts to weather agencies had weakened warning systems.

"Blaming President Trump for these floods is a depraved lie, and it serves no purpose during this time of national mourning," Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters Monday.

She said the National Weather Service, which The New York Times reported had several key roles in Texas unfilled before

the floods, issued "timely and precise forecasts and warnings."

Trump has described the floods that struck in the early hours of Friday as a "100-year catastrophe" that "nobody expected."

The president, who previously said disaster relief should be handled at the state level, has signed a major disaster declaration, activating fresh federal funds and freeing up resources.

At least 104 flood-related deaths were reported across central Texas.

Kerr County, through which the Guadalupe River runs, was the hardest hit, with at least 84 people killed including 28 children, according to the local sheriff's office.

The toll includes 27 who had been staying at Camp Mystic, an all-girls Christian camp that was housing about 750 people when the floodwaters struck.

Camps are a beloved tradition in the long US summer holidays, with children often staying in woods, parks and other rural areas.