

1755

Samuel Johnson's "A Dictionary of the English Language" is published in London

1861

Federal army of 75,000 volunteers is mobilized by President Abraham Lincoln at the start of the American Civil War



1877

World's first home telephone is installed in Somerville, Massachusetts at the house of Charles Williams Jr.

1912

RMS Titanic sinks at 2:20 AM off Newfoundland as the band plays on, with the loss of between 1,490 and 1,635 lives



Displaced Palestinians carry boxes in a cart past the rubble of destroyed buildings at the Jabalia refugee camp in the northern Gaza Strip. Since the terms of a US-brokered ceasefire deal came into effect on October 10, Israel remains in control of nearly half of the Gaza Strip, including all its border areas. Nearly two million people in Gaza are living in makeshift shelters, and the humanitarian situation remains dire, according to aid agencies.

Washington and Tehran held historic face-to-face talks in Islamabad over the weekend, but failed to reach an agreement on ending the war.

Pakistan working to set new round of talks

AFP | Islamabad, Pakistan

Pakistan was working to bring Iran and the United States together for a second round of talks, senior Pakistani sources said yesterday, with one noting efforts to secure an extended ceasefire to allow for diplomacy. "Efforts are underway to bring both parties back to the table, of course we want them back in Islamabad, but the venue is not final yet," said the source, who requested anonymity due to the sensitivity of the subject matter.

"The meeting could take place soon though dates have yet to be

Hormuz meeting Friday

France and Britain will co-host a video conference Friday of more than 40 countries ready to contribute to a "purely defensive mission" to secure the Strait of Hormuz,

officials said. France's Macron and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer will co-chair the meeting to discuss a plan to "restore freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz

when security conditions allow", the French presidency said. The plan would be put in place "once the conflict ends", a spokesman for Starmer's office said.

US VP says ball now in Iran's court on peace talks

confirmed," the source said. The source added: "We are also working to get the ceasefire extended beyond the current

deadline to allow for additional time."

Trump signals possible talks

US President Donald Trump told the New York Post yesterday that a second round of Iran talks could happen in Pakistan

"over the next two days," after a first round ended at the weekend without a deal.

"You should stay there, really, because something could be happening over the next two days, and we're more inclined to go there," Trump was quoted as saying in a phone interview with a Post reporter in Islamabad.

After saying in an initial call that talks were unlikely to return to Pakistan, the Post said Trump called back minutes later to say it was "more likely" they would go back to Islamabad because the country's army chief Asim Munir "is doing a great job."

17 nations urge Israel, Lebanon to seize talks 'opportunity'

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Foreign ministers from 17 countries, including the UK, yesterday urged Israel and Lebanon to "seize this opportunity" in a statement ahead of US-mediated talks between the two nations in Washington.

Britain's foreign ministry posted the ministers' joint statement saying "direct ne-

gotiations can pave the way to bring lasting security for Lebanon and Israel as well as the region".

The statement called "upon all parties to urgently deescalate and seize the opportunity offered by the ceasefire between the United States and Iran".

It was signed by ministers from Britain and Australia and European countries such as

France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain, but not Germany, Austria, Hungary or Italy.

Israel and Lebanon were set to hold the first direct talks in decades between the warring neighbours, mediated by US Secretary of State Marco Rubio.

Since then Israeli strikes -- including an extremely heavy attack on Beirut on April 8 -- have killed more than 2,000



Lebanese President Joseph Aoun

people and displaced more than one million.

The statement said that signatories "condemn in the strongest terms" both attacks by Hezbollah on Israel and "massive Israeli strikes on Lebanon".

The countries said they welcomed the initiative by Lebanese President Joseph Aoun to open direct talks and were "ready to support" discussions.



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TWEETS

01



After weeks of destruction & distress, it is clear that there is no military solution to the current conflict in the Middle East.

I call for resumption of talks for an agreement to be reached.

The ceasefire must absolutely be preserved. All violations must cease.

All parties to the conflict must respect the freedom of navigation, including in the Strait of Hormuz, in line with international law.

@antonioguterres

02



Yesterday, I spoke with Iranian President Massoud Pezeshkian, as well as with U.S. President Donald Trump.

I urged the resumption of the negotiations suspended in Islamabad, the clearing up of misunderstandings, and the avoidance of any further escalation.

It is essential, in particular, that the ceasefire be strictly respected by all parties and that it include Lebanon.

It is equally important that the Strait of Hormuz be reopened unconditionally, without restrictions or tolls, as soon as possible.

Under these conditions, negotiations should be able to resume quickly, with the support of the key parties concerned.

France and the United Kingdom will also host a conference in Paris this Friday, bringing together by videoconference non-belligerent countries ready to contribute, alongside us, to a multilateral and purely defensive mission aimed at restoring freedom of navigation in the strait when security conditions allow.

@EmmanuelMacron

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