

1492

Christopher Columbus signs a contract with the Spanish monarchs to find the "Indies" with the stated goal of converting people to Catholicism. This promises him 10% of all riches found, and the governorship of any lands encountered



1895

Treaty of Shimonoseki is signed ending the First Sino-Japanese War (1894-95)

1961

1,400 Cuban exiles land in Bay of Pigs in a doomed attempt to overthrow Fidel Castro

1982

Proclamation of the Constitution Act by Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau

Shooting kills 8 in US city Indianapolis: police

Shooter killed himself after shooting in which several others were wounded



The scene outside a FedEx facility in Indianapolis where multiple people were reportedly shot

not to go to work today." Cook told reporters that officers were called to an "active shooter incident" at around 11:00 pm (0300 GMT), adding they believed the gunman -- who has not been identified -- died by suicide. "The officers responded, they came in, they went in and they did their job. A lot of them are trying to face this because this is a sight that no one should ever have to see," Cook said. Authorities judged there was no longer an immediate threat to public safety, Cook told reporters, and police were still gathering information to identify the victims. "We have located eight people at the scene with injuries consistent to gunshot wounds. Those eight were pronounced deceased at the scene," Cook said. "This is a tragedy." A FedEx spokeswoman confirmed to AFP that the company's facility was the scene of the

shooting, and said the firm was cooperating with authorities. "We are aware of the tragic shooting at our ground facility near the Indianapolis airport," the company said in a statement. "Safety is our top priority, and our thoughts are with all those who are affected." The plant is reported to employ more than 4,000 people. Timothy Boillat, another employee, told WISH-TV that he saw around 30 police cars arriving at the scene as he witnessed the shooting unfold. "After hearing the shootings, I did see a body on the floor," he said. "Luckily, I was far enough away to where he [the shooter] didn't see me." **Spate of shootings** The incident in Indianapolis follows a spate of mass shootings across the US in recent weeks.

YOU KNOW WHAT

Nearly 40,000 people in the United States die each year from guns, more than half of those being suicides

At the end of last month, four people, including a child, were shot dead in an office building in southern California. On March 22, 10 people were killed in a shooting at a grocery store in Boulder, Colorado. That came less than a week after a man shot and killed eight people, including six women of Asian descent, at spas in Atlanta, Georgia. Thursday's shooting was the third in Indianapolis this year. In January, five people including a pregnant woman were killed; three adults and a child were killed in March. Nearly 40,000 people in the United States die each year from guns, more than half of those being suicides. The issue of gun regulation in the United States is politically fraught. President Joe Biden this month announced six executive measures he said would help stem the gun violence crisis.

Myanmar's ousted MPs form new shadow government



Police security forces stand by inside a police vehicle and on the sidewalk of Hledan Road in Kamayut township in Yangon

AFP | Yangon

A "parliament" working in hiding to oust Myanmar's junta from power announced a new shadow government yesterday, with deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi at its helm alongside ethnic minority politicians. The country has been in turmoil since the military detained Suu Kyi and seized power, triggering a massive uprising that the junta has sought to quell with lethal force. Besides demanding for democracy's return, protesters are also increasingly calling for more of a governing role for the country's minority groups -- which have long seen their voices marginalised by the ethnic Bamar majority. The Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) -- a group of lawmakers mostly from Suu Kyi's party attempting to govern underground via a shadow parliament -- yesterday announced its leaders. Helming the so-called "National Unity Government" is Suu Kyi, in her position as State Counsellor, and President Win Myint -- who is also

“ Please support the National Unity Government for the future of our citizens and our younger generation. The people are the decision makers and the people will fight the final battle. Victory is coming, We must win our revolution **”**

MIN KO NAING, DEMOCRACY ACTIVIST

under house arrest and facing a barrage of charges from the junta. They are flanked by a vice president who is ethnic Kachin and a prime minister who is ethnic Karen, said Min Ko Naing, a prominent democracy leader, in an address on the CRPH's official Facebook page. "We have organized a government which has the largest number of ethnic minority groups," he said. A list of appointed ministers also included prominent leaders from the Chin, Shanni, Mon, Karenni and Ta'ang ethnic groups.

Detecting body

as well as chips that monitor health indicators such as heart rate and blood oxygen level. At microchipping humans, for medical reasons, has raised privacy fears. Biotechnology firms have yet to deliver a product that is attractive to a slice of the population. DARPA, founded in response to the Soviet Union's launch of Sputnik 1 satellite in 1957, has been working on pandemic prevention for years. Another recent DARPA invention is a filter that can be attached to a dialysis machine to remove the coronavirus from the blood of critically ill patients, researchers revealed. The filter was tested on "Patient 16", a military spouse in intensive care who was near death due to organ failure and septic shock. After the experimental four-day treatment, the patient made full recovery. The FDA has since approved the filter for emergency use.

Fit for, and designed by, a prince: Philip's Land Rover funeral hearse

Reuters | London

When Prince Philip's coffin is conveyed to church for his funeral service, it will be taken in a specially-commissioned Land Rover that the British royal himself helped design. Philip, the husband of Queen Elizabeth, died last week aged 99 and his funeral will be held

“ That vehicle's unique and idiosyncratic silhouette reminds the world that he was above all a practical man, who could take something very traditional -- whether a machine or indeed a great national institution -- and find a way by his own ingenuity to improve it, to adapt it for the 20th or the 21st century **”**

BORIS JOHNSON



The Jaguar Land Rover that will be used to transport the coffin of Prince Philip

entirely at Windsor Castle on Saturday, with no public allowed. Although the event has been scaled down because of COVID-19 restrictions, many traditional elements will remain, with a military procession inside the castle and pall bearers from units with close links to Philip. However, in place of the usual hearse, Philip's body will be taken from its current resting place to St George's Chapel on a

bespoke Land Rover which has been modified to carry a coffin in keeping with Philip's original plans for the funeral. Buckingham Palace said the prince started on the project with Land Rover 18 years ago with the hearse based on a Defender TD 130 chassis and then modified, with the open top rear section custom made to Philip's specification. It was painted Dark Bronze Green, a colour used for many military Land Rovers.

Lulu Group chairman Yusuff Ali undergoes spinal surgery



Yusuff Ali
Reuters | Chennai

NRI businessman and Lulu group chairman M A Yusuff Ali, who had a miraculous escape on April 11 after his helicopter crash-landed on marshy land here, has undergone a spinal surgery at a hospital in Abu Dhabi, the company said. It said Yusuff Ali underwent the surgery at Burjeel Hospital in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday. "An expert team of 25 doctors led by renowned German neurosurgeon Prof Dr Shawarbi performed the surgery and Yusuff Ali is recovering well in the hospital," the Lulu Group said in the statement issued last night. The Gulf-based Indian businessman, who suffered injuries in the crash-landing, had returned to Abu Dhabi on Monday by a special aircraft sent by the Royal Family there.

As we defeat #COVID19 together, we must also address our most existential threat - the climate crisis. We urgently need to set targets & timelines to cut greenhouse gases & achieve net zero emissions by 2050. #ClimateAction @antoniooguterres

04

The British government had strongly defended the International Criminal Court from Trump's attacks while it investigated possible Israeli and Palestinian war crimes in Palestine, which is a member of the ICC. Then Boris Johnson stepped into the picture.

@KenRoth

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

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

I'm looking forward to welcoming my friend Prime Minister Suga to the White House this afternoon for the first foreign leader visit of my presidency -- and to renewing the historic alliance between the United States and Japan. @POTUS

02

From the start of the pandemic, we knew that vaccines would be a vital tool for ending it. But we also knew from experience that market forces alone wouldn't deliver #VaccinEquity. Huge thanks, @gavi, for launching "One World Protected" campaign to raise \$2B to fight #COVID19. @DrTedros

03