

Allies refuse Japan's offer to surrender on the condition that Emperor Hirohito retains his status



Formal peace treaty ends over seven years of fighting in Indochina between the French and the Communist Viet Minh

Al-Qaeda is formed at a meeting between Osama Bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and Dr. Fadl in Peshawar, Pakistan

NATO takes over command of the peacekeeping force in Afghanistan in its first major operation outside Europe in its 54-year history



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



The Trump Administration is closely monitoring the large earthquake that struck Colombia and stands ready to support the people of Colombia and President @ABDELAESPRIELLA's Administration. American citizens in Colombia should enroll at <http://STEP.State.gov> and follow @USEmbassyBogota's social media accounts for the latest information.

@SecRubio

02



Terrible news about the earthquake in western Colombia, which also affected neighboring Ecuador. As of now, at least 25 people have been reported dead, and there are people trapped under the rubble. Our condolences to the families of those who lost their lives and to everyone affected.

@ZelenskyyUa

03



We have been able to identify \$230 billion of fraud...This effort will fundamentally always have a limitation, unless our colleagues in the House, and the Senate are working with us.

@VP

04



A remarkable comeback! India's Asiatic lion population is thriving, with its habitat and range expanding.

@PMOIndia

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

Oman moves to contain oil spill after tanker ran aground

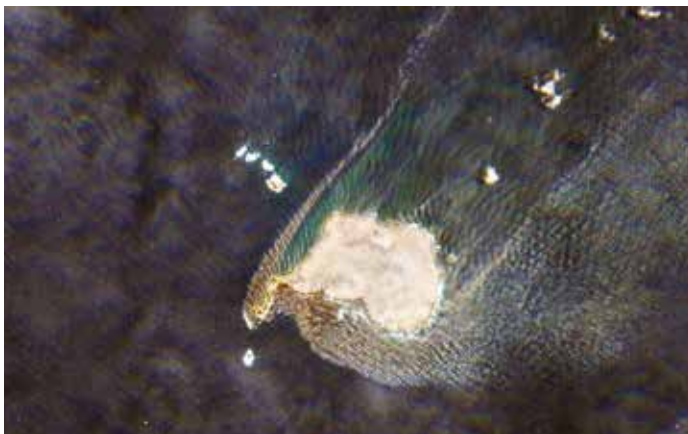
AFP | Muscat, Oman

Oman yesterday said it was working to contain an oil spill off its southern coast after a tanker ran aground in June inside a protected marine area, triggering calls for action by environmentalists.

It follows an investigation by AFP that found the ship had been stranded for weeks near al-Qibliyyah island after it was rocked by explosions.

The Oman Environment Authority on Monday said the ongoing spill had affected roughly 390 square kilometres, according to its most recent analysis.

The slick was concentrated around Oman's Hallaniyat archipelago off the country's



A slick that is consistent with an oil leak emanating from a ship, stranded for over a month near Qibliyyah island off Oman's southern coast in the Arabian Sea.

southern coast, where a marine reserve was established last year to protect sensitive ecosystems home to diverse marine life, including rare sea turtles.

Trump says will demand compensation from Iran

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump said Monday he would seek conflict compensation from Iran as part of any peace negotiations, citing attacks and atrocities stretching back decades allegedly backed or perpetrated by Tehran.

Iran is "asking for compensation for the damage done to them during the last five month Military Conflict... I am likewise demanding compensation from Iran, for all of the people that they have killed and gravely wounded with their roadside bombs and many conflicts," Trump posted.

His latest comments on Truth Social came a day after Trump said he was "low-keying" his approach to the conflict, suggesting that he was prepared to let economic pressure mount in place of further military strikes.

Digital media outlet Axios said that the US president did not express a n y frustra-



tion with Iran's delaying an agreement to open the Strait of Hormuz in their interview with him published Sunday.

In his post, Trump referenced the bombing of the USS Cole in 2000 and added that compensation should also "be paid to the families of the hundreds of thousands of innocent protestors that Iran has killed over the last 50 years."

"I have instructed my representatives to put this firmly into any, and all, future negotiations," he said.

UK couple held in Iran end hunger strikes

● The couple have consistently complained about overcrowded and unsanitary conditions at Evin Prison

AFP | London, United Kingdom

A British couple detained in Iran accused of spying have ended their latest months-long hunger strikes protesting their treatment in prison, their family said yesterday.

Lindsay and Craig Foreman, both aged in their early 50s, were seized in January 2025 as they passed through central Iran while on a round-the-world motorbike trip.

They were each sentenced in February this year to a decade in prison on espionage charges that they deny, with two years subsequently added to Craig Foreman's term for talking to the media, his stepson said in July.



Lindsay and Craig Foreman

They launched their latest hunger strikes in May, protesting the "serious physical toll" their detentions were taking, with Craig Foreman lasting 93 days and his wife 84 days, according to their relatives.

The couple have consistently complained about overcrowded and unsanitary conditions at Evin Prison, a large, heavily fortified complex in northern Tehran, which rights groups say holds political prisoners and foreign nationals.

"After almost three months of protest, Lindsay and Craig chose to end their hunger strikes," the family said in a

statement, noting the pair ended the action by turning the final five days into a "fast for good". It aimed to transform the protest "into something constructive and collective, drawing attention not only to their own detention but to the rights and humanity of others imprisoned in Iran".



Craig and Lindsay Foreman were arrested in Iran in January 2025 while travelling through the country on a round-the-world motorcycle journey. They were later sentenced to 10 years in prison on espionage charges, which they deny.

Nepal leader holding meetings with India, China

AFP | Kathmandu, Nepal

Nepal's Prime Minister Balendra Shah is holding his first one-on-one meetings yesterday with envoys from neighbouring giants China and India, his office said.

The rapper-turned-leader, 36, better known as "Balen", has kept low profile since taking power in March, largely avoiding hosting foreign envoys individually.

The landlocked Himalayan nation of 30 million people must ensure a delicate diplomatic balance between rivals New Delhi and Beijing.

Shah, speaking to AFP ahead of his election, said that he

wanted to "maintain a natural relationship" with both nations.

He has previously only met foreign ambassadors in groups, while visits to China and India in June were made by Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal.

Shah's office said he had met with India's ambassador on Monday morning, and would meet China's envoy later in the day.

"The two discussed various matters related to Nepal-India bilateral friendship, mutual interests, development partnership, and areas of cooperation," his office said in a statement after meeting with India's ambassador.

US had warmest month on record in July: agency

AFP | Washington, United States

July 2026 marked the warmest month on record for the contiguous United States, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said

yesterday. The average temperature for the month in the 48 states excluding Alaska, Hawaii, and overseas territories was 76.9F (24.9C), making it the warmest July, as well as the warmest month, in the 132-year record, the agency said.

Lifelike doll mistaken for murder victim in Australia



Picture for representation only

AFP | Sydney

A lifelike doll was mistaken for a possible murder victim after it was found inside an abandoned suitcase in rural Australia, prompting police to launch a homicide investigation.

Two men travelling through the Australian countryside on Sunday discovered the suitcase, which appeared to contain human remains. Police responded by deploying homicide detectives and forensic specialists to the scene.

However, forensic examinations later revealed that the apparent remains were actually a lifelike doll, dressed in clothes

and complete with hair and a nose piercing, according to Australian public broadcaster ABC.

New South Wales Police Superintendent Linda Bradbury said the doll was initially believed to be human because of its remarkably realistic appearance.

Adding to the confusion, police said the doll had markings resembling bruises and grazes, further suggesting that a person may have been injured or killed.

The discovery triggered a full investigation before forensic testing established that there had been no murder.

Police said the investigation has now concluded.

France and Switzerland had record drought in July

AFP | Paris, France

Some 95 percent of mainland France and 99 percent of Switzerland saw drought conditions in July, both records since the European Drought Observatory began collecting such data in 2012,

according to an AFP analysis yesterday.

Hungary, Slovenia and Austria also experienced record droughts for the month of July, an analysis of drought data released by the EU's Copernicus climate observatory showed.