

1778

American Revolutionary War: British troops abandon Philadelphia.

1799

Action of 18 June 1799: A frigate squadron under Rear-admiral Perrée is captured by the British fleet under Lord Keith.

1812

The United States declaration of war upon the United Kingdom is signed by President **James Madison**.



1946

Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, a Socialist, calls for a Direct Action Day against the Portuguese in Goa.

Deteriorated Nato role

...with Moscow threaten to destroy a decades-long strategic partnership



...ing the Nato summit in Brussels in July 2018.

be agreed unanimously by all 29 member states. In the unlikely event that all of Nato's members concur that Turkey should be ousted, all Ankara has to do is use its veto.

But there is no reason to suspect that Turkey wants to leave. Nato offers it a strategic umbrella, a fallback alliance, in case it finds itself in trouble with belligerent neighbours such as Iran and Russia. Turkey's membership is central to Ankara's security relations with the EU, and Nato offers Turkey information and intelligence exchanges, as well as the opportunity to participate in joint military exercises and training.

The only conceivable scenario where Turkey's veto would be ignored is in the very unlikely event of a direct and deliberate Turkish strike against another Nato member state. This might trigger Article 5, which states that "an armed attack against one

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or more... shall be considered an attack against them all". This is highly improbable.

In short, Turkey cannot and will not be formally expelled from Nato. However, upon its receipt of the S-400s, it will no doubt find itself increasingly isolated inside Nato's civilian and military bodies. To some extent,

this has already happened. Last month it was reported that Turkish military and civilian personnel were not invited to important meetings about air defence and intelligence. In future, such exclusions will become more regular.

The US and other Nato members would slowly reduce their reliance on Turkish bases and increase their presence and infrastructure in other nations, such as Greece, Cyprus, Jordan, or, in a nightmare scenario for Turkey, Iraqi Kurdistan. Meanwhile, Turkey's role in Nato operations will be also discouraged, and when Nato plans and prepares future strategies and tactics, Turkey's interests will be ignored or sidelined.

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Goal for Israel

...ambition may be fast approaching

The Oslo accords cemented Israel's absolute control over 62 per cent of the West Bank, containing the Palestinians' key agricultural land and water sources, which was classified as Area C.

Although Israel has concentrated Palestinians in 165 disconnected areas across the West Bank, its actions effectively won the international community's seal of approval in 1995.

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Occupations are intended to be temporary – and the Oslo accords promised the same. Gradually, the Palestinians would be allowed to take back more of their territory to build a state. But Israel made sure both the occupation and the land thefts sanctioned by Oslo continued.

The new map reveals more than just the methods Israel used to commandeer the West Bank. Decades of land seizures highlight a trajectory, plotting a course that indicates the project is still not complete.

If Mr Netanyahu partially annexes the West Bank – Area C – it will be simply another stage in Israel's tireless efforts to immiserate the Palestinian population and bully them into leaving.

This is a war of attrition – what Israelis have long understood as "creeping annexation", carried out by stealth to avoid a backlash from the international community.

Ultimately, Israel wants the Palestinians gone entirely, squeezed out into neighbouring Arab states, such as Egypt and Jordan. That next chapter is likely to begin in earnest if Mr Trump ever gets the chance to unveil his "deal of the century".

of dozens of tightly contained prisons for Palestinians in their own homeland.

Two Nasa satellite images of the region separated by 30 years – from 1987 and 2017 – reveal how Israel's settlements and transport infrastructure have gradually scarred the West Bank's landscape, clearing away natural vegetation and replacing it with concrete.

The land grabs were not simply about acquisition of territory. They were a weapon, along with increasingly draconian movement restrictions, to force the native Palestinian population to submit, to recognise its defeat, to give up hope.

In the immediate wake of the West Bank's occupation, defence minister Moshe Dayan, Israel's hero of the hour and one of the architects of the settlement project, observed that Palestinians should be made "to live like dogs, and whoever wants to can leave – and we shall see where this process leads".

CIVILIAN'S TRIBUNE

Please, stop targeting Sarfaraz Ahmad



Without bringing in any historic change, Pakistan has lost another world cup match to India. And now social media is full of comments blasting Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmad for choosing to field after winning the toss.

Many cricketers have been cruel in their criticisms. Shoaib Akhtar even went to the extent of calling the captain "brainless".

But these criticisms are hampering the real sportsman spir-

it. After all, it's a game where one party is expected to win while the other suffers a defeat.

Instead of completely blaming the captain, why can't the blame be extended on the entire team, its coach, and of course the selectors?

Blame the bowlers for they couldn't earn wickets from time to time.

Blame the batsmen for they couldn't chase the score; forget about chasing, they couldn't even give a decent fight.

Blame the fielders for they

could have lessened India's score by at least 30 to 40 runs.

Blame the selectors for they did not select a team, which is a more balanced one, to compete against world's best teams.

Pouring out emotions on the team captain for his decision is undoubtedly against the principles of good sportsman spirit. So let's stop that and do a balanced analysis so that the team will emerge powerful in the days to come.

Faisal VP

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

Text from former 2016 Trump campaign staffer: "I was told by multiple people when I came aboard to never cough or sneeze while in the presence of Trump. He thinks it's a sign of weakness and lack of control. Nobody ever recovers."
@JaxAlemany

02

"He's coughing in the middle of my answer. I don't like that, you know. I don't like that. If you're going to cough, please leave the room. You just can't, you just can't cough."
@brianstelter

03

The Trump campaign is cutting ties with Michael Baselice and Adam Geller, who both did work for the 2016 campaign. A person familiar with the purge said the firings were less about the accuracy of the polling and more about mollifying Trump.
@kaitlancollins

04

"I think that we have a very real risk of losing the presidency to Donald Trump if we do not have a presidential candidate that is fighting for true transformational change in the lives of working people in the United States."
-@AOC
@justicedems

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