



Venezuela jails two Americans over failed 'invasion'

Two former US soldiers have been sentenced to 20 years in prison in Venezuela on charges including terrorism, after a failed bid to invade the Caribbean country last May, Attorney General Tarek William Saab said.

Luke Alexander Denman, 34, and Airan Berry, 41, "admitted" to "conspiracy, association (to commit crimes), illicit trafficking of war weapons and terrorism" over the attempted invasion, allegedly aimed at toppling President Nicolas Maduro, Saab said on Twitter around midnight Friday.

They were sentenced during a court hearing, he said, and posted photographs of vehicles, weapons and identity documents.

Qatar concealed funding for Hezbollah: report

Qataris have paid 750 thousand euros to a person known to German media as "Jason G" to buy his silence

TDT | agencies

New evidence has emerged showing how deeply Qataris were involved in the funding of Hezbollah and its terrorist activities.

According to a new report, Qatari officials have bribed a Germany public relations company to conceal its secret funding to Hezbollah.

Qatar reportedly has paid 750 thousand euros to a person known to German media as "Jason G" to buy his silence on the role of Qatar to fund Hezbollah.



Hezbollah fighters in south Lebanon. (file courtesy of AP)

The new development comes weeks after German newspaper "Die Zeit" has revealed Qatar's funding for Hezbollah, weapons' deal and attempts to buy the silence of the client, "Jason G".

The report says Jason G carried out tasks in several countries in the world, including Qatar so that it would not be

published. Jason G is a former intelligence agent who currently owns a contracting company in Germany and has worked in a number of global intelligence services.

According to Al Ayam report, Al Washi, a German Business executive, had witnessed at least

I had never intended to obtain the amount of the settlement, and I had always intended to identify Hezbollah financiers in Qatar, and who were the Qataris who would give them protection

JASON G

six meetings between "Jason J" and Qataris before the collapse of their talks.

The information "Jason J" provided helped Qataris cover up and get rid of "suspects" including a high-ranking general.

Funds, the report said, were channelled to Hezbollah through Qatari charities, which are involved in a variety of politically active groups across Europe.

"Jason J" reportedly also had first-hand information about Qatari arms deals in Eastern Europe, which would have caused Qatar more embarrassment.

Jason has been the focus of 3 German media reports in recent weeks about Qatar's terrorist financing of Hezbollah, and its use of public relations firm VMB Eurom to accept a large cash payment to erase Doha's fingerprints in providing material military aid to Hezbollah.

The Berlin-based public relations firm reportedly played the mediator between Doha and Jason J. to reach an agreement that the client would not open the Qatar finance file for Hezbollah.

UK armed forces asked to help deal with migrant boats

Reuters | London

Britain's armed forces have been asked to help deal with boats carrying migrants across the Channel from France, the Defence Ministry said on Saturday after a spate of arrivals on the southern English coast.

Taking advantage of a spell of hot weather and calm sea conditions, hundreds of people including children and pregnant women have made the dangerous 33-km crossing in recent days, many in overloaded rubber dinghies and other small vessels.

Ready to help

Arab League to mobilise Arab efforts for Beirut



A Lebanese protester faces security forces in downtown Beirut

Lebanon's president rejects international probe

TDT, agencies | Beirut

Arab League Chief Ahmed Aboul Gheit said yesterday he would seek to mobilise Arab efforts to provide support to Lebanon after this week's catastrophic explosion in Beirut destroyed parts of the capital.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with Lebanese President Michel Aoun, he also said the Cairo-based league of Arab

states was ready to assist the investigation into the blast.

"We are ready to help with all our means," he said, adding that he would take part in an international conference call to be organised by France on Sunday to discuss aid for Lebanon.

"We have said the goods could be transported with smaller ships and other means of transportation from Mersin to Lebanon," he said.

Arab states, which have long channelled funds into Lebanon's fragile economy, had refrained this time from providing financial assistance, alarmed by the rising influence of Hezbollah, a terrorist group backed by Iran.

100,000

The United Nations said up to 100,000 children are among the 300,000 people made homeless, including many who have been separated from their families.

Meanwhile, Lebanon's president has rejected any international probe into the catastrophic Beirut port blast, saying a missile or negligence could have been responsible as rescuers desperately combed the rubble for survivors.

In another development, Lebanese riot police fired tear gas at demonstrators trying to break through a barrier to get to the parliament building in Beirut. A policeman was killed during the clashes with demonstrators, a police spokesman said.

Wife of Dutch envoy hurt in blast dies

Reuters | Amsterdam

The wife of the Dutch ambassador to Lebanon died yesterday after being seriously injured in the massive explosion that tore through Beirut's port on Tuesday, the Dutch Foreign Ministry said.

Hedwig Waltmans-Molier, 55, was injured by the explosion as she stood next to her husband, ambassador Jan Waltmans, in the living room of their house in Beirut, the ministry said.

Oil spill emergency



France is sending specialist teams and equipment to help Mauritius deal with a fuel spill from a bulk carrier that ran aground on a pristine reef two weeks ago and threatens to become an ecological disaster. The MV Wakashio struck the reef on the southeast coast of the Indian Ocean island on July 25. On Thursday, Mauritius said fuel was leaking from a crack in the vessel's hull and its prime minister, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, declared a state of environmental emergency and pleaded for international help. Inset, the leak

Death toll from Air India Express accident rises to 18



A security official inspects the accident site

Reuters | Kozhikode, India

The death toll from an Indian passenger aircraft accident has risen to 18, while 16 people have been seriously injured, a senior government official said yesterday.

The Air India Express plane, which was repatriating Indians stranded in Dubai due to the coronavirus pandemic, overshot the runway of the Calicut International Airport in heavy rain near the southern city of Kozhikode on Friday.

The flight was carrying 190 passengers and crew.

Authorities have also asked local people who rushed out to help the passengers trapped in the plane to go into quarantine.

The flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder have been recovered from the site.

"The pilot tried a lot to land us (safely) in the rainy weather. It was cloudy and around 7-7.30 pm (GMT 1330-1400) in the evening, we crash-landed. It was difficult to land, he tried a lot," said one passenger, who gave his name as Ashraf.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL CASES: 43,629

ACTIVE CASES: 2,919

DEATHS: 161

DISCHARGED: 40,549

NEW CASES: 322

CRITICAL: 36



The recent, dangerous, painful events prove that there is no alternative (for Lebanon) to preserving the bridges with the Arab environment

ANWAR GARGASH
 EMIRATI MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SAID ON TWITTER

Training institutions given green light

Set for September three reopening, precautionary measures announced, violators will face legal action

TDT | Manama

Training institutions in Bahrain's private sector can resume their activities starting 3 September 2020, as the Kingdom continues to ease its coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions.

Jameel Humaidan, the Minister of Labour and Social Development, announced this in a circular released to training institutes yesterday.

As per the circular, Institutes are allowed to resume their activities, after a long hiatus, adhering strictly to virus precautionary measures recommended by the National Medical Team.

"Owners of the training institutions, trainees, administrative as well as training staff" should strictly commit themselves to the precautionary measures for their own and others safety, the circular reads.

Endorsed by the Government



Jameel Humaidan, the Minister of Labour and Social Development

Executive Committee, chaired by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, the reopening measures are as recommended by the National Medical Task Force to Combat the Coronavirus (COVID-19),

headed by Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, President of the Supreme Council of Health.

Periodic inspections

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development will conduct regular inspections to en-

sure compliance with health requirements, while warning legal actions against violators.

"Resumption of training activities is important for skill development and for sectors that require continuous training activities such as aviation, engineering, electrical and industrial technologies to name a few.

Humaidan said the government attaches prime importance for vocational training for it integrates Bahraini citizens to the labour market.

The current reopening decision, he said, follows a meeting held with the representatives of the owners of the private training institutions in the Kingdom.

In this context, the minister said the authorities have identified and approved a set of provisions to ensure the smooth functioning of virtual training and constant monitoring by authorities.

Mandatory requirements

Training institutions should provide protective face masks to all employees and trainees, who are also obliged to use them.

No individuals should be allowed to enter the premises of the institution without wearing facemasks.

Care should be taken to limit the number of students, so that distance between trainees in a classroom should not be less than 2 meters.

The circular requires the institutions to sterilised all shared tools and equipment daily as well as mandates employees, training staff, and trainees to undergo regular temperatures checks.

Entry should be denied to a person in case of higher temperature and should notify authority by calling 444.

The institutions should also alert authorities when detecting symptoms of potential infection or if a person happened to be in contact with an infected person.

Owners of the training institutions are also encouraged to continue virtual training and utilise the possibilities of merging classroom and online training sessions.

Training institutions are also allowed to hold international examinations individually or for a limited number of candidates, not exceeding five persons, including the observer.

Proactive measures boosted coronavirus battle

TDT | Washington

Proactive measures adopted by the Kingdom, well before detecting a coronavirus case, were instrumental in raising Bahrain's recovery rate as highest in the region, said Bahrain's envoy to the US.

The 98 per cent recovery rate, Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa said, is a testament to the Kingdom's innovative approach to contain the spread. Death rate here is 0.36pc.

He was speaking during a discussion on innovation for responsible governance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa treated citizens and residents alike in the battle, while also taking care to boost the number of tests conducted, Shaikh Abdullah said adding that HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, acted as a guiding force.

Bahrain, Shaikh Abdullah said, acted responsibly and with

Bahrain dealt with the pandemic responsibly and with full transparency on the basis that public health is linked to the security and safety of all citizens and residents

SHAIKH ABDULLAH BIN RASHID AL KHALIFA



"full transparency" in its battle against the COVID-19 pandemic with Kingdom's public health remaining committed to the "security and safety of all citizens and residents."

On Bahrain's strategies, Shaikh Abdullah said the Kingdom made several innovative approaches to contain the spread, citing "BeAware" app as one amongst them.

Others include "converting car parks to intensive care units, establishing temporary housing

for foreign workers who live in overcrowded areas and launching mobile examination (bus) units."

Economy to improve

When it comes to innovation, there are many opportunities for the government to join hands with the private sector, he said adding that the economic situation of Bahrain and the countries of the region will be in better shape next year, citing international reports.

He noted that Bahrain is expected to achieve 3 per cent growth in real GDP, as government spending has been reduced by 30pc to avoid exceeding this year's budget of expenses.

"Bahrain has always been aware of the importance of diversifying sources of income," the envoy said.

Financial sector contributes 16.7pc of the GDP. Closely following is the manufacturing and government services sector, Shaikh Abdullah said noting that the Economic Development Board had succeeded in attracting 134 foreign companies up to 2019.

30pc
Bahrain is expected to achieve 3per cent growth in real GDP, as government spending has been reduced by 30pc to avoid exceeding this year's budget of expenses



Southern Municipality, in association with the Municipal Council, launched an awareness campaign on building violations and unlicensed additions to new housing units dubbed "Your Building Permits". The campaign which began at Khalifa City educated citizens on the need to apply for various building permits virtually as well as encouraged taking necessary legal procedures before starting construction to avoid violations. The campaign distributed gifts to citizens and thanked them for responding positively. Officials said the campaign would continue in the housing localities of the southern regions.

Two more COVID-19 deaths

TDT | Manama

Two more deaths yesterday took Bahrain's coronavirus (COVID-19) casualties to 161.

A 53-year-old expatriate man and a 64-year-old Bahrain citizen are the latest victims of the deadly pandemic, Bahrain's Ministry of Health announced on its twitter handle yesterday.

The deaths were announced separately, with health officials tweeting condolences to the families of the deceased.

As of yesterday, there were 89 COVID-19 patients in the Kingdom receiving treatment, out of which 36 patients are under critical care.

Some 2,919 active cases are there in the Kingdom, of which 2,883 patients are in a stable condition.

The ministry also announced conducting 6,831 COVID-19



tests yesterday increasing the total number of test conducted till date to 892,926

New 322 patients were detected yesterday of which 126 are expatriates patients, 192 are contacts of active cases, and four are travel-related cases.

The ministry also announced 273 recoveries from COVID-19 infection yesterday, bringing the total number of people cured of their infection to 40,549.

Authorities shut a restaurant in Adliya

TDT | Manama

Authorities yesterday shut down a restaurant in Adliya, classified as tourist service, for violating coronavirus (COVID-19) precautionary measures.

The facility was shut following an inspection conducted by officials of the Department of Food Control Department, Inspection Department with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, and the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions authorities.

Legal procedures are taken. Officials said the facility violated multiple norms set as per Ministerial Resolution No. 51 of 2020 related to allowing reservation for customers and also failed to provide data on reservations. The restaurant's managers, officials found, also attempted to conceal information from the officials.



Officials sealing a restaurant in Adliya for violating coronavirus protocols

Wanna do it online or in-person?

Many students are eager to get back with friends, but parents might want to limit their exposure by letting them stay at home and take classes online due to concerns related to COVID-19. The dilemma is big and there is not any time left too. So, private schools in the Kingdom decided to find out by writing to parents directly to ask them what they want best.

Private schools give parents options for upcoming academic year

- Classes will be held for 3 or 4 hours
- No extra curricular activities permitted
- Glass barriers will be placed on study tables
- Will ensure 2 meter between tables

TDT | Manama

Online or in-person classes?

Private schools in the Kingdom have started approaching parents here with this question, according to an *Albilad* report.

Schools want parents to choose the educational experience that best fit their needs for the 2020-'21 academic year.

The report quoting a communique sent to parents said that classes would run only for 3 hours.

However, some schools said they would hold classes for 4 hours, but lessons will be on basic school subjects only.

Activities like sports and music are



Representative picture (Courtesy of Arabian Business)

banned, until further notice.

Schools also informed parents that not any "student activities" will be conducted or will have a morning break.

Students are required to follow these instructions when they start their classes in September.

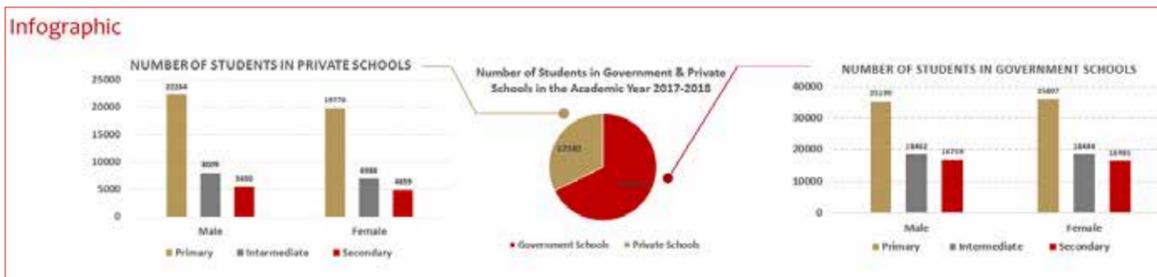
Some of the schools also told parents that they are putting in place health precautionary measures to ensure social distancing.

The most prominent decision in this regard is "placing glass barriers on all study tables," *Albilad* report said.

The schools are also mulling to reduce the number of students in each class to less than 12.

Some of the schools had limited it further to 9 students per class.

Schools have also clarified that there will be a 2-meter distance between tables in classrooms, as required by the Kingdom's health authorities.



Bahrain Chamber webinar on Tuesday



TDT | Manama

Bahrain Chamber announced holding a webinar on "The criteria and controls for determining the final beneficiary of a C.R."

All members are welcome to the webinar held in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry said in a statement yesterday.

The webinar will be held on Tuesday at 10:30 am.

Discussions will focus on the ministerial decision (83) for the year 2020 on the criteria and controls for determining the final beneficiary of commercial records.

The chamber explained that the webinar will be conducted in Arabic, and will deliberate about the requirements as per the decision and the mechanism of beneficiary disclosure.

Members are requested to register with using this link <https://bit.ly/2DjTyl2>

The webinar will be held virtual via Zoom application.

"If you wanted to go to Saudi, it had to be by Plane or Boat!"

Taking an e-trip down memory lane to Bahrain's glorious past

TDT | Manama

Bahrain, as we know it today, was altogether a different world, way back in the '80s and '90s when there were no mobile phones and cool people used to carry with them papers!

The new generation might get wide-eyed thinking about such an era, but those who have lived in the Kingdom and witnessed the change will get excited walking down that memory lane.

Take a look at some of the pictures shared by twitter user @KhalifaNasser of those golden days and you might get excited

as well. The pictures along with this write up are some amongst them.

But, that is not the end of it. There are a lot more.

Walk back a bit more or hit the search button a bit more, chances of getting landed on blogger "*ammara.com*" page is quite high.

As his page is filled to the brim with memories of Bahrain in the '80s and '90s.

"If you wanted to go to Saudi, it had to be by Plane or Boat! The Saudi Causeway didn't exist!" the list starts thus.

And it gets on interesting as it grows down.

"All phone numbers in Bahrain were only 6 digits; Even mobile phones were like 456654," the next line and it goes on.

Will share a bit more from the page.

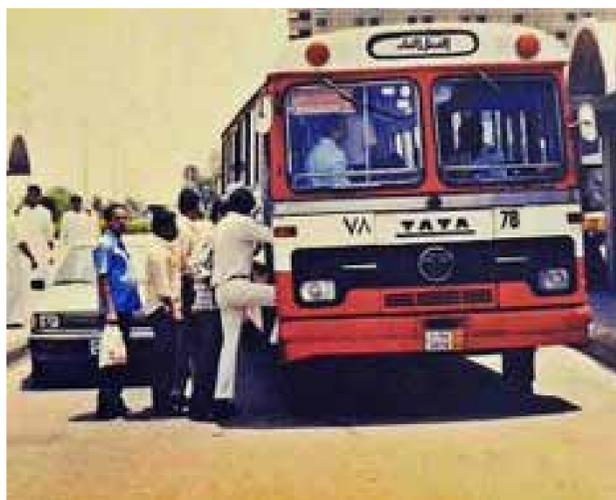
"When GOSI cinema first opened and everyone thought, WOW! 2 cinema screens! Now we have a choice!"

"Back when we actually had a 1 FILS COIN! Also, 20 dinar notes were purple, and 100 fils coins were all silver."

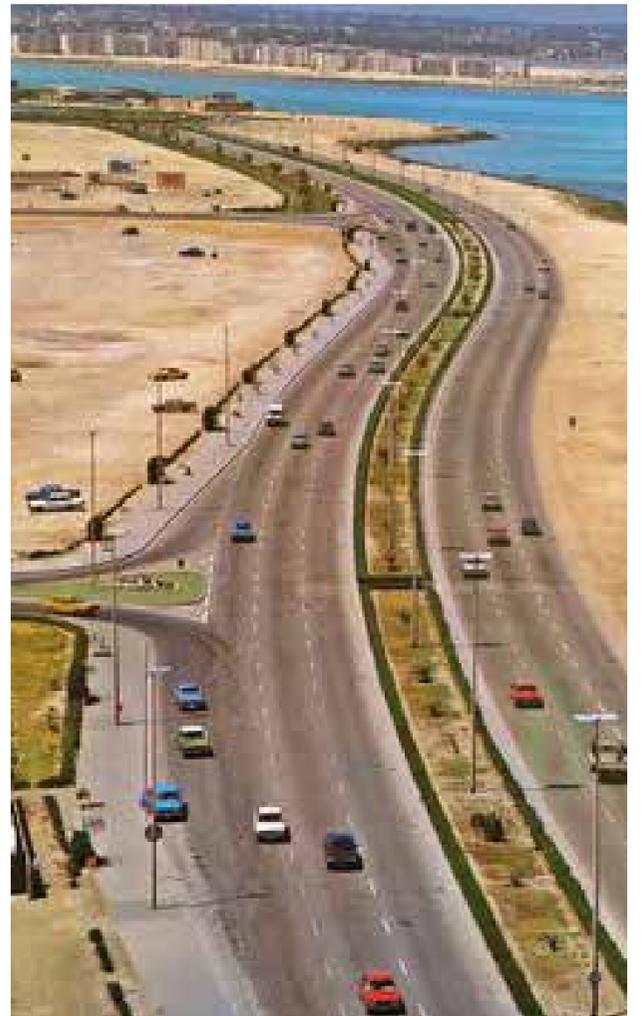
The list goes on thus also attracting many to share their own excitement.

"God, how I laughed, especially at the glass coke bottles and the 25fils off... do you remember ice cream Abu Alshams (e7lo wa ra'7ees) because it used to cost 25fils?" wrote Princess Ambiguous in the comment section.

Another user anonymous said, "Well i lived through some of this stuff although i was born in the late '80s. i remember if we



Bahrain in the '80s and '90s. Pictures courtesy of twitter user @KhalifaAINasser



wanted to watch cool kid's show duck tales, mr.bouges, and many we would switch to channel2 of cool stuff?" Saudi arabian tv they used to put

This is just a start of the treasure trove of memories available in the virtual world on Bahrain's glorious past. In these day's of the pandemic, don't you think it's worth taking a look. Happy surfing!

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Saving a life
in 20 seconds

CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

Take a deep breath. Now hold your breath and count slowly upto twenty. Difficult? Its actually less than that amount of time for a child to drown if left unattended in a swimming pool or water body. In fact, a child need not even be left alone in a pool or by the beach. She or he can have a life-threatening accident in full view of other people if the parents or guardians are not alert or if there is no trained lifeguard to rescue the child.

It requires us all to follow three simple rules when it comes to prevention of drowning accidents: always insist on a pool or water body with a lifeguard, if you are not accompanying your child into the water or cannot swim yourself; children below five must always be within arm's reach of the adult carer in the water; children under 10 must be clearly visible at all times when in the water. This also includes inflatable paddling pools and bathtubs. This is particularly relevant today when adults tend to get busy with their phones when minding kids.

This is not just about children either. In a society like ours where people come from different countries and backgrounds, many adults also put themselves at risk by venturing to swim when they cannot manage anything beyond a basic shallow - water wiggle.

Now that summer is here in full blast, one of the unintended silver linings of the pandemic is that we have not heard the usual litany of sad accidents in swimming pools and on beaches. With parents keeping their children away from water bodies because of the COVID-19 health crisis, there has been at least a temporary halt to need-less water accidents.

With parents keeping their children away from water bodies because of the COVID-19 health crisis, there has been at least a temporary halt to need-less water accidents.

Of course this is not a solution and one good way to tackle unnecessary drowning is to ensure that all children and adults are taught basic water survival skills – at least the doggy paddle that will keep them afloat till help arrives. Further, as a country where so many villas, high-rise apartment blocks and hotels have swimming pools, we must ensure that they are monitored by a trained lifeguard and also CCTV camera linked to a nearby security post.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

Beating the pandemic

Tender board awards 769 tenders valuing BD 631.9 million in H1, 2020

● **Electricity and Water Authority topped with 136 tenders in H1**

● **Tenders for housing units and apartments totalled BD90 million**

● **Electricity, water, infrastructure and sanitation tenders totalled BD150 m**

TDT | Manama

The virus-induced downturn had little effect on the Kingdom's development drive, with Bahrain awarding 769 tenders and auctions valuing around 631.9 million dinars during the first half of the year alone, revealed a top official.

Construction and engineering consultancy sectors emerged as the most active during the period, with its tender value touching an estimated BD222.4 m.

This was announced by Sheikh Nayef bin Khalid Al Khalifa, the Chairman of the Tender and Auctions Board.

Closely following was Oil and gas sector with around 157.4 m dinars, Materials and equipment sector with BD110.6 m, Services, auctions and investment sector with BD76.5 m and the Aviation sector with BD65.0 m.

The award rate, Shaikh Nayef said, indicates the stability enjoyed by various sectors and confirms the "sustainability of development services" in the Kingdom.

The figures also stand as proof to Kingdom aspiration to provide the best service to citizens and achieve sustainability in light of the extraordinary circumstances the world is going through.

47 government tenders

Shaikh Nayef also announced

awarding 47 government tenders, worth BD8.25 m, during the first half of the year.

The tenders, he said, were for supporting small and medium enterprises in the Kingdom, thanks to the Council of Ministers for granting preference to SMEs sector.

Moving on, he said the digitalisation of tendering process contributed greatly in increasing the efficiency of bidding processes, which also meet the best global practices.

The Tender Board announced its first fully online tender following the launch of the second phase of the online tender system. Board moved to automate all the auctions of tenders, beginning April this year.

Tatweer tops with BD149.875 m

According to the board's

semi-annual statistics, Tatweer Petroleum ranked first in terms of awarded tenders amounting to a total value of BD149.875 m.

Electricity and Water Authority followed with BD115.414 m, Ministry of Housing with BD90.196 m, Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning with BD62.427 m and Gulf Air with BD59.017 m. Value of awarded tenders by rest of the organisations amounted to BD154.989 m.

EWA 136 tenders

When it comes to the number of tenders, Electricity and Water Authority topped with 136 tenders, followed by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning with 81 tenders, Ministry of Health with 76 tenders, Gulf Air with 75 tenders, and a development company with 59 bids.

Tender Board, Shaikh Nayef said, has maintained positive indicators in terms of optimal bidding methods, as public tenders accounted for 72.1 per cent of the total. "This confirms that the board is moving forward with international best practices," added Shaikh Nayef.

BD90m housing projects

The board, he said, also awarded several tenders related to prominent service projects in the Kingdom which benefits citizens and residents directly.

Shaikh Nayef said the board awarded tenders for the Ministry of Housing to build and maintain housing units and apartments which comes to around BD90 m.

The board also awarded tenders in electricity, water, infrastructure and sanitation sectors, with an estimated value of BD150 m.



The board in the first half of this year awarded 769 tenders and auctions with a total value of about 631.9 million dinars, with the construction and engineering consultancy sector accounting for 222.4 million dinars

SHEIKH NAYEF BIN KHALID AL KHALIFA
CHAIRMAN, TENDER AND AUCTIONS BOARD



Established in 2002 by Legislative Decree No: 36, the Tender Board is an independent, regulator of government procurement practices in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



The Board collaborates with the public sector Purchasing Authorities, and local, regional and international contractors and suppliers, in order to ensure equality, transparency and competitiveness in all government tendering and purchasing practices.

Jaafari Endowments Administration rejects social media claims as incorrect

TDT | Manama

The Jaafari Endowments Administration yesterday rejected allegations doing round on social media platform about it holding a meeting and making a decision on the upcoming Ashura season as unfounded.

"What is being circulated on social media are absolutely incorrect," the administration said.

Officials explained that they had not held any meeting between the Department of the Jaafari Endowments and the official bodies in any way.

The administration confirmed that it will organise the annual meeting next Thursday morning



Picture courtesy of AlAyam

virtually and will invite relevant heads to participate.

The administration called on all

to remain vigilant against biased news and to accept information only to official sources.



Jaffaria Waqf Directorate was founded in 1927 and is an independent department attached to the Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs in Kingdom of Bahrain.

The main activity of the Jaffaria Waqf Directorate is the supervision of around 724 mosques and 632 mattams as well as the supervision of the assets endowed to those mosques and mattams, the endowments of the charities, etc.

Huawei to stop smartphone chip production due to US sanctions



Huawei does not have the capacity to manufacture the chipsets used in its high-end smartphones

AFP News

Chinese telecom giant Huawei said production of its most advanced smartphone chips would stop in September due to US sanctions, causing a "huge loss".

Huawei -- the world's biggest producer of telecoms networking equipment -- has become a pivotal issue in the geopolitical standoff between Beijing and Washington, which claims the firm poses a significant cybersecurity threat.

Huawei CEO Yu Chengdong told a tech industry forum on Friday that production of the company's high-end Kirin 9000 chipset would stop from September 15, due to US sanctions.

Washington cut off Huawei's access to US components and technology including Google's music and other smartphone services last year.

Those restrictions were tightened in May when the White House barred vendors worldwide from using US technology to produce components for Huawei.

"Huawei's mobile phones have no chip supply, which makes our shipment volume this year a little less than 240 million units (shipped last year)," Yu said. "This is a huge loss for us."

Washington has also waged a diplomatic campaign to isolate the Chinese company, which has emerged as a front-runner

in the global race to roll out 5G telecom infrastructure.

The British government bowed to growing US pressure and pledged earlier this month to remove Huawei from its 5G network by 2027, despite warnings of retaliation from Beijing.

Australia and Japan have also taken steps to block or restrict the Chinese company's participation in their 5G roll-outs, while European telecoms operators including Norway's Telenor and Sweden's Telia have passed over Huawei as a supplier.



Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. (TSMC) which has been making Kirin 9000 chips using US equipment has stopped taking orders from Huawei since May, fearing possible repercussions. Huawei does not have the capacity to manufacture the chips, which were used in its high-end smartphones.

Trump seeks to go it alone after virus stimulus talks break down

● A \$600 per week increase in unemployment payments expired at the end of July

● Trump on Friday night said he would sign executive orders to extend

Reuters | Bedminster, NJ

US President Donald Trump yesterday plans to sign an executive order intended to provide economic relief to Americans hurt by the coronavirus pandemic after the White House failed to reach a deal with Congress, a White House source said.

"Amid congressional inaction, POTUS will be taking action to help Americans in need," the official said. Trump is due to give a news conference at his New Jersey golf club.

Nearly two weeks of talks be-



US President Donald Trump speaks during a news conference at his golf resort in Bedminster

tween White House officials and congressional Democrats ended on Friday with the two sides still about \$2 trillion apart on next steps to address the heavy human and economic toll the coronavirus pandemic has taken on the United States, where it has killed more than 160,000 people.

A \$600 per week increase in unemployment payments that has served as a lifeline to the

tens of millions of Americans who lost their jobs in the pandemic expired at the end of July. Democrats wanted to extend the payments at that amount, while Republicans wanted to cut them, saying they served as a disincentive to return to work.

Trump on Friday night said he would sign executive orders to extend enhanced unemployment benefits, unilaterally

suspend payroll taxes, suspend student loan repayments and rental housing evictions in the coming days.

Trump initially played down the disease's threat and has drawn criticism for inconsistent messages on public health steps such as social distancing and masks.

House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer on Friday offered to reduce a proposed \$3.4 trillion coronavirus aid package, which the House passed in May but the Senate ignored, by nearly one-third if Republicans would agree to more than double their \$1 trillion counter-offer.

White House negotiators Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Chief of Staff Mark Meadows rejected the offer.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's \$1 trillion package unveiled late last month ran into immediate opposition from his party, with as many as 20 of the Senate's 53 Republicans expected to oppose it.

Qualcomm lobbies US to sell chips for Huawei 5G phones

Reuters

Chipmaker Qualcomm Inc is lobbying the US govern-



ment to revoke restrictions on sale of components to Huawei Technologies Co, after the Chinese company was blacklisted by the United States, The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday.

Qualcomm is lobbying to sell chips to Huawei that the Chinese company would include in its 5G phones, according to the report, citing a presenta-

tion by Qualcomm.

With these restrictions, the US has handed Qualcomm's foreign competitors a market worth as much as \$8 billion annually, the report said.

Qualcomm did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

The company resolved a licensing dispute with Huawei last month, which will pay Qualcomm a catch-up payment of \$1.8 billion in the fiscal fourth quarter.

Mukesh Ambani, now worth \$80.6 Billion

News18

Reliance Industries Limited Chairman and Managing Director Mukesh Ambani has become the



fourth-richest person in the world, overtaking Europe's wealthiest man. Ambani is now worth \$80.6 billion after making \$22 billion in 2020, according to the *Bloomberg Billionaires Index*.

Ambani's net worth took him past France's Bernard Arnault, whose LVMH Moet

Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE has suffered from customers curbing high-end fashion purchases faster than the company can cut costs.

India's richest person has already surpassed some of the biggest tycoons in recent weeks, a list that includes Silicon Valley titans such as Elon Musk and Alphabet Inc. co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page, as well as the so-called Oracle of Omaha himself, Warren Buffett.

Coronavirus punishes Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway

Reuters | Washington

Berkshire Hathaway Inc yesterday announced a \$9.8 billion writedown and 10,000 job losses at its Precision Castparts aircraft parts unit, as the coronavirus pandemic caused widespread pain at Warren Buffett's conglomerate.

Despite the writedown, Berkshire said second-quarter net income surged 87pc because of gains in stock investments such as Apple Inc as markets rebounded.

Operating profit fell 10 per cent, cushioned by a temporary bump at the Geico auto insurer, as the pandemic caused "relatively minor to severe" damage to most of Berkshire's more than 90 operating businesses.

"The writedown was prudent," said Cathy Seifert, an equity analyst at CFRA Research. "It's a recognition of what the market has long believed, that the purchase price was rich, and the integration not as smooth as many would have hoped."

Berkshire, which paid \$32.1 billion for Precision in 2016 in its largest acquisition, and which



Warren Buffett, chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, takes his seat to speak at the Fortune's Most Powerful Women's Summit in Washington

Buffett at the time called a steep price, said COVID-19 caused airlines to slash plane orders, significantly curbing demand for

Precision's products.

Buffett himself soured on airlines during the quarter, selling \$6 billion of their stock and tel-

ling shareholders on May 2 the industry's future had become "much less clear to me."

Berkshire said Precision,

which also makes industrial parts, saw revenue fall by one-third and plans an "aggressive restructuring" to shrink operations. Precision ended 2019 with 33,417 employees, and has shed 30pc of its workforce.

During the quarter, Buffett, who turns 90 on Aug. 30, also took advantage of Berkshire's underperforming shares by repurchasing \$5.1 billion of stock, even as the pandemic reduced other companies' ability to buy back their own shares.

Berkshire's stock has significantly underperformed broader

markets since the end of 2018, and Seifert said investors should welcome the buybacks.

"Berkshire tends to go against the grain, and when so many companies suspended buybacks, Berkshire did the opposite," she said. "The market should react positively, because it shows Berkshire is confident in its prospects."

Those repurchases confirmed Berkshire's hint in a July 8 regulatory filing it had become more aggressive with buybacks after loosening its buyback policy in 2018.

Pandemic Damage

Berkshire businesses suffering from the pandemic also include the BNSF railroad, which saw lower shipping volumes, and retailers including See's candies that temporarily closed stores.

Companies in which Berkshire recently made large investments have also been struggling.

Berkshire recorded a \$513 million loss on its 26.6pc stake in Kraft Heinz Co, after the food company took several writedowns including for Maxwell House and Oscar Mayer.

Meanwhile, Occidental Petroleum Corp, where Berkshire invested \$10 billion last August, has also pummeled by sinking oil prices.

Blast rocks military base in Somali capital

At least nine killed in suicide blast near Mogadishu military base

● Hospital sources have confirmed that around 20 were wounded

Reuters | Mogadishu

At least nine people were killed and nearly 20 others injured yesterday in a car bomb blast at the front gate of a Somali military base in Mogadishu, witnesses and security officials said.

Government security officials contacted by VOA have confirmed that eight of those killed were government soldiers and other casualties included members of the soldiers' families, who were at the base at the time.

"A suicide bomber driving an explosive-laden vehicle sped toward the front gate of the camp but the guards opened fire to stop it before it detonated," Aden Mohamed, a police officer among the first responders, told VOA's Somali Service.



An ambulance is seen near a blast site that rocked a military base in Mogadishu

The blast was heard throughout the area and sent a plume of black smoke into the air.

"I saw the dead bodies of at least eight soldiers and ambulances rushed to the scene to carry away the wounded," a witness told VOA on condition of anonymity.

Hospital sources have con-

firmed that around 20 people, mainly soldiers, were wounded in the blast.

"We have taken at least 15 injured people [to hospitals], some of them in critical condition," the city's emergency medical responders told local media.

The military camp is located near the city's newly reopened

main sports stadium in the Warta-nabadda district.

The blast comes days after a suicide bombing killed at least four people, including the bomber at a Mogadishu restaurant that is popular with security forces and government workers.

Al-Shabab militants have claimed responsibility for the Saturday explosion, claiming they killed dozens of government soldiers.



Somalia has been embroiled in deadly violence since 1991, when clan warlords overthrew leader Siad Barre and then turned on each other

'Slight improvement' in melting glacier threatening Italy resort

AFP | Milan

The threat that a massive chunk of glacier loosened by soaring temperatures could collapse near an alpine resort on the Italian side of the Mont Blanc mountain range has slightly eased, a mayor said.



Planpincieux glacier

Climate change has been increasingly melting the world's glaciers, creating a new danger for the town of Courmayeur, a resort community in Italy's Aosta Valley region. The town was put on high alert on Wednesday as a block of ice estimated at about 500,000 cubic metres

-- the size of the Milan cathedral, one official said -- from the Planpincieux glacier risked falling and threatening homes. A "red zone" at the base of the slope was also evacuated, with 20 residents and around 55 holidaymakers moved from the area.

in the state. "A total of 26 deaths have been confirmed in the landslide in Rajamalai. In addition to the 15 bodies found on Friday, the bodies of 11 people were found.

A record number of women are running for seats in the House of Representatives in November's US election, the Centre for American Women and Politics said. A total of 243 women have secured party nominations for House seats, according to the centre, a division of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University. With primary nominating contests still to come in 13 states, the number is expected to rise, the centre said.

News in brief

New Zealand PM launches election campaign

◆ New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern launched her re-election campaign promising a "laser-like" focus on boosting jobs and economic



growth hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The charismatic 40-year-old leader is on track for a comfortable victory in the Sept. 19 election, according to opinion polls, having won global praise for her leadership during the coronavirus pandemic. It has been 99 days since New Zealand had any domestic transmission of COVID-19, a rare achievement as the pandemic rages globally, and it has re-opened the economy after undergoing a complete shutdown to eradicate the coronavirus.



◆ Dozens of protesters gathered in front of a Bangkok court to demand the release of activist leaders, vowing to escalate anti-government demonstrations with a call for a protest in the Thai capital. Human rights lawyer Anon Nampa, 35, and student activist Panupong Jasnok, 23, were arrested on Friday and held overnight in connection with

recent protests demanding greater democracy. "Whom does the court serve in this country?," Parit Cheewarak, a student leader widely known by the nickname Penguin, told 60 to 100 protesters in front of Bangkok's Criminal Court.

◆ Around 20 people were killed in an attack by an armed group on a cattle market in the east of Burkina Faso, a local governor said. Officials did not blame any group for Friday's attack, but Burkina Faso is caught up in a jihadist insurgency that began in Mali and has spread to neighbouring countries. "Unidentified armed individuals burst into a cattle market in Namoungou village in the region of Fada N'Gourma and attacked the population," the governor, Colonel Saidou Sanou, said in a statement.

Death toll in Idukki landslide rises to 26

◆ The death toll in Idukki landslide has risen to 26, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said. The Chief Minister said that monsoon fury continues to be severe



in the state. "A total of 26 deaths have been confirmed in the landslide in Rajamalai. In addition to the 15 bodies found on Friday, the bodies of 11 people were found.



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Record number of women running for US House

nominations for House seats, according to the centre, a division of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University. With primary nominating contests still to come in 13 states, the number is expected to rise, the centre said.

◆ Polish police arrested a gay rights activist in central Warsaw, implementing a court order for two months' preventive detention that sparked angry scenes as dozens protested. The activist, who was referred to officially in court as Mikhail Sz. but who identifies as a woman with the name Margo, is suspected of causing criminal damage to a van carrying homophobic slogans in Warsaw in June.



Record level of traffic jams in France amid heatwave

Reuters | Paris

France saw a record level of traffic jams yesterday, with cars stuck in gridlock on roasting roads spanning 820 kilometres across a country suffering a brutal heatwave.

France's traffic authorities said the peak was reached just after noon, easily beating both last Saturday's record of 760 kilometres (470 miles) and the previous record of 762 kilometres set on August 3 of last year.

The country has been sweltering through a heatwave since Thursday, with temperatures pushing towards 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) in several areas.

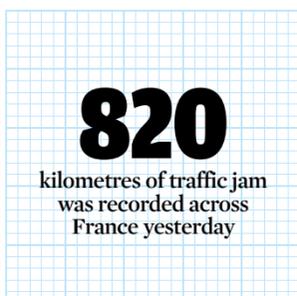
In the southwest, Brive-la-Gaillarde broke its record with 40.8C on Friday, as did Cognac with 39.8C, while Nantes in the west posted a new record of 39.6C.

No relief is expected until Wednesday, with the soaring temperatures compounding the pressure as the country's coronavirus outbreak worsens, the number of daily infections hitting 2,288 on Friday.

Authorities reminded sweltering citizens that masks must continue to be worn where they have been



People drive their vehicle on the highway as they are stuck in a traffic jam

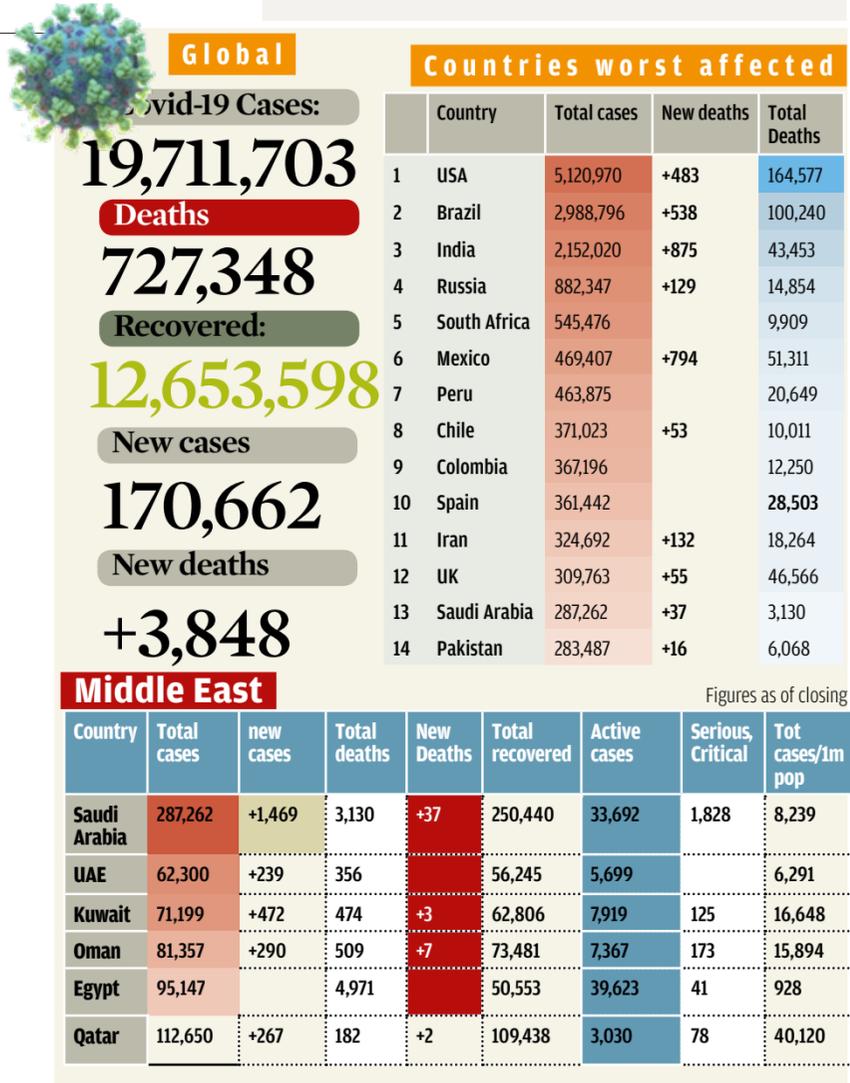


mandated, despite the heat.

Roland and Helene, retirees in suburban Paris, said they go out in the morning "to get some fresh air," but then spend the rest of the day hiding in their apartment.

"We fear the heat a lot," Helene said.

Last year was France's hottest on record, and the Meteo France weather agency has warned that global warming could double the number of heatwaves by 2050.



US officials find 'sophisticated' tunnel on Mexican border

'Most sophisticated tunnel in US history' discovered between Mexico and Arizona

● Although it's not clear exactly what the structure was intended for, it had ventilation, a rail system and extensive reinforcement

AP | Los Angeles

An incomplete tunnel found stretching from Mexico to Arizona appears to be "the most sophisticated tunnel in US history," authorities said.

The tunnel intended for smuggling ran from a neighbourhood in San Luis Río Colorado, Mexico, to San Luis, Arizona, where it stopped short of reaching the surface. It was built in an area that's not conducive to tunnels because of the terrain, and it had a ventilation system, water lines, electrical wiring, a rail system and extensive reinforcement, federal officials say.

"What makes this one unique is that the terrain in Yuma is very hard... the sand is very loose, and most of them end up caving. So the fact that the material was very well built and it had ventilation, it had water, it had a rail system with walls, roof, floor, electrical, makes this one a very unique type of tunnel," said Angel Ortiz, assistant special agent in charge for Homeland Security Investigations in Yuma. HSI is a division of US Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"This appears to be the most sophisticated tunnel in US history, and certainly the most



Excavation work continues at a site of an incomplete tunnel intended for smuggling

sophisticated I've seen in my career," said Carl E. Landrum, acting chief patrol agent with the Border Patrol's Yuma Sector. Homeland Security Investigations started excavating around the tunnel in late July after someone reported a sinkhole near the border wall. HSI already had reports of potential tunnel activity in that area already, and the agency began drilling, Ortiz said. A camera was sent 25 feet (7.6 metres) underground, and the tunnel was discovered on Tuesday.

The tunnel measured 3 feet (about 1 metre) wide and 4 feet (1.2 metres) high.

Investigators don't know what exactly the tunnel would have



In January this year, federal agents had discovered the longest cross-border smuggling tunnel ever found along the Southwest border, originating in Baja California, Mexico. It measured 4,309 feet (1,300 meters)

been used for, since it was incomplete. They also don't know how long it had been there, because they don't know what kind of equipment was used to build it. If it was done by hand, it would be many months of construction to get as far as it did, Ortiz said. But if the builders used heavy machinery it would "potentially a few months, not that long of a period," Ortiz said.

Smugglers have been using tunnels to get drugs and people across the border for decades.

Two years ago, authorities in Yuma discovered a sophisticated drug-smuggling tunnel that went from a home in Mexico to an abandoned fast-food restaurant in Arizona.

“What makes this one unique is that the terrain in Yuma is very hard ... the sand is very loose, and most of them end up caving. So the fact that the material was very well built and it had ventilation, it had water, it had a rail system with walls, roof, floor, electrical, makes this one a very unique type of tunnel

ANGEL ORTIZ

HSI said the tunnel ran from Mexico to an old Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant that's not in operation in San Luis, Arizona, just about 200 yards (180 meters) north of the border.

The owner, Ivan Lopez, was arrested on Aug. 13, 2018, after authorities found several packages of methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin and fentanyl in the back of his truck.

That arrest led to a search at his home and the old restaurant, where agents found a hidden tunnel that was large enough for people to freely walk through.

Lopez pleaded guilty to one count of using a tunnel or passage to smuggle controlled substances, and was sentenced to seven years in prison, according to court records.

HSI continues to investigate the tunnel found Tuesday.

Fauci warns COVID-19 vaccine may be only partially effective



Dr. Anthony Fauci

Reuters | Washington

An approved coronavirus vaccine could end up being effective only 50-60 per cent of the time, meaning public health measures will still be needed to keep the pandemic under control, Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top US infectious diseases expert, said.

"We don't know yet what the efficacy might be. We don't know if it will be 50pc or 60pc. I'd like it to be 75pc or more," Fauci said in a webinar hosted by Brown University. "But the chances of it being 98pc effective is not great, which means you must never abandon the public health approach."

The novel coronavirus has infected nearly 5 million people in the United States and killed more than 160,000.

Lockdown measures imposed to keep the virus from spreading have devastated the economy, which suffered its biggest blow since the Great Depression in the second quarter, with gross domestic product dropping at its steepest pace in at least 73 years.

As infections have spiked around the country after states started to open up, public health experts, including Fauci, have stressed the importance of steps that each American can take, including social distancing, washing hands and wearing masks.

Furry llama brings touch of Zen to protesters and police in Portland

Reuters | Portland

In Portland, Oregon, where anti-racism protests have sometimes turned violent, a furry llama stands out from the crowd to bless demonstrators and law enforcement with soothing hugs.

Caesar, the six-year-old "No Drama Llama," has become a fixture in the city, extending his woolly neck to nuzzle both Black Lives Matter activists and law enforcement officers in body armor lining up to take selfies with him.

The former Argentine grand champion show animal, standing 5 feet 8 inches at about 350 lbs, is unusually friendly for a llama, making him a natural peacemaker, said his owner, Larry McCool, who runs the Mystic Llama Farm in Jefferson, Oregon.

Caesar may not speak, but knows more than you think, McCool said. This was clear on June 9 when about 5,000 people laid down or knelt at bridge near downtown Portland for nearly nine minutes of silence to honour George Floyd, a Black man who died on May 25 after a white police officer knelt on



A woman hugs Caesar McCool, a therapy llama at the site of ongoing protest

“Caesar stood there, motionless, just like this. He understood the moment. He understood the importance of what we were doing. (He) did not move an inch that whole time

LARRY MCCOOL

his neck.

"Caesar stood there, motionless, just like this. He under-

stood the moment. He understood the importance of what we were doing," McCool said. "(He) did not move an inch that whole time."

Caesar guides everyone to a higher path by showing up at various social justice rallies, McCool said, as the therapy llama posed for photos near a memorial to African-Americans harmed by police violence.

"As intense as the public is, the protesters and the federal agents and the marshals, ... he actually can defuse that very much. That's his whole purpose."

Rare syndrome linked to Covid-19 found in nearly 600 US children: CDC

Reuters | Washington

Nearly 600 children were admitted to US hospitals with a rare inflammatory syndrome associated with the novel coronavirus over four months during the peak of the pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said in a report.

Multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C) is a rare but severe condition that shares symptoms with toxic shock and Kawasaki disease, including fever, rashes, swollen glands and, in severe cases, heart inflammation.

It has been reported in children and adolescent patients about two to four weeks after the onset of Covid-19.

With rising Covid-19 cases, there could be an increased occurrence of MIS-C, but this might not be apparent immediately because of the delay in the development of symptoms, said the report's authors, including those from the CDC's Covid-19 response team.

In May, the CDC published a health advisory with details of how MIS-C manifests in patients and asked clinicians to report suspected US cases to local



A health worker carries out a COVID-19 coronavirus test on a child

570

MIS-C patients diagnosed with the illness from March 2 to July 18 across the United States

and state health departments.

As of July 29, state health departments across the country reported a total of 570 MIS-C patients diagnosed with the illness from March 2 to July 18. Among the MIS-C cases, all

patients tested positive for Covid-19 and 10 died, the CDC said in the report.

The data is consistent with two US studies published in June and several reports of the syndrome among Covid-19 patients in France, Italy, Spain and Britain.

The report, the CDC said, highlights the need for greater awareness among healthcare providers, as distinguishing patients with MIS-C from those with acute Covid-19 and other hyperinflammatory conditions is critical for early recognition, early diagnosis, and prompt treatment.

Bottas pips Hamilton for 70th Anniversary pole

Mercedes lock out front row for today's race at Silverstone

● **Hülkenberg qualifies third for under-fire Racing Point**

AFP | Silverstone

Valtteri Bottas outpaced his Mercedes team-mate and world championship leader Lewis Hamilton by the finest of margins yesterday to claim a dramatic pole position for the 70th Anniversary Grand Prix.

The Finn clocked a fastest lap in one minute and 25.154 seconds to beat the six-time world champion by only 0.063 in the final seconds of an enthralling qualifying session.

It was the Mercedes team's 67th front row lockout.

"It feels good," said Bottas who was securing the 13th pole of his career 48 hours after signing a new contract to keep him at Mercedes next season.

He added: "We have improved the set-up and the car since last week. Mentally, when you start on pole, you can only aim to win the race - and the starting point is good! It is so nice to drive this amazing car."

Hamilton explained his unexpected 'slip' to second.

"I wasn't that great, but Valtteri did a great job and he deserves pole."

Nico Hulkenberg, standing in for coronavirus victim Sergio Perez with the Racing Point team, was third, securing his spot with an impressive performance only 10 days after receiving



Valtteri Bottas celebrates after qualifying in pole position while his teammate, Lewis Hamilton, gets out of his car

ing a late call-up while eating a pastry in a Cologne cafe.

"It's been a crazy last week," he said.

"Q2 was tricky and I made life hard for myself - and it is definitely going to hurt tomorrow, not having had the experience last week."

He failed to start last Sunday's British Grand Prix at the circuit after an engine problem.

Max Verstappen took fourth for Red Bull ahead of Daniel Ricciardo of Renault, Lance Stroll in the second Racing Point, Pierre Gasly of Alpha Tauri and down in eighth Charles Leclerc in the leading Ferrari.

Political intrigue

Alex Albon was ninth in the second Red Bull and Lando Nor-

air temperature was 27 degrees and the track was 44 as Hulkenberg, Hamilton and Verstappen found their rhythm.

Out went Daniil Kvyat who went off at Stowe in his Alpha Tauri, Magnussen, Williams rookie Nicholas Latifi and the two Alfa Romeos of Antonio Giovinazzi and Kimi Raikkonen. "I think something on the floor broke," said Kvyat, having bumped along the kerbs at Chapel before re-joining.

Bottas then threw down a gauntlet at the start of Q2 with a lap in 1:25.785, more than four-tenths faster than Hamilton in second, while Ferrari were split with Leclerc fourth and the luckless Sebastian Vettel struggling to survive in 11th.

67

times Mercedes have locked out the front row for F1 races

Benoit St. Denis vs Mario Saeed and the importance of BRAVE CF's pioneering Super Lightweight division

TDT | Manama

Back in 2019, BRAVE Combat Federation took the lead in the industry of Mixed Martial Arts and became the first global promotion to accommodate its main divisions with a 10-pound gap between them, based on the new Unified Rules recommendations.

Thus, the Bahrain-based promotion pushed the Welterweight division 5-pounds up, making it up to 175 lbs, and created a new Super Lightweight division, with its limit up to 165 lbs. Those five pounds might not seem much at first glance but it makes a world of difference for athletes who were stuck on a limbo between 155 and 170 pounds -- or, the original Lightweight and Welterweight limits.

A great example of the importance of the measure for such athletes will be seen inside the BRAVE CF Arena yesterday, August 8, in Stockholm, Sweden, with France's Benoit St. Denis meeting Mario Saeed in a super lightweight match.



Benoit St. Denis and Mario Saeed during weigh-in

Both St. Denis and Saeed are slightly small for the Welterweight division, which would put them at a disadvantage against bigger foes, but also are unable to healthily make a cut down to Lightweight. In other words, they're naturally 165ers.

But the bout between St. Denis and Saeed is not only interesting from a weight class perspective. The fight is a clash of

two very skilled and decorated grapplers, that can either offer the fans a high-level ground match or cancel each other in it and the more well-rounded of them will have the edge then.

The "God of War" St. Denis is a Brazilian jiu-jitsu brown belt with all his professional wins by way of submission and will face the only Kurd with a BJJ black belt in Mario Saeed. "Rudeboy"

is also very fond of finishing his fights on the ground, with 8 of his 13 professional wins coming by way of submission.

It is safe to assume that the winner of St. Denis vs Saeed will not only get the more important victory of his career but take a huge step towards a potential title shot for the BRAVE Combat Federation Super Lightweight world championship.



Both St. Denis and Saeed are slightly small for the Welterweight division, which would put them at a disadvantage against bigger foes, but also are unable to healthily make a cut down to Lightweight

Al Rumaihi strikes late in East Riffa, Busaiteen stalemate



Action from Najma's game against Shabab

TDT | Manama

Mohammed Al Rumaihi scored four minutes from full time to help East Riffa salvage a 2-2 draw against Busaiteen last night in their Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League match, played at Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Stadium in Muharraq Club.

The Bahrain international striker headed home from close range off a precision cross from the left wing.

His strike saved East Riffa from near-defeat, after teammate Abdulla Al Hazza had put them in front with a goal in the second half.

Busaiteen's Abdulla Al Hashash then scored twice for his team within a 10-minute span in the final 45 minutes, setting the stage for Al Rumaihi's heroics.

Al Hazza netted a wonder goal in the 31st minute from more than three-quarters length of the pitch. The tow-

ering national team defender appeared to be making a long pass forward, but the ball went uncollected and bounced over the outstretched arm of a charging Busaiteen goalkeeper.

Busaiteen fought back through Al Hashash, who equalised in the 54th minute with a low right-footed strike from inside the box. He then sent the ball into the net in the 63rd with a header in the face of goal.

With the deadlock, East Riffa improved to 21 points but stayed fourth on the 10-team league table. Busaiteen went to nine points as they remained eighth on the standings.

In last night's other game, Al Najma registered a big 4-1 win over Al Shabab to claim their fifth victory of the season. They improved to 18 points in fifth on the standings, while Shabab stayed second-from-bottom with seven points following their ninth loss.

Sarri sacked after Juve's Champions League exit



Juventus' Italian head coach Maurizio Sarri holds the Champion's trophy at the end of the Italian Serie A football match
AFP | Milan

after leading Chelsea to success in the Europa League. "The club would like to thank the coach for having written a new page in Juventus' history with the victory of the ninth-consecutive championship, the culmination of a personal journey that led him to climb all the divisions of Italian football," the team said.

Juventus sacked coach Maurizio Sarri yesterday after the Italian club's Champions League last 16 exit to Lyon. Despite Cristiano Ronaldo's double in a 2-1 home win on Friday, Juve fell 2-2 on aggregate to the French club, ending their quest for a title they last won in 1996.

"Maurizio Sarri has been relieved of his post as coach of the first team," the nine-time reigning Serie A champions said in a statement.

Sarri, 61, had replaced Massimiliano Allegri last summer,

which Antonio Conte started with three titles from 2012 and Allegri continued with the following five.

We need a cold and lucid analysis, knowing that in a few weeks we will start from scratch and we will have to do it with the same enthusiasm and desire to win

ANDREA AGNELLI