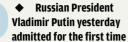
QUOTE OF THE **LOVE IS THE ONLY FORCE CAPABLE** OF TRANSFORMING AN ENEMY **INTO A FRIEND**

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

News in brief

Putin admits Russian role in 2024 crash of Azerbaijani jet





the morning of the incident, and that they exploded "a few meters away" from the aircraft. "Russia will do everything necessary in such tragic cases to provide compensation, and the actions of all officials will be legally assessed," he said.

◆ The world just had its third-hottest

September third-hottest September on record, the globally on record: climate monitor

Copernicus Climate Change Service said, as global average temperatures remained stuck near historic highs for yet another month. September did not break the record for the month set in 2023 and was only marginally cooler than the same period in 2024, said the EU's global warming monitor. "The global temperature context remains much the same,

with persistently high land and sea surface temperatures reflecting the continuing influence of greenhouse gas accumulation in the atmosphere," said Dr Samantha Burgess, strategic lead for climate at Copernicus.



◆ A moderately strong earthquake struck yesterday near a northern Philippine mountain city home to hundreds of thousands of people, forcing people out of buildings and shutting down schools, officials said. Employees rushed out of office buildings in the city of 366,000 following the shallow quake which occurred at 10.30 am, 10 days after a powerful quake killed more than 70 people

in the central Philippines, residents said by telephone. "We're going to check for damage," building administrator Ralph Cabuag said as more than 300 employees and patients filed out of the three-storey Baguio city health office.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

North Korea expected to stage military parade as party turns 80



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un (top C) delivering a speech at the Party Founding Museum in Pyongyang

AFP | Seoul

and Russia to mark 80 years -- a key Putin ally -- will also under the ruling Workers' Par- be in Pyongyang. ty, a celebration that is expected to feature a massive military parade showcasing its latest rialises the strategic consoladvanced weaponry.

which could begin as early as on Lee, a visiting scholar at yesterday, has been shrouded the Harvard University Asia in secrecy, with South Korea's Center, said. military saying the North may stage the parade at night.

leader Kim Jong Un has been vanced weaponry and a powemboldened by the war in erful military, he is telling Beiport from Russia after sending client state; I am a valuable and thousands of North Korean capable ally," Lee said. troops to fight alongside Moscow's forces.

alongside Chinese President sile (ICBM) that could put the Xi Jinping and Russian leader US mainland within Pyongmilitary parade in Beijing.

will lead the Chinese delega- forces.

tion to this week's 80th anniversary celebrations, while the North Korea is set to host deputy head of Russia's Securitop officials from China ty Council, Dmitry Medvedev

The grand event will be a "public spectacle that mateidation of the China-North Planning for the spectacle, Korea-Russia axis," Seong-Hy-

"More strategically, Kim is demonstrating his worth as It comes as North Korea's a partner. By displaying ad-Ukraine, securing critical sup- jing and Moscow, 'I am not a

Analysts expect the parade to showcase a new solid-fuel Last month, Kim appeared intercontinental ballistic mis-Vladimir Putin at an elaborate yang's reach, as well as new drones and hypersonic weap-Chinese Premier Li Qiang ons aimed at threatening US

Macron seeks new PM to end France crisis

French president has 48 hours to name a successor after Lecornu's shock resignation

- Lecornu quits after weeks of gridlock
- New premier will be Macron's eighth in office
- Austerity budget sparks ongoing government standoff

AFP | Paris

rench President Emmanuel Macron was yesterday racing to find a new prime minister within a two-day deadline after the resignation of outgoing premier Sebastien Lecornu tipped the country deeper into political crisis.

The presidency said late name a new prime minister within the next 48 hours, indicating close to the president said. the appointment would come by Friday evening at the latest.

A declaration seemed unlikely vesterday, with foreign ministers in Paris for talks on plans to help Palestinians after the Gaza war, then Macron due to attend a ceremony in the evening honouring a late justice minister who ended capi-tal punishment.

An announcement of a new prime minister looked more likely on Friday, and could even include a cabinet lineup, a source day after less than a month in



Wednesday that Macron would France's outgoing Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean-Noel Barrot (R) greets France's President Emmanuel Macron at the Quai d'Orsay, France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, in Paris

> in an interview on Wednesday way out of months of deadlock evening that he expected a new premier to be named -- rather

to resolve the crisis. Unless Lecornu is reappointeighth of Macron's presidency.

'Roll up its sleeves'

Lecornu resigned early Mon- year.

over an austerity budget.

Lecornu's two immediate prethan early legislative elections or decessors were ousted by the isolated. Macron's resignation -- in order legislative chamber in a standoff over the spending plan. The president "will name a

ed, the new premier will be the prime minister within 48 hours", the presidency said, adding a "path was possible" to agree a budget by the end of the

The escalation of the crisis has dent".

office but Macron gave him up turned into the worst political Lecornu told French television to Wednesday evening to find a headache for Macron since he came to office in 2017, with close allies deserting a head of state who now appears increasingly

Former premier Edouard Philippe said that Macron himself should step down and call snap presidential polls.

But Lecornu insisted the president should serve out his mandate until 2027, saying it was "not the time to change the presi-

Hungary's Laszlo Krasznahorkai wins Nobel literature prize

Honored for compelling and visionary dystopian works

AFP | Stockholm

The Nobel Prize in Literature was yesterday awarded to Laszlo Krasznahorkai, considered by many as Hungary's most important living author whose works explore themes of postmodern dystopia and melancholy.

The Swedish Academy honoured him "for his compelling and visionary oeuvre that, in the midst of apocalyptic terror, reaffirms the power of art."

"I'm very happy, I'm calm and very nervous altogether," the au- ary sensation". thor told Swedish broadcaster Sveriges Radio.

"It is my first day as a Nobel prize winner," he said.

The Academy highlighted lished in 1985, "Satantango", emy said. which brought him to promi-



Books of Hungarian writer Laszlo Krasznahorkai are on display at the Swedish Academy in Stockholm

nence in Hungary and remains his bow, and he also looks to the his best-known work.

writer in the Central European tradition that extends through China and Japan," it said. Kafka to Thomas Bernhard, and is characterised by absurdism those mentioned as a possible Krasznahorkai's first novel pub- and grotesque excess," the Acad-

"But there are more strings to the Academy, Mats Malm, said so far yet."

East in adopting a more contem-The Academy called it "a liter-plative, finely calibrated tone."

"The result is a string of works Krasznahorkai is "a great epic inspired by the deep-seated impressions left by his journeys to

Krasznahorkai was among



Krasznahorkai described his distinctive, demanding prose as "reality examined to the point of madness," a reflection of his relentless search for meaning amid chaos and artistic desolation

he had managed to contact the newest laureate to inform him.

"I just reached Laszlo Krasznahorkai on the telephone on a visit in Frankfurt, where he was," he

"We have started to discuss things, about arrangements in winner in the run-up to the prize. December (for the prize ceremo-The permanent secretary of ny in Stockholm), but not come