

Emma Corrin to play Lady Diana in 'The Crown'

Newcomer Emma Corrin has bagged the role of Lady Diana Spencer in the show "The Crown".

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THE DAILY tribune

Jennifer Lopez doesn't believe Alex Rodriguez cheated on her **14** CELEBS

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Green light for John Abizaid
Washington

The US Senate voted overwhelmingly yesterday to confirm retired General John Abizaid as the US ambassador to Saudi Arabia, filling a vital position vacant since President Donald Trump took office more than two years ago.

The Senate voted 92 to seven for the 68-year-old retired four-star Army general, who led US Central Command during the Iraq war.

Trump nominated Abizaid for the position in November 2018.

Gantz concedes defeat

Tel Aviv

A day after Israel's general election, Benny Gantz's Blue and White party conceded defeat against incumbent Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party yesterday.

"We didn't win in this round. We will make Likud's life hell in the opposition," Yair Lapid, number two in the centrist party led by former military chief Mr Gantz, said in a televised statement.

Mr Netanyahu's right wing Likud looked set to be able to stay in power after Tuesday's national ballot with the support of religious and rightist parties, although both Likud and Blue and White won the same number of seats in the 120-member parliament.

The victory, despite corruption allegations against Mr Netanyahu, 69, puts him on a path to win his fifth term in office and become Israel's longest-serving prime minister later this year.



03 Psychiatrist 'spread false' news by accusing girls of consuming drugs

04 Trio accused of not rescuing woman who attempted suicide, wins appeal

05 Battle for Tripoli escalates



Citizens' welfare 'prime objective'

His Majesty praises the role of legislature in implementing citizens' welfare schemes



His Majesty receives legislators at Sakhir Palace.

● **HM the King praised the role of Bahraini women members at the Shura and Representatives' councils in promoting the development.**

● **House members welcomed the the royal commendation, stressing to work under HM the King's directives for the progress of Bahrain.**

Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa paid tribute to the sincere efforts of the legislative branch to take on constitutional duties to practise its supervisory and legislative role and promote democracy that stem from the genuine national culture.

This came as HM the King received at Sakhir Palace Council of Representatives Speaker Fawzia Zainal, Shura Council Chairman Ali Al Saleh, deputies of the two councils and members of the re-

ply committee to the royal speech delivered at the Representatives and Shura councils marking the opening of the first session of the fifth legislative term.

HM the King expressed appreciation of the two councils' role in supporting the comprehensive national development, reinforcing the national unity and safeguarding the homeland and citizens' interests.

"Together, we are looking forward to a bright future of progress and development, especially with the promising oil discovery that would benefit the homeland and citizens," HM the King said.

HM the King pointed the loyal citizens, who are renowned for their consciousness and enthusiasm for serving their country and its development.

HM the King praised the role of Bahraini women members at the Shura and Representatives' councils in promoting the development, highlighting the efforts of the fresh blood who joined the Council of Representatives to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors in support of the reforms and construction process.

HM the King also commended the Representatives' and Shura's reply to the royal speech, which contained constructive ideas to

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HIS MAJESTY

serve performance improvement and democracy promotion, welcoming the national aptitudes for maintaining Bahrain's advanced standing in various fields, wishing the legislative branch success in assuming their duties.

Members of the Representatives and Shura councils present welcomed the royal commendation, stressing to work under HM the King's directives for the progress of Bahrain.

The Shura had highlighted the acute visions of HM the king, which are guiding the Council to push on with the blessed march led by HM the King. It underlined commitment to continue developing the parliamentary work based on the Bahraini democratic process.

It shared the royal commenda-

tion for the success of the general elections that reflected the people's political consciousness and its adherence to the royal reforms to practice its constitutional right in voting and nomination and to actively contribute to the development and democratic march.

The Council of Representatives' reply to the royal keynote speech comprised a praise for the democratic experience and the people's will to cast their votes, which reflected the citizens' solid cohesion and political awareness and the success of the royal reforms.

The Representatives pointed out the firm fundamentals and values contained in the royal speech supportive to patriotism and the progress of the country.

The parliament members underscored commitment to enact legislation to serve the national values, develop the current legislation to promote the national economy and revenue diversification, in addition to setting a time plan to limit the public depth, hailing the huge efforts of HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, in this regard.

Pompeo says Iran tied to Al Qaeda

Washington

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo yesterday accused Iran of ties to Al Qaeda and declined to say whether the Trump administration had legal authority to invade the country.

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Pompeo hedged on whether the authorisation of force by the US Congress days after the September 11, 2001 attacks would allow the United States to strike Iran.



There is no doubt there is a connection between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Al Qaeda.

POMPEO

"I would prefer just to leave that to lawyers," Pompeo told Senator Rand Paul, a Republican who is critical of US foreign interventions.

"The factual question with respect to Iran's connections to Al Qaeda is very real. They have hosted Al Qaeda, they have permitted Al Qaeda to transit their country," he said.

"There is no doubt there is a connection between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Al Qaeda. Period, full stop," he said.

But Pompeo denied Paul's suggestion that President Donald Trump's designation Monday of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards was aimed at making a legal case for war.

First black hole image



Astronomers have taken the first ever image of a black hole, which is located in a distant galaxy. It measures 40 billion km across - three million times the size of the Earth - and has been described by scientists as "a monster". The black hole is 500 million trillion km away and was photographed by a network of eight telescopes across the world. Details have been published yesterday in Astrophysical Journal Letters. It was captured by the Event Horizon Telescope (EHT), a network of eight linked telescopes. See Page 7

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