

Liverpool extend perfect start

Liverpool made it two successive wins to start their Premier League title bid as goals from Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino clinched a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Southampton yesterday.

P16

OP-ED 8 The dark legacy of ISIS lives on

THE DAILY **tribune**



Kerry Washington, Sterling K Brown teaming up for 'Shadow Force'

14 CELEBS

WORLD 5 Rival rallies as HK divisions deepen

Modi to address public gathering



Narendra Modi

TDT | Manama

Taking the bilateral ties between Bahrain and India to new heights, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is all set to visit the Kingdom.

This has been confirmed by the Indian Embassy, which has posted a link on its Twitter handle, to register for the public event, where Modi will address Indian expatriates.

However, the event date has not been confirmed.

To register, please log on to www.indianpminbahrain.com.

Bomb rips through wedding in Kabul

Kabul

An explosion has ripped through a wedding hall in the Afghan capital, Kabul, and many casualties are feared.

Eye witnesses told the BBC a suicide bomber detonated explosives during a wedding ceremony. Witnesses said they had seen bodies.

The explosion happened at around 22:40 local time.

No group said it carried out the attack, which happened in the west of the city.



BIPD to launch awareness-raising programme for overseas students

03 Group of thieves held by cops after stealing spree

04 'Maan' wins global honour

210 fils (includes VAT)



Aramco plant hit by drones

Houthis have claimed responsibility for the attack



An Aramco oil tank at the Production facility at Saudi Aramco's Shaybah oilfield in the Empty Quarter.

● The Houthis have carried out a number of attacks on Saudi Arabia in recent weeks and months.

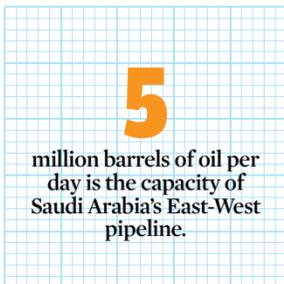
● Riyadh has accused Tehran of supplying the Houthis with the missiles and drones.

Riyadh

The Saudi energy minister Khalid Al Falih yesterday confirmed that a drone strike hit the Shaybah natural gas liquefaction facility causing a small fire on Saturday.

In a statement condemning the attack, Falih said there had been "no injuries" and that the fire had been put out after theseveral drones were fired at the plant.

"This cowardly attack once



again highlights the importance of the international community's response to all terrorist agents who carry out such acts of sabotage, including the Iran backed Houthi militias," Falih said in the statement.

The Houthis later claimed responsibility for the attack.

"Saudi Aramco's response team controlled a limited fire this morning at the Shaybah NGL facility," a statement released on the oil giant's website read.

"There were no injuries and no interruptions to Saudi Aramco's oil operations. We will provide

further details as they become available."

The Houthis have carried out a number of attacks on Saudi Arabia in recent weeks and months, targeting residential areas and airports.

The field is located near the border with the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia's main partner in the Arab coalition to restore the internationally recognised government to Yemen.

Mr Al Falih said the kingdom "condemns this cowardly attack, and affirms that this act of terrorism and sabotage, is an extension of those acts that have recently targeted the global oil supply chains, including oil pipelines in the Kingdom, and oil tankers in the Arabian Gulf and others."

"This targeting of vital facilities targets not only the Kingdom, but also the security of energy supplies to the world, and thus poses a threat to the global economy," Mr Al Falih said.

Bahrain attends key Arab-China Co-operation Forum meeting



Dr Al Abdullah speaks at the forum.

● The Bahrain delegation expressed keenness to host a centre for Arab-Chinese applied studies and researches in traditional Arab and Chinese medicine.

Beijing

The delegation of the Kingdom of Bahrain participated in the Second Ministerial Meeting of the Arab-China Co-operation Forum, chaired by Ambassador of the Kingdom to the People's Republic of China, Dr Anwar Al Abdullah.

The meeting was held in the presence of Assistant Secretary-General of the Arab League, Representatives of the Arab countries and international organisations, including the World Health Organisation

(WHO), Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The Bahrain delegation expressed keenness to host a centre for Arab-Chinese applied studies and researches in traditional Arab and Chinese medicine, stressing Bahrain's keenness to enhance co-operation and co-ordination in the health field to meet the common desires.

For their part, the People's Republic of China and the representatives of the Arab countries and international organisations appreciated the efforts of the Kingdom of Bahrain in developing the health field and providing high quality health services.

Discussions on health policies, opportunities for collaboration in public health, health industry innovations, medical technologies, traditional medicine and hospital management were also held at the meeting.

Slum fire leaves 50,000 homeless in Bangladesh

Dhaka

A massive fire has swept through a slum in the capital of Bangladesh, Dhaka, leaving 50,000 people homeless.

About 15,000 homes were destroyed in the Chalantika slum late on Friday.

Many homes had plastic roofs, which helped the flames

to spread. No deaths have been reported, although several people were injured.

Most residents are low-wage earners and many were away after the Muslim festival of Eid al-Adha. There is no word on the cause of the fire.

An investigation is under way. Firefighters took more than six hours to put out the flames.

VESSEL STANDOFF

US issues warrant to seize Grace 1

TDT | Manama

The US Justice Department has made a last-ditch attempt to block the release of the Iranian supertanker Grace 1 just a day after Gibraltar ruled the detained vessel could be released.

It comes after a six-week international standoff appeared to have come to an end as a judge in Gibraltar ordered its release.

But on Friday night, the US issued the warrant whilst the vessel, which was being investigated for allegedly deliver-



Iranian oil tanker Grace 1 sits anchored awaiting a court ruling off the Strait of Gibraltar.

“The vessel is ongoing some logistical changes and requirements that have delayed the departure.”

ASTRALSHIP OFFICIAL

ing oil to Syria in breach of EU sanctions, was still anchored off the coast of Gibraltar. Earlier on Friday, Iranian of-

ficials had said it was due to set sail.

According to tracking data, the ship briefly changed its status on Saturday from "at anchor" to "underway" before reverting to "at anchor".

The head of the company sorting paperwork and procuring for the Grace 1 oil tanker in the British overseas territory said the vessel could be sailing away in the next "24 to 48 hours," once new crews dispatched to the territory take over command of the ship.

'HRH Premier's enlightened thinking is promoting peace worldwide'

Manama

The enlightened thinking and clear visions of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, have had a great impact in promoting the values and principles of world peace, as well as an outstanding importance and pivotal role in achieving the comprehensive and sustainable development that all countries seek, Sec-

ond Deputy Chair of the Shura Council Hala Ramzi Fayez has said.

"HRH the Premier has been keen over the past decades to consolidate the lofty meanings of peaceful coexistence among the various peoples of the world, as the basic pillar to achieve progress and prosperity in all countries," she said.

She added that his numerous initiatives have sought to achieve justice, security and



HRH the Premier

stability in all societies, and have made him a symbol and

role model for peace.

The parliamentarian added that granting the 'Norwegian Guest of Honour' award 2019 to HRH the Premier by the 14th August Committee of Norway, in recognition of his efforts to promote regional and global peace, security, tolerance and harmony, is an affirmation of the role played by HRH in promoting and spreading peace and coexistence, and making them the bases for the im-

plementation of all plans and strategies for growth and development.

The award is a new achievement on HRH's track record of success and another international appreciation of his great efforts for security and stability, she added.

His Royal Highness is a role model to be emulated for his vision, ambitions and endeavours to achieve prosperity and development, Ms Hala pointed out.

The adoption by the United Nations of an initiative by HRH the Premier to announce the 5th of April an "International Day of Conscience" in order to reinforce the culture of peace is a genuine reflection of HRH's keen interest in, and support for, all peace efforts and endeavours in the world and ensuring that the Kingdom of Bahrain is at the forefront of the countries that call for and support peace, she said.

BIPD to launch awareness-raising programme for overseas students

The programme seeks to strengthen bonds between overseas students and the homeland

Manama

● The 'Ambassadors of the Nation' Programme provides overseas students with political and legal culture to act as the best ambassadors for the Kingdom.

● It will train the participants on the necessary communication skills, as well as on those required for influencing the public opinion.

The Bahrain Institute for Political Development (BIPD) is holding an awareness-raising programme for overseas students.

To be held between August 18 and 22, the 'Ambassadors of the Nation' Programme is part of its initiatives to implement the National Plan to Promote the Spirit of Belonging to the Nation and Reinforce the Values of Nationalism.

The five-day programme will cover several main themes, namely the social, human rights, legal and constitutional, as well as media.

Through the social theme, students will be trained on social crises management, as well as on the skills to form and activate Bahraini NGOs abroad, the BIPD said in a statement issued.

Meanwhile, the human rights theme will inform students about the rights and duties of foreign students according to international human rights treaties and conventions, and the laws and regulations of host countries, in addition to the role of Bahraini embassies and diplomatic mission and their relations with Bahraini students abroad.

The constitutional and legal theme will define the principles of the National Action Char-

“
Students will be trained on social crises management, as well as on the skills to form and activate Bahraini NGOs abroad.

BIPD

ter and the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the laws that granted the right to political participation and the political societies.

The political theme is related to the history of Bahrain's political system, the referendum

on the National Action Charter, the parliamentary and municipal elections, in addition to the reforms spearheaded by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the constitutional amendments and their implications on the political life in the kingdom.

As to the media theme, it will train the participants on the necessary communication skills, as well as on those required for influencing the public opinion and making speeches.

The 'Ambassadors of the Nation' Programme provides overseas students with political and legal culture to act as the best ambassadors for the Kingdom

through projecting to the world the bright image of Bahrain, including its rich history and prosperous democratic reforms.

It also aims to instil patriotic values in the minds of the students, and inform them about the concepts of human rights, the principles of the Royal Reform Project, the principles of the National Action Charter, in addition to the progress witnessed by the kingdom in the political, economic, social and religious fields.

The programme also seeks to strengthen bonds between overseas students and the homeland by focusing on the values of belonging to the nation.



The Indian Club held an event to mark India Independence Day. Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha was the chief guest at the event, which was attended by Club Acting President Marshal Dasan, General Secretary Job M J, Treasurer Hari Unnithan, Asst Treasurer Vinod Thampi and Badminton Secretary Suneesh Kallinkeel. A flag-hoisting ceremony was held in the morning. Separately, the 'young stars of the club' entertained the audience with a number of exciting, impressive and beautifully costumed dance performances and Kung Fu demonstrations.



The Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) distributed bottled water and fruits to around 100 workers at a construction site in Hidd. This is the eighth of a series that has been added to ICRF's programme for the summer, the fund said in a statement issued. ICRF Thirst-Quenchers intend to continue this weekly event for the next few weeks at various worksites.



The members of the Working Ladies Committee of the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) visited the Bahrain Cancer Society to provide support to its volunteer activities and services for cancer patients. This came as part of its strong commitment to supporting the awareness and educational role of the community. Commenting on the occasion, GPIC President Dr Abdulrahman Jawahery said the company is used to launch humanitarian initiatives that serve the community and sought to emphasise its commitment to its social responsibilities.

Group of thieves held by cops after stealing spree

The gang is accused of carrying out thefts at more than 10 shops in Naim area

It was revealed that the minibus, which was used in the crime was also stolen.

The investigation head confirmed the police were making all efforts to control such incidents and bring the culprits to justice.

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

A gang of elusive shop thieves, who allegedly carried out stealing spree at many shops, were finally nabbed by police.

The gang members are accused of carrying out thefts at automobile spare part shops.

They were nabbed after the Interior Ministry constituted a special team following many complaints.

One shop owner alone reported a theft worth over BD2,000. The gang members allegedly stole spare parts as well as cash from the shop.

Investigations revealed that the gang was involved in 10 similar thefts in the Naim area.

The special team was able to soon identify the suspects, nab-



A CCTV footage shows one of the suspects walking towards the shop, where theft occurred.



Another suspect, whose image was caught by CCTV cameras.

bing everyone involved including an Asian man suspected of masterminding the crimes.

"A special team of policemen swung into action after a shop owner in the Naim area reported a theft of spare parts worth BD2,000 and BD150 in cash," said the Capital Police Directorate head of investigation.

He said CCTV footage from a shop adjoining the place, where the theft took place was examined and officers concluded that a man with his face covered, who alighted from a white sedan was the prime suspect.

"After a short while, a minibus was seen on the same road.

”
The three then disappeared from security cameras and apparently broke open the locks of the the shop.

INVESTIGATION HEAD

Another man, wearing what appeared to be a traditional Pakistani dress, alighted from the vehicle and joined the first man. Later, a third man also joined them.

"They had their faces covered and hence it was difficult to iden-

tify them initially.

"The three then disappeared from security cameras and apparently broke open the locks of the the shop, making off with the stolen goods," a report in Interior Ministry's publication Al Amn stated.

"He said investigators succeeded in identifying the minibus and, through security cameras, saw it was making its way towards the airport on the King Faisal Highway opposite the Bahrain Financial Harbour.

"The same vehicle was again spotted as it traveled from Manama towards the airport. The car was traced to a car rental com-

pany, whose owner was interrogated.

"He said the sedan owner was a Bahraini man. This man was then summoned to the police station and asked about the car."

It was revealed that the minibus, which was used in the crime was also stolen.

"He told investigators that an Asian man had taken the car from him for two days and had further given the vehicle to another Pakistani man.

"The suspects were identified and called to the police station. When confronted with evidence, they initially refused to admit they were involved but they confessed to the crime when they were shown all the CCTV footage and other evidences."

It emerged later that the suspects had been involved in a series of similar thefts and in carrying out the latest theft, they had stolen the minibus from the Naim area.

In all, the gang admitted to have carried out 10 thefts in the area. The investigation head confirmed the police were making all efforts to control such incidents and bring the culprits to justice.

He said two weeks after the incident, all the tools the suspects used in carrying out thefts, were seized.

"All necessary procedures were then taken by the Public Prosecution," the Al Amn report stated.

BTECH annual conference set
Manama

The Bahrain Association of Technology Companies (BTECH) and WorksMart are organising their annual conference under the patronage of Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza on September 3.

The event is being held for the second consecutive year and deals with protection and security of information and in support of the efforts of digital transformation in Bahrain.

It also encourages government agencies and the private sector to use modern technologies such as "cloud computing" and "big data", in addition to "Internet of Things" with the required measures to ensure avoiding threats that arise from their use. In a statement, Dr Mirza said the Government of Bahrain is keen to give the utmost importance to the protection and security of information, which is evident through the involvement of the Higher Committee for Information and Communications Technology, chaired by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister.

He said information security is an essential part of our daily lives and involves the use of technology.

BTECH Chairman Obaidli Al Obaidli said as Bahrain continues to thrive as a unique IT hub in the Middle East, it has been successful in attracting technology companies from around the world.

He said the conference provides an advanced platform that seeks to stimulate dialogue to arrive at the best ways to protect data.

He said the conference will this year look at issues such as the future of blockchain in the telecommunications sector, and "tracking and follow-up programmes".

WorkSmart CEO Ahmed Al Hujairi said that an exhibition will be held on the sidelines of the conference to attract companies that offer solutions in the field of information security, cyber security and blockchain.

He said it would open new opportunities for participating companies to enter into deals and partnership agreements to develop such technology.

He said the exhibition will support the work of the conference in highlighting the importance of ensuring information security through the rational and safe use of the Internet and smart-phones, exchange of knowledge and rich experiences, and communication.

UoB students invent 'smart wheelchair'

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

A smart wheelchair invented by a group of Bahraini students was on display during an event recently.

A group of Bahraini female students from the University of Bahrain showcased their latest invention, an electric wheelchair, at a project exhibition held at the University of Bahrain.

The exhibition was organised by the Faculty of Engineering at the university.

The wheelchair was the work of students Basanat Fawzi, Sarah Hassan, and Eman Al Halwaji.

They are students of electrical engineering branch at the university.

The electric wheelchair is equipped with various sensors to increase safety of the user.



Mr Al Hamer, Prof Hamzah with other dignitaries at the expo.

Speaking to media, Basanat said: "The wheelchair has many features, it has sensors to read distances, and has automatic brakes. This is to ensure the safety

of the users."

She added that the smart wheelchair has the option of automatically alerting the user's family or relatives if the user

”
The wheelchair has many features. It has sensors to read distances apart from automatic brakes.

BASANAT

falls out of the chair.

"The wheelchair is lightweight and will help the users become independent."

The professor who supervised the project Dr Ibrahim Abdulrahman Abdullah, said that the wheelchair has undergone a series of successful tests.

President of the University of Bahrain Prof Riyad Hamzah and Minister of Housing Basim Al Hamer were present during the event.



Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) welcomed pilgrims arriving from the holy city of Mecca at Bahrain International Airport (BIA) yesterday. Chocolate boxes and Arabic coffee were distributed to the pilgrims upon their arrival. More than 5,500 pilgrims travelled through BIA this year.

'Maan' wins global honour

The programme secured International Stevie Award 2019 in two categories



The Interior Ministry was praised over winning the honour.

Manama

Capital Governor and Head of "Maan" programme committee to fight violence and addiction, Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa extended sincerest congratulations to Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa on "Maan" programme's winning of the International Stevie Award 2019 in two categories: Personality of the Year and Administrative

Team.

The award is considered the most prestigious international honour in creativity, institutional distinction and international works.

The Capital Governor expressed appreciation of the top-class award, which is a reflection of the outstanding professional performance of "Maan" work team.

The programme's committee head praised the programme's accomplishments brought about

120,000
students have benefited from 'Maan' programme since its inception.

thanks to the directives and unlimited support of the Interior

Minister.

The programme benefited more than 120,000 students during the last academic year, covering 173 public schools and 72 private ones.

The Capital Governor lauded the Interior Minister's support to facilitate participation of "Maan" in international gatherings, commending the role of the officials in charge of the programme in boosting the concept of social security and raising awareness of the youth of am-

bient dangers.

Bahraini Ambassador to the US and founder of "Maan" programme Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa won the Personality of the Year 2019 award while the officials in charge of the programme won the Administrative Team award.

A total of 4,000 participants from 74 countries vied for the award, which was judged by 12 juries comprising 270 international arbitrators to ensure integrity and transparency.

Asians jailed for stealing diesel

TDT | Manama

The Lower Criminal Court has sentenced two Asian men to six months behind bars each for stealing diesel from trucks belonging to a construction company.

The two men will be deported once they complete their jail terms.

The defendants were spotted by a security officer guarding the site, in which the trucks were parked.



I saw them extracting the diesel from the tanks and storing it in bottles. They were using a hose.

WITNESS

"I saw them extracting the diesel from the tanks and storing it in bottles. They were using a hose.

"I directly informed my superiors," the security officer told Prosecutors.

The pair admitted to their crime during questioning.

In its verdict, the Lower Criminal Court said that it was reassured by the pieces of evidence submitted against their pair when it held them guilty of the charged laid against them.

Currency smugglers caught at Madinah airport

Madinah

Four passengers were caught attempting to smuggle SR3.093 million (\$804,010) out of Prince Mohammed bin Abdulaziz International Airport in Madinah.

The passengers, who hid the money in their luggage, were intending to travel to

four different destinations, Saudi Press Agency reported.

Ahmad Al Ghamdi, director of customs at the airport, said that the first attempt consisted of SR948,300 hidden in the passenger's clothes.

He added that another attempt used the same strategy, and customs found

SR679,000 in his clothes.

In the third attempt, the smuggler tried to conceal SR415,500 in metal cans hidden in his luggage. The fourth passenger attempted to hide SR1.050 million in a pair of trousers in his luggage.

Al Ghamdi added that the smugglers could not prove the legitimacy of the mon-

ey, which reinforced the possibility of it being related to money laundering.

Saudi Customs said that the Anti-Money Laundering Law requires all passengers carrying cash or precious metals that exceed the value of SR60,000 to complete a declaration form. Failing to do so would be considered an explicit breach of the law.

Court upholds ministry's decision to fire employee

● The ministry revealed that the reasons behind its decision and the court deemed them valid, referring to the Civil Service Bureau's rules.

TDT | Manama

The High Administrative Court has upheld the Ministry of Health's decision to fire an employee after he hit a colleague with a chair and insulted him.

The plaintiff filed a case against the Ministry of Health for sacking him after working for it for seven years as a Public Relations Specialist.

However, the ministry revealed that the reasons behind its decision and the court deemed them valid, referring to the Civil Service Bureau's rules.

It was also found that the plaintiff served in another ministry before joining the Ministry of Health and he was dismissed for similar reasons.

It's said that the defendant had insulted several other colleagues as well.

He was also suspended from his duty during his service in the Ministry of Health for misconduct but he didn't "learn any lesson".

Therefore, a disciplinary panel recommended firing him after investigating the incident of him throwing a chair on his colleague.

Plan to improve Hajj luggage services launched

Riyadh

The launch of the EYAB initiative, which aims to end luggage procedures for pilgrims, has been announced by the General Authority for Civil Aviation (GACA).

The initiative, which will begin its pilot phase within the next two days, is set to automatically organise luggage logistics before worshippers arrive at the airport.

It will target pilgrims departing to Indonesia, India and Malaysia during the next Hajj season.

The president of the GACA, Abdulhadi Al Mansouri, said the authority wants to improve pilgrims' services by reducing waiting times at King Abdul Aziz International Airport in Jeddah, and Prince Mohammed bin Abdul Aziz International Airport in Madinah.

He added that the EYAB initiative will serve about 30,000 pilgrims in the first phase at the airports in Jeddah and Madinah.

After this phase is completed, the service will expand to serve all pilgrims in airports throughout the country.

Mansouri thanked all the governmental and nongovernmental bodies participating in the initiative.



The initiative will serve about 30,000 pilgrims in the first phase.

He specifically praised the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, the Presidency of State Security, the National Information Centre and Saudi Customs for their work with the GACA.

Rival rallies as HK divisions deepen

● Yesterday's rallies began with thousands of teachers marching through torrential rain

● Ten weeks of demonstrations have plunged the international finance hub into crisis

● Many protesters chanted that they were saving their energy for today's rally

Hong Kong, China

Hong Kong democracy activists kicked off a weekend of fresh rallies yesterday in a major test for the movement following criticism over an airport protest earlier this week -- and as concerns mount over Beijing's next move. The new marches came as thousands of pro-government supporters -- many waving Chinese flags -- gathered in a park to condemn their opponents and support the police, a stark illustration of the polarisation now coursing through the city.

Ten weeks of demonstrations have plunged the international finance hub into crisis, with



Anti-government protesters attend a rally in the Hung Hom district of Hong Kong

The government has yet to respond to a single demand and has escalated the force through the police to suppress the people's voices. If we don't come out, our future, our next generation will face even more suppression

A 25-YEAR-OLD PROTESTER, WHO GAVE HIS FIRST NAME AS MARS

communist-ruled mainland China taking an increasingly hardline tone, including labelling the more violent protester actions "terrorist-like".

Democracy activists are billing the weekend rallies as a way to show Beijing and the city's unelected leaders that their movement still enjoys broad public support, despite increasingly violent tactics deployed by a minority of hardcore protesters that have cast a shadow.

On Tuesday, protesters blocked passengers from boarding flights at the city's airport and later assaulted two men they accused of being Chinese spies.

The images damaged a movement that until then had largely only targeted the police or government institutions, and prompted some soul-searching among protesters.

China's propaganda apparatus seized on the violence, with state media churning out a deluge of damning articles, pictures and videos.



Pro-Beijing supporters wave the China national flag during a rally at Tamar Park

State media also ran images of military personnel and armoured personnel carriers across the border in Shenzhen, prompting the United States to warn Beijing against sending in troops, which analysts say would be a reputational and economic disaster for China.

Rival rallies

Yesterday's rallies began with thousands of teachers marching through torrential rain in support of the largely youth-led protests.

In the afternoon thousands also marched through Hung Hom and To Kwa Wan, two harbour-side districts popular with mainland tourists.

But across the harbour at the pro-Beijing rally, where a giant screen showed recent clashes with police, 60-year-old retiree Irene Man had a very different

take as she rounded on democracy protesters.

"Their acts are not human, they have all become monsters. They are rioters, with no reason, no thinking," she said.

As evening fell, some hardcore protesters were facing off with police in the district of Mongkok, where multiple clashes have taken place in recent weeks. They blocked roads and shone laser pens at riot police who made occasional charges but the protesters kept dispersing and reforming.

Billed as a "rational, non-violent" protest, it is being organised by the Civil Human Rights Front, a group that eschews confrontations with police and was the driving force behind record-breaking rallies in June and July that saw hundreds of thousands of people hit the streets.

Downpour paralyzes Istanbul

Istanbul, Turkey

Turkey's megacity Istanbul was lashed by a heavy rainstorm on Saturday, killing a homeless man and leaving parts of the historic Grand Bazaar flooded.

A homeless man was found dead at an underpass in the Unkapani district apparently drowned by the flood. Police sealed off the area.

Floods which lasted around two hours also affected the historic Grand Bazaar, one of the world's oldest covered markets.

27 Minors to leave Italy migrant ship: charity

Rome, Italy

Twenty-seven unaccompanied minors have been authorised to leave a migrant rescue vessel in limbo off Italy, the Spanish charity operating the ship said yesterday.

"They will be evacuated by coastguard Lampedusa," Proactive Open Arms tweeted Interior Minister Matteo Salvini reluctantly authorised the disembarkation.

The 106 adults and two accompanied minors must remain on board.

Syria regime strikes kill mother, 6 of her children: monitor



A Syrian carries the body of a child at the site of a reported regime air strike on the village of Deir Sharqi on the eastern outskirts of Maaret al-Numan in Syria's northern province of Idlib

Dayr Sharqi, Syria

Regime air strikes yesterday killed a woman and six of her children in northwest Syria, a war monitor said, a day after Russian bombardment pummeled a nearby displacement camp.

The air strike hit the family's one-story home in the village of Dayr Sharqi in Idlib province, killing everyone inside, said the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

A photographer said he saw a man leaving the site of the blast, carrying the bloody corpse of a young girl, her hair streaked

with blood.

A rescue worker carried the dust covered body of a second child, he added.

The photographer said he also saw the charred remains of a third victim trapped underneath the rubble, as rescue workers tried to retrieve it.

Heightened air raids by the Syrian regime and its ally Moscow on the Idlib region -- the last major opposition bastion in Syria's northwest -- have killed hundreds since the end of April.

The latest air strikes on the village of Dayr Sharqi wounded three other people, the Observatory said.

The attack came a day after Russian air raids killed 15 civilians, including six children in a nearby displacement camp in the town of Hass, according to the war monitor.

Two other children were killed by Syrian regime air strikes in different parts of southern Idlib on Friday, it said.

A French foreign ministry statement released after those attacks condemned "indiscriminate air strikes by the regime and its allies in Idlib".

It specifically mentioned the air strikes on the displacement camp and called "for an immediate cessation of hostilities".



BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY wishes to invite proposals for the following Public Tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Tender Doc. Fees	Initial Bond	Tender Closing	
				Day/ Date	Time
Appointment of Recruitment Agency for Hala Bahrain	BAC/HR/16/2019	BD 15/- non-refundable	BD 500/-	3rd September 2019	03:00 pm

• Companies with the required experience are kindly requested to collect the appropriate tender Documents at Bahrain Airport Company (Building 124, Road 2403, Muharraq 224 Gulf Air Building 1st Floor Wing B) Procurement Department Tel: 17353385, 17353449 during the following working hours (8:00am - 3:00pm) after payment of tender fees specified above.

• Deposit each Tender Submission in the tender box provided at the Bahrain Airport Company, Procurement Department on the above closing date before 03:00 pm. Along with an initial bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial Bond's value shall be less than BD 500/-, in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.

• Articles of the Decree by Law No. 36 for 2002, regarding the regulation of Government Tenders and Purchases, together with its executive regulations issued in Decree No. 37 for 2002, must be observed www.tenderboard.gov.bh

• The following conditions must also be observed:

1. Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate for the current year, which must include the Tender Subject as one of its activities.
2. Submit their Proposed Minimum Annual Guarantee and Proposed Fee Percentage (according to conditions) as per the criteria outlined.
3. Enclose a copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by Ministry of Labour.
4. All documents submitted as part of the tender (original or copies) must bear the stamp of the bidding Company / Establishment.
5. Kindly provide a business card when collecting the RFP document

• This advertisement is considered as complementary to the Tender Documents.

Nine hurt in accident at fireworks show in French resort

Toulouse, France a

Nine people were injured during a fireworks display in a popular resort in southern France when one rocket misfired close to onlookers on the beach, firefighters said yesterday.

Three of those hurt in the incident in on Friday night in Collioure were taken to hospital after the device "exploded very low" and rained down sparks on some of the 80,000 crowd, firefighters and the local prefecture said.

One person remained in hospital after surgery for a shoulder fracture.

The misfiring rocket was part of a show on a barge just off the port of Collioure, a small picturesque seaside town near the Spanish border whose 3,000 population mushrooms around 30-fold with summer tourists.

Three doctors on site swiftly intervened to treat those injured, the local prefecture said, adding local police have opened an investigation into the incident.

Customer kills French waiter in sandwich spat

Bobigny, France

A waiter at restaurant near Paris was shot dead by a customer angry at having to wait for a sandwich, a source close to the case said yesterday.

Colleagues of the victim called police after he was shot him with a hand gun at an eatery in the eastern Paris suburb

of Noisy-le-Grand on Friday night, the source said.

Attempts to revive the 28-year-old failed and he died at the scene.

The gunman, who witnesses said lost his temper "as his sandwich wasn't prepared quickly enough" for his liking, fled the scene.

Police have opened a murder investigation.

Seven killed in Indonesia ferry accident

Kendari, Indonesia

Seven people, including two children, were killed and four others missing after a ferry carrying dozens of passengers caught fire off Indonesia's Sulawesi island early Saturday, police said.

The ferry, heading from Southeast Sulawesi to an island in Central Sulawesi, caught fire shortly after midnight.

Police suspect the fire was triggered when the diesel tank exploded.

It was unclear how many people were aboard the vessel.

The passenger manifest listed 50 but rescuers and locals recovered 61 survivors while seven people, including two



An Indonesian policeman inspecting the charred remains of a ferry that caught fire near Kendari, off Indonesia's Sulawesi island

children aged two and four, were found dead. A search has been launched for four passengers reported missing.

Sudan transition deal signed

● **Transition administration will be guided by an 11-member sovereign council, comprised of six civilians and five military figures**

● **Talks were mediated by the African Union and Ethiopia**

Khartoum, Sudan

Sudan's military council and protest leaders yesterday signed a hard-won "constitutional declaration" that paves the way for a transition to civilian rule.

The agreement was signed by Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, deputy chief of the military council, and Ahmed al-Rabie, representing the Alliance for Freedom and Change protest umbrella, a reporter said.

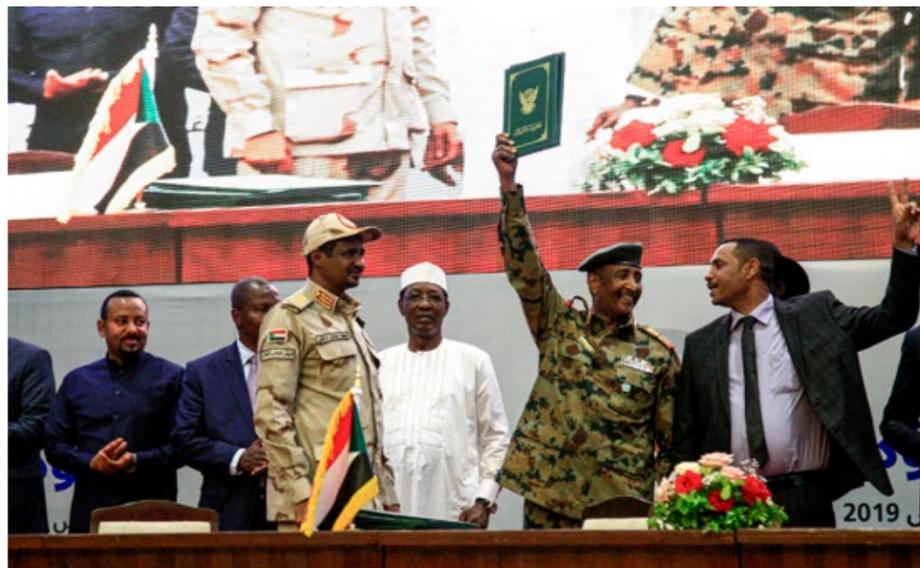
Heads of state, prime ministers and dignitaries from several countries -- including Ethiopia's Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Egypt's premier Mustafa Madbuli -- attended the ceremony in Khartoum, and the signing was met with applause.

The constitutional declaration builds on a political declaration that was agreed by the military and protesters on July 17.

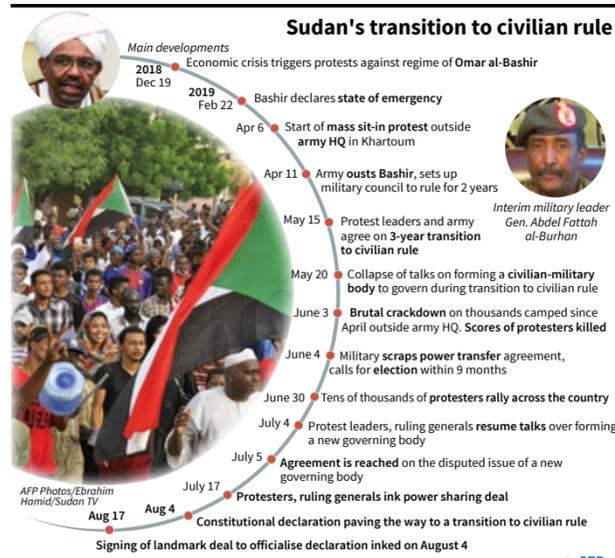
It formalises the creation of a transition administration that will be guided by an 11-member sovereign council, comprised of six civilians and five military figures.

The agreement follows nearly eight months of protests -- initially against longtime autocrat Omar al-Bashir, who fell in April, and then against the military council that deposed him.

Talks between the protesters and the military were mediated by the African Union and



Sudan's protest leader Ahmad Rabie (R), flashes the victory gesture alongside General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan (2nd-R), the chief of Sudan's ruling Transitional Military Council (TMC), during a ceremony where they signed a "constitutional declaration" that paves the way for a transition to civilian rule, in the capital Khartoum



Ethiopia, which brought the two sides together again even after a protest sit-in outside military headquarters was brutally dispersed by men in military fatigues on June 3.

Some 120 people were killed during that crackdown, accord-

ing to doctors linked to the protesters.

The signing ceremony started with Sudan's national anthem, followed by a reading of verses from the Koran and the Old Testament, while the words "Sudan's joy" were emblazoned on

banners.

'Starting to breathe'

The transition is meant to guarantee more rights and freedom and is due to culminate in elections in late 2022.

While the atmosphere was overwhelmingly celebratory in Khartoum, many residents remained cautious.

People said they expect a quick and significant improvement in their economic circumstances.

At Khartoum's central market early Saturday, shoppers and stallholders all said they hoped a civilian government would help them put food on the table.

"Everybody is happy now," said Ali Yusef, a 19-year-old university student who works in the market to get by.

"We were under the control of the military for 30 years but today we are leaving this behind us and moving towards civilian rule," he said, sitting next to tomatoes piled directly on the ground.

Beloved baby dugong 'Mariam' dies with plastic in stomach

● **Mariam washed up in shallow waters off southwestern Thailand months ago**

● **Several pieces of plastic were found in her intestine, with one measuring up to 20 centimetres**

Bangkok, Thailand

A sick baby dugong whose fight for recovery won hearts in Thailand and cast a spotlight on ocean conservation has died from an infection exacerbated by bits of plastic lining her stomach, officials said yesterday.

Mariam washed up in shallow waters off southwestern Thailand months ago and photos of her nuzzling playfully next to rescuers quickly went viral.

The discovery soon after of another orphaned dugong brought the sea cows celebrity status, the attention of a Thai princess



Mariam the dugong as she is cared for by park officials and veterinarians from the Phuket Marine Biological Centre on Libong island, Trang province in southern Thailand

-- who named the second one "Jamil" -- and round-the-clock webcasts giving viewers a front-row seat to feedings and treatment.

But Mariam died just after midnight after going into shock

and efforts to resuscitate her failed, Chaiyapruk Werawong, head of Trang province marine park, said.

"She died from a blood infection and pus in her stomach," he said, adding they found small

amounts of plastic waste in her intestinal tract.

Footage released by the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation (DNP) showed vets attempting to revive Mariam using CPR.

”
She taught us how to love and then went away as if saying please tell everyone to look after us and conserve her species

NANTARIKA CHANSUE
VETERINARIAN

Several pieces of plastic were found in her intestine, with one measuring up to 20 centimetres (eight inches).

The plastic had caused obstructions in the animal's stomach, leading to inflammation and gas build-up, veterinarian Nantarika Chansue posted on Facebook.

"We could partially treat the respiratory infection but the obstruction of plastic rubbish... could not be cured," she said in the post, calling for the young animal's death to serve as a les-

son.

"She taught us how to love and then went away as if saying please tell everyone to look after us and conserve her species."

The dugongs are the latest marine creatures to make headlines in Thailand, whose plastic-choked waters are also a threat to habitats.

Both the animals were found in southern Thailand, home to about 250 of the sea cows, which are closely related to the manatee and classified as vulnerable.

Jamil, whose name translates to "handsome sea prince", is being cared for separately in Phuket.

Mariam's death was also announced on the Facebook page of the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources.

The post quickly garnered more than 11,000 shares and thousands of comments mourning the loss, while a meme with a picture of Mariam and "RIP" circulated online.

"It's a pity for those who fed her milk and collected sea grass for their little daughter that we have to lose Mariam because of plastic waste," one commenter said.

Greenland isn't for sale

Greenland is not for sale, the mineral-rich island said after a newspaper reported that US President Donald Trump was asking advisers whether it's possible for the United States to buy the Arctic island

Washington, United States

President Donald Trump's reported wish to buy Greenland may have been rejected by Denmark, but it underscores the rapidly rising value of the massive, ice-covered island due to global warming and to China's drive for an Arctic presence.

The accelerating polar ice melt has left sparsely populated Greenland, a self-governing part of Denmark, astride what are potentially major shipping routes and in the crosshairs of intensifying geopolitical competition between superpowers.

It also has untapped natural resources like oil, minerals and valuable rare earth elements that China, the United States and other major tech economies covet.

A Chinese government-backed group's offer last year to build three new international airports on Greenland sparked alarms in Copenhagen and Washington.

The Chinese plan was finally nixed in exchange for Danish funding and a pledge of support from the Pentagon.

Trump's idea to buy Greenland, reported by the

Wall Street Journal on Friday, "is not a serious proposal," said Heather Conley, a specialist at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

But, "The administration has awoken to the Arctic as a geo-strategic issue," she said.

Strategic value since WWII

Greenland has been essential to US defence since World War II when it was a base for monitoring Nazi ships and submarines passing through the "Arctic Avenue," the sea gateway to the north Atlantic.

In 1943 the US Air Force built its farthest-north air base at Thule, Greenland.

Thule was crucial in the Cold War, a first line of monitoring against a potential Russian attack. With a population of 600, the base today is part of the NATO mission, operating satellite monitoring and strategic missile detection systems and handling thousands of flights a year.

"The early warning radar system in northern Greenland helps protect North

America and is a key part of our missile defense apparatus," said Luke Coffey of The Heritage Foundation.

"Luckily the US is able to ensure and meet its security interests by maintaining this air base in northern Greenland. There's no requirement to buy Greenland to keep America safe."

'Aggressive' China and Russia

Conley said that after the Cold War ebbed in the 1990s, Washington stopped thinking about the Arctic.

Yet as the polar ice sheet began to shrink, the Russians became more active and China has moved to establish itself in the region.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo underscored the revived US interest in a speech in May in Finland, where he slammed China and Russia for "aggressive behavior" in the Arctic.

"The region has become an arena of global power and competition" owing to vast reserves of oil,

gas, minerals and fish stocks, he warned.

"Just because the Arctic is a place of wilderness does not mean it should become a place of lawlessness," he said.

But Washington has not taken many concrete actions, Conley said. Pompeo only offered that the State Department would position a diplomat in Greenland's capital Nuuk for six months of the year.

"The rhetoric and the reaction -- there is a very big gap," she said.

Arctic newcomer China

With no geographical claim to the region, but whose massive commercial shipping industry would benefit from new polar routes as the ice melts, China is the newcomer whose presence could shift the balance.

It began sending scientific missions in 2004. In the past several years, a Chinese company has gained mining rights for rare earths, partnering with an Australian company in the Kvanefjeld project.

In January 2018 Beijing unveiled its "Polar Silk

Road" strategy to extend its economic footprint through the Arctic.

To gain favor in Nuuk, the Chinese have wined and dined government officials, said Coffey. "China's role in the Arctic has been more about expanding its economic influence, soft power," said Coffey.

"Ice melting is part of the interest, it is opening up new economic opportunities, but it's also opening up challenges. The US is aware of that," he said.

In a sign of Washington's rekindled interest, US President Donald Trump will go to Denmark in September, and Vice President Mike Pence will visit Iceland.

But Conley says more assertive moves are needed.

"I think we have a remarkably strong position now in Greenland. Denmark is an incredibly strong military partner to the US," she said.

"But if we are interested in potentially being an alternative to Greenland looking towards China for investment, are we going to put US investment there? I've not seen any of that."



A resident of Kulusuk carts water in the town of Kulusuk, Greenland

Wildlife meet mulls trade rules to counter species declines

Geneva, Switzerland

Amid growing alarm over accelerating extinctions, a major international conference opened in Geneva Saturday aiming to tighten rules on trade in elephant ivory and other endangered animal and plant species.

Thousands of conservationists and policymakers from more than 180 countries will meet for 12 days to evaluate regulations and species protection listings under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

"Business as usual is no longer an option," CITES Secretary General Ivonne Higuero said at the start of the meeting, warning that "nature's dangerous decline is unprecedented."

The treaty, created more than four decades ago, regulates trade



Delegates attend the United Nations' Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

in over 35,000 species of plants and animals and contains mechanisms to help crack down on illegal trade and sanction countries that break the rules.

The meeting follows warnings about rapid species decline, with a UN report in May indicating that one million species are being pushed to the brink of extinction.

"My fear is that we are... now really on the edge," Higuero told AFP ahead of the conference, saying she hoped the delegates in Geneva would "make what we call transformative change."

Inger Anderson, who heads the United Nations Environment Programme, echoed her sense of urgency, warning the conference that "we are losing species at a rate never seen before."

Poaching illegal trade

But she voiced confidence in the effectiveness of the CITES treaty in protecting vulnerable species by ensuring all trade in them is sustainable.

"We need to find a workable balance between people and nature," she said.

The devastation caused to many species by poaching and booming illegal wildlife trade will be in the spotlight during the meeting, as will new challenges arising from illicit commerce increasingly moving online.

The plight of African elephants is expected to dominate the discussions.

Some countries are calling for stronger protections for all African elephants, while countries in southern Africa, where

populations are better protected and healthier, are requesting resumption of ivory stockpile sales.

One of 56 proposals on the meeting's agenda aims to prevent traffickers from passing off illegal elephant ivory as coming from mammoths, by listing the long-extinct mammals as a threatened species and thus subject to regulated trade.

Southern white rhinos, the American crocodile and a range of shark and ray species are also on the agenda, as is the African giraffe, amid warnings that the gentle giant is facing a "silent extinction."

"The future of biodiversity is at stake but .. we have a unique opportunity to change the course," Andersen said.

The dark legacy of ISIS lives on

In the northern Iraqi city, women and girls still suffer from the stigma of sexual abuse

LIZZIE PORTER

At Tal Afar General Hospital in northwestern Iraq, dozens of women squeeze onto waiting room chairs. They all want to see the small team of gynaecologists, who appear stressed and overworked.

Since the other hospital in the area was blown up by ISIS, Tal Afar General Hospital has been overburdened and under-resourced, serving the city as well as towns and villages far and wide.

But even if services were sufficient, one group of the neediest would-be patients would still stay away.

They are the 22 Shia Turkmen women and girls who have returned from being raped, beaten and forced into marriage to ISIS members. Some were just 12 years old when they were kidnapped as they tried to escape the terror group's assault on northern Iraq five years ago.

Since their return, community stigma – mainly from their tribes and nosy neighbours – has prolonged their suffering. Some are forced to stay at home by their relatives, who associate a rape survivor with shame. They prevent the girls from going to school, having any kind of financial independence or repairing their friendships.

Instead, their families make them do menial chores at home. Even if healthcare services weren't overstretched, the girls couldn't leave the house to get regular check-ups for any physical or mental health effects of ISIS's abuse. As researchers and



Women and children being evacuated from a Turkmen region of Iraq in 2014.

humanitarian workers have said, it's another kind of captivity.

Tal Afar, 60 kilometres west of Mosul in Nineveh governorate, is majority Turkmen – Iraqi citizens of Turkic origin. Some are Sunni, others Shia. They haven't always lived peacefully side by side: post-2003, the Sunnis were marginalised by newly dominant Shia politicians and were subjected to pernicious harassment and violence.

Later, Tal Afar was controlled by Al Qaeda in Iraq and once ISIS

took over, many of its commanders based themselves in the city. Retaken by Iraqi security forces in August 2017, it was one of the terror group's last strongholds.

Since Tal Afar's liberation, about half of its 200,000-strong overall population, both Sunni and Shia, have returned, including the few who have been released from ISIS captivity. But the stigma facing those survivors is made all the worse by a dearth of government services in the city.

Researchers say there needs to

be vocational training for those who cannot return to normal schooling.

That could help the boys and girls who witnessed unspeakable violence and suffering after ISIS kidnapped them. They might not be able to sit in a normal classroom for a while but they urgently need alternatives to help them learn to be children again.

The sexual violence survivors need special attention. The Iraqi state needs to provide much more in terms of proper healthcare,

45 years on from Nixon, America needs

JANINE DI GIOVANNI

Exactly 45 years ago, Richard Nixon, the 37th president of the United States, gave his resignation speech in the Oval Office of the White House. Nixon's role in the Watergate cover-up had been made clear to the public a few days earlier when taped Oval Office conversations – including one known as “the smoking gun” – revealed without a doubt that Nixon had been aware of the White House connection to the Watergate burglary. Two years earlier, five men had broken into the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington DC, leading to the discovery of multiple abuses of power by the Nixon administration. This led to a constitutional crisis. The country was in deep pain and Nixon had to go.

Nixon did the right thing by standing down on August 9, 1974. His involvement in the Watergate scandal had grown too large for him to manipulate and hide. He was deeply unpopular throughout the country and had earned the dubious moniker Tricky Dicky. His political support had collapsed.

“With the disappearance of that base,” Nixon told the American public, “I now believe that the constitutional purpose has been

served and there is no longer a need for the process to be prolonged.” By evening, a helicopter had landed on the White House lawn and whisked away Nixon and his family to their home in California. Gerald Ford was installed as the new president. “Our national nightmare is over,” he told a traumatised country.

One president left; another began. It was that swift.

Nixon was the only US president to resign from office and it had a tangible effect on political life in Washington. Because of Watergate, more than 69 government officials were charged and 48 were found guilty but the real cost was that trust in the executive branch had taken a plummet. That trust did not rebound again until the Clinton administration.

Nixon's resignation came just after one of the most volatile times in US history. The war in Vietnam had raged for more than a decade, an unpopular, ugly conflict that divided the country and left societal wounds that would take decades to heal. Racial violence was spiralling out of control, culminating in riots in urban flashpoints in 1968. A counterculture hippie movement rejected mainstream American ideals, foregoing the materialism and suburban life that had been the hallmark of 1950s post-war America. College



President Richard Nixon is seen in the Oval Office of the White House.

campuses staged moratoriums. Underground radical movements, many of them militant, were born.

After the initial shockwaves subsided, the long-term effect of Watergate and Nixon's resignation, however, had a positive

effect on the country. It became an era of legal reform. Laws were passed to ensure what had happened would not happen again: the Ethics in Government Act; the Freedom of Information Act. Reporters from the Washington

Post had doggedly tracked and broken the Watergate story so investigative journalism was at an all-time high. Post-Watergate, everyone was accountable.

The comparison between Nixon's administration and our pres-

Nixon's resignation 45 years ago was followed by greater accountability. We need a new reckoning, writes Janine di Giovanni

2005

A massive power blackout hits the Indonesian island of Java, affecting almost 100 million people, one of the largest and most widespread power outages in history.

2008

President of Pakistan Pervez Musharraf resigns under threat of impeachment.



2008

War of Afghanistan: Uzbun Valley ambush occurs.

2017

The first terrorist attack ever sentenced as a crime in Finland kills two and injures eight.



Sunni-Shia relations in Tal Afar have improved somewhat since 2017, say residents, but that doesn't take into account the opinions of those who have chosen not to return.

public opinion, as happened in 2015, when the Yazidi leader Baba Sheikh instructed families to welcome back the female Yazidis whom ISIS had traded as sex slaves.

Outsiders dealing with the issue may face accusations of western-centric thinking and attempting to interfere in Iraq's social structures. But a rape survivor's rights are universal rights, not exclusively western rights.

Sunni-Shia relations in Tal Afar have improved somewhat since 2017, say residents, but that doesn't take into account the opinions of those who have chosen not to return, or cannot.

More than 31,000 people from Nineveh remain displaced in Karbala and Najaf, Shia-majority areas in southern Iraq, according to figures from the International Organisation for Migration.

Former residents wanted over ISIS links haven't been allowed back, according to a city official. In a country where judicial

standards fall well below par, their fates aren't necessarily going to be decided fairly.

An element of distrust between communities will inevitably remain, particularly if residents feel forgotten by authorities in Baghdad.

Sunnis will likely not be allowed to forget the role of Iran-backed Shia paramilitaries from the Popular Mobilisation Forces, who worked alongside the Iraqi army to retake Tal Afar. They are now among the myriad security forces manning checkpoints and carrying out security operations on the city's periphery.

Another knot is Yazidis' perceptions of Tal Afar. Women and girls were held in the city as ISIS traded them as sex slaves while others were kept there long-term.

It is inevitable that their perceptions of the place will remain tainted. Tal Afar elders are involved in reconciliation efforts between Sunni Arab tribes and Yazidis across Nineveh province.

The Yazidis want the tribes to hand over names of all their members who joined ISIS. Even if this happens, the name Tal Afar will inevitably remain branded in some people's minds as synonymous with ISIS. "I'd never pass by Tal Afar because its people have destroyed us, taking our women and children," said one Yazidi survivor I spoke to in Nineveh.

Of course, many of Tal Afar's residents – both Sunni and Shia – suffered enormously under ISIS too. But perceptions and feelings aren't logical. That is one of the hardest things.

eds to heal once again



By appealing to voters who feel alienated from Washington life, Mr Trump has exposed a frightening side of America: one that is racist, polarised and, as we saw in El Paso and Dayton, sometimes violent.

republican form of government that defined the US has morphed into something more aggressive and populist.

By appealing to voters who feel alienated from Washington life, Mr Trump has exposed a frightening side of America: one that is racist, polarised and, as we saw in El Paso and Dayton, sometimes violent. He has repeatedly shown a disdain for nearly all the pillars of democracy: freedom of press; human rights; the rule of law.

According to a report from the Alliance for Justice advocacy group in the US, Mr Trump's attacks on the justice system are systematic. It states he expects undying loyalty from those in law enforcement but has simultaneously tried to undermine pro-

ceedings and flouted constitutional rights.

This is the tip of the iceberg. Mr Trump denies climate change, which will have lasting effects on generations to come. He is friendly to rogue governments. He has torn up treaties, not necessarily because he does not believe in them but because they were instigated by his predecessor, Barack Obama.

There are growing calls for his impeachment but it is a fantasy to think Mr Trump and his family members – whom he has installed as his closest advisers, with security clearances, despite the fact they have no credentials for the job – will leave the White House, board a helicopter and return to Mar-a-Lago forever.

Nixon was once seen as the epitome of corruption and misuse of power. Forty-five years on, the shootings in Texas and Ohio, a bitter war of words and accusations of racism in Congress, and allegations of outside interference in elections are once again indicative of a divided nation.

Yet despite the pain of 1974, some good emerged from the wreckage: reckoning, responsibility, new laws and regulations. Trust, eventually, was restored. Forty five years after Nixon, we need that healing again.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Called on His Majesty the King of Bhutan. We discussed ways to further deepen partnership between India and Bhutan.

@narendramodi

02



Major consideration is being given to naming ANTIFA an "ORGANIZATION OF TERROR." Portland is being watched very closely. Hopefully the Mayor will be able to properly do his job!

@realDonaldTrump

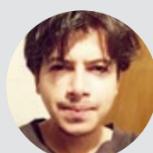
03



I am personally touched to see that Shri @narendramodi is acknowledging and responding to all the students, teachers and villagers greeting him on his way to Thimphu. This reinforces the fact that he is very down-to-earth and real. His affection for children are clear and visible.

@PMBhutan

04



UNSC meeting on Kashmir: China-Pakistan attempt to censure India at UN Security Council (UNSC) fails. Russia came out in support of India and stated that India has taken the Kashmir decision as it is an internal matter. France and US also backed India at the consultation.

@AskAnshul

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

Are employment fairs really 'fair'?



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

It is a scenario that well-meaning labour officials are familiar with – and also job-seekers.

Faced with a slowdown in the jobs market, labour authorities organise job fairs at which companies are invited to a speed networking session with qualified but unemployed people and encouraged to recruit from amongst them to fill vacancies.

A large number of available jobs are announced – in the hundreds, if the marketing and publicity is to be believed – and the job-seekers throng to the fair, clutching their CVs and certificates, hope in their eyes and a prayer in their hearts.

Much marketing efforts are invested in the exhibition before and after the event.

Yes indeed, we are thankful to the Ministry of Labor and Social affairs for holding job fairs from time to time. But what is the reality? A graduate told me that since graduating four years ago she is still looking for a job, to no avail, although she has added to her qualifications with several short training courses and is well-qualified for the advertised jobs.

She told me that she is always greeted effusively by the HR management at these fairs, who interview her keenly and promise to call her for the next and final round. Alas, that call never comes. There are many young people like this girl, who are on that treadmill of unmet promises.

Don't get me wrong. The job fairs are important for recruitment and for giving job-seekers a chance to meet potential employers. Tamkeen, which underwrites Bahraini employment by offering salary subsidies to employers and training for job-seekers, makes the recruitment of Bahrainis an easy and necessary step in the growth of business.

What we perhaps need to do is fine-tune the jobs fair process and make the participating firms accountable for the results. Why, for instance, did a firm meet 100 job-seekers but then fill the position with somebody who did not attend the job-fair?

Was it because none of the job-seekers had qualifications to match their needs? Or because the new recruit was their Managing Director's nephew or niece? We must get private firms to fill out assessment forms so that the ministry can streamline the jobs fairs and make sure that the quality of job-seekers and the quality of jobs are such that they represent growth for the youth of our country and progress for Bahrain.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)

We must get private firms to fill out assessment forms so that the ministry can streamline the jobs fairs and make sure that the quality of job-seekers and the quality of jobs are such that they represent growth for the youth of our country and progress for Bahrain.

business

UK PM may meet Macron ahead of G7: sources

Paris, France

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson may hold talks on Brexit with French President Emmanuel Macron ahead of next week's G7 summit, French diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Johnson will "probably" see Macron in Paris ahead of the August 24-26 Group of Seven summit in the southern French resort of Biarritz, one of the sources said without giving a date.

A spokesman for German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Friday that a meeting with Johnson in Berlin was "expected very soon".

"The chancellor and the new Prime Minister Boris Johnson have already spoken once on the telephone. But getting round a table together to discuss Brexit and other European issues... is of course useful," the spokesman said.

The Johnson government says it is determined to take Britain out of the European Union by October 31.

US to delay Huawei ban another 90 days

Reuters | Singapore/Washington

The US Commerce Department is expected to extend a reprieve given to Huawei Technologies that permits the Chinese firm to buy supplies from US companies so that it can service existing customers, two sources familiar with the situation said.

The "temporary general license" will be extended for Huawei for 90 days, the sources said.

Commerce initially allowed Huawei to purchase some American-made goods in May shortly after blacklisting the company in a move aimed at minimizing disruption for its customers, many of which operate networks in rural America. An extension will renew an agreement set to lapse on August 19, continuing the Chinese company's ability to maintain existing telecommunications networks and provide software



Richard Yu, head of Huawei's consumer business, unveils the company's new HarmonyOS operating system during a press conference in Dongguan, Guangdong province

updates to Huawei handsets. The situation surrounding the license, which has become a key bargaining chip for the United States in its trade negotiations with China, remains fluid and the decision to continue the Huawei reprieve could change ahead of the Monday deadline, the sources said.

US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping are expected to discuss

Huawei in a call this weekend, one of the sources said.

Huawei did not have an immediate comment. China's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a faxed request for comment.

When the Commerce Department blocked Huawei from buying US goods earlier this year, it was seen as a major escalation in the trade war between the world's two top economies.

The US government blacklisted Huawei alleging the Chinese company is involved in activities contrary to national security or foreign policy interests.

The world's largest telecommunications equipment maker is still prohibited from buying American parts and components to manufacture new products without additional special licenses.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross told reporters late last month he had received more than 50 applications, and that he expected to receive more.

Trump says Apple will spend 'vast sums' in US



US President Donald Trump speaks alongside Apple CEO Tim Cook

Washington, United States

Donald Trump said Friday that tech giant Apple would be spending "vast sums" of money in the US in a tweet ahead of a dinner meeting with its CEO Tim Cook.

The men have had several informal meetings before, including at Bedminster, New Jersey, where Trump is reportedly on a working holiday at his golf course.

"Having dinner tonight with Tim Cook of Apple. They will be spending vast sums of money in the US Great!" he tweeted at around 7 pm local time.

The meeting follows Thursday's announcement from Apple that it has invested roughly \$60 billion in the US, and currently employs some 90,000 people in the country.

Many of the tech giant's products are assembled in Chi-

na and the company opposes incoming tariffs -- an issue Trump is fixated on -- of 10 percent on goods manufactured in China, due to come into force on September 1.

Trump has rejected Apple's calls for an exemption on its products, tweeting in July the company should, "Make them in the USA, No Tariffs!"

But his administration announced Thursday tariffs on some goods would be delayed until December.

Apple did not immediately respond to comment about the dinner, and Trump did not tweet again about the meeting, or what was discussed.

The president's latest missive comes after a gaffe in March when he referred to Cook as "Tim Apple".

Trump later claimed the naming was deliberate and a "time saving" measure.

Cathay Pacific's torrid week ends with shock CEO resignation

Hong Kong, China

Cathay Pacific announced the shock resignation on Friday of its CEO Rupert Hogg, compounding a torrid week for the Hong Kong carrier after it was excoriated by Beijing because some staff supported pro-democracy protests.

Over the last two weeks the airline emerged as a target on the mainland after some of its 27,000-strong workforce took part in, or voiced support for, the protests.

During a general strike earlier in the month, some staff joined in, including the union representing Cathay Pacific's flight



Rupert Hogg

attendants.

China's reaction was swift.

State media began writing a series of condemnations of Cathay, accusing it of not doing enough to rein in its workers.

Cathay moved into damage limitation mode, firing four members of staff associated with the protests -- including two pilots -- agreeing to comply with the new regulations and releasing a series of statements supporting Hong Kong's embattled government.

But it appears those moves were not enough to save its chief Hogg, who has been credited with helping to turn the airline profitable after two years of losses.

In a statement posted on the Hong Kong stock exchange on Friday, Cathay said Hogg had resigned "to take responsibility as a leader of the Company in view of recent events".

"The Board of Directors believes that it is the right time for new leadership to take Cathay Pacific forward," Cathay said in a statement.

Another senior Cathay executive, Chief Customer and Commercial Officer Paul Loo, also announced his departure.

Hogg has been replaced by Augustus Tang, a veteran of the Swire Group conglomerate, Cathay's main shareholder.

StanChart faces fine for sanctions breaches

Reuters | Bengaluru

Banking group Standard Chartered is facing a fine for failing to prevent sanctions breaches, *Sky News* reported yesterday.

Britain's Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation, which includes police and intelligence officers as well as finance ministry officials,

has notified the lender that it aims to impose a penalty of more than 10 million pounds (\$12 million) on the bank in coming weeks, *Sky News* said.

The bank agreed in April to pay \$1.1 billion to U.S. and British authorities for conducting illegal financial transactions that violated sanctions against Iran and other countries.

NBB announces Alwatani savings scheme July winners



The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) announced winners of its Al Watani Savings Scheme monthly prize for July. The winners, who each won USD 25,000 in cash, are Khairiya Hassan Khalil Alaskari, Ali Isa Saleh Ah-med, Suad Makki Jassim Burni and Jalila Mohsin Al-Alawi. Commenting, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani Head of Retail Banking at NBB, said, "We look forward to announcing our year-end Dream prize soon, which is set to be the largest in the Bank's history."



Hand-painted cartography on oval shaped strips called "gores" dry



An artist prepare a glass-fibre cast



An artist applies paintwork to a globe

'It's not a career you ever think about'

In a London workshop, artisans craft bespoke globes

London, United Kingdom

In 2008, Peter Bellerby set out to buy his father a high quality handmade globe as an 80th birthday present.

When he could not find one, the Briton decided to make it himself -- and, in the process, catapulted himself into a new profession.

Just over a decade later, his company Bellerby and Co claims to be the finest globemaker in the world, selling tailor-made products to an array of international buyers.

They include heads of state and big companies as well as everyday people wanting to mark a special occasion.

"There's no one really making bespoke globes like this, with the involvement we have with customers," Bellerby said, during a tour of his 4,000-square-foot (370-square-metre) manufacturing studio on a quiet London backstreet.

It was littered with half-finished globes as his team of two dozen illustrators, painters, cartographers, constructors, engravers and woodworkers toiled beneath strips of paper drying on washing lines overhead.

"It's not a career you ever think about," the 54-year-old said.

"I'm really proud of where we've got to."

The scale of the operation

contrasts with its humble beginnings when Bellerby, an ex-property developer among other former professions, began making just a handful of globes each year in a small shop around the corner.

Now the business turns out around 600 globes annually -- some destined to sit in grand mansions and aboard yachts.

They range in size and price, with the smallest starting at 1,200 pounds (1,300 euros, \$1,500) and the biggest costing around 79,000 pounds.

Instagram progress reports

Bellerby spent much of the first year or two of the venture perfecting how to make his globes, largely by trial and error, before passing on the know-how.

Trainees will toil for around a year learning the craft before being trusted to work on finishing products.

The creative process starts by sourcing composite or resin spheres, which form the basis of the globes, from another company -- the only stage not done in-house.

Illustrators and cartographers work with clients -- over months, sometimes years -- to decide what will appear on its surface, with requests for everything from animals to ocean liners on the maps.

Wide-format printers, using ink guaranteed

for 80 to 200 years, are used to relay the basic geographical outlines chosen onto special paper, whose properties allow it to be dunked in water and then stretched.

Once printed, the paper is cut into precise shapes called gores, then painted by hand using watercolours.

After the paper is delicately applied to the globe, it undergoes further rounds of watercolour painting before it is finally sealed with either a gloss or a matte finish.

"The really difficult process to work out is how to stretch a piece of paper, that just wants to rip and tear, over a sphere," Bellerby said.

The completed globe is next paired with a base, traditionally a wooden axis on a table but now increasingly an alternative to this with roller bearings, which allow the whole globe to rotate and be more accessible.

The entire process -- which can take from just weeks to as long as 18 months, depending on the size -- is documented on the firm's Instagram account so customers can see their orders progress.

Machines are avoided as much as possible.

'Churchill globes'

Bellerby's biggest offerings -- 50 inches (125 centimetres) in diameter -- were inspired by 48-inch globes made by the US Army during World War II for president Franklin Roosevelt and British prime minister Winston Churchill.

Bellerby has vowed to make just 40 of these "Churchill globes", and has already completed 17, turning out a couple a year.

"It's probably the largest printed globe ever made," he said, noting that they differ from so-called manuscript globes -- which have blank

paper attached to

them ready to be painted -- and another variant which sees oil paints applied directly onto the sphere.

Bellerby has learned that mapping can present a minefield of political grievances and sensitivities, and worse.

Indian customs officials temporarily impounded one globe over how their country's border with Pakistan was depicted,

while several customers have asked for Israel not to be included on their map -- which Bellerby said he politely declined to do.

He also must keep abreast of countries changing their names, such as Swaziland becoming eSwatini last year.

"The problem with cartography is each country has its own idea of the world," Bellerby said.

In 2008, Peter Bellerby set out to buy his father a high quality handmade globe as an 80th birthday present. When he could not find one, the Briton decided to make it himself -- and, in the process, catapulted himself into a new profession.



Artisan globemaker, Peter Bellerby poses for a photograph at the Bellerby and Co Globemakers' workshop and headquarters in Stoke Newington in north London

Fitch, S&P cut Argentina's credit rating

● **Ratings agency Fitch downgraded the crisis-hit government's credit rating two notches to "CCC" from "B." Standard & Poor's dropped it a single grade from "B" to "B-."**

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Argentina's peso ended a tumultuous week Friday having shed 20 per cent in its value against the US dollar as both Fitch and S&P cut the South American country's long-term credit rating, citing increased uncertainty and a rising risk of default.

The peso gained 2.75pc to trade at 58.12 to the dollar on Friday, after several days of free-fall were halted Thursday following a joint appeal for calm by President Mauricio Macri and his center-left rival Alberto Fernandez.

But the outlook remains uncertain after markets went into turmoil following Macri's crushing defeat by the populist Fernandez in nationwide primary polls on Sunday.

"The Argentine peso has stabilized over the past few trading days but the collapse earlier this week has made a sovereign debt default highly likely," said analysts Capital Economics in a note.

Ratings agency Fitch downgraded the crisis-hit government's credit rating two notches to "CCC" from "B." Standard & Poor's dropped it a single grade from "B" to "B-."

"The pronounced turbulence of the financial market, with a significant depreciation of the Argentine peso and a rise in interest rates... has significantly weakened the already vulnerable financial profile," added S&P.

"The downgrade of Argentina's ratings reflects elevated policy uncertainty... a severe tightening of financing conditions and an expected deterioration



Argentina's President Mauricio Macri offers a press conference at Casa Rosada Presidential Palace in Buenos Aires

“The downgrade of Argentina's ratings reflects elevated policy uncertainty... a severe tightening of financing conditions and an expected deterioration in the macroeconomic environment that increase the likelihood of a sovereign default or restructuring of some kind”

FITCH

in the macroeconomic environment that increase the likelihood of a sovereign default or restructuring

of some kind," Fitch said in its announcement.

Increased risk

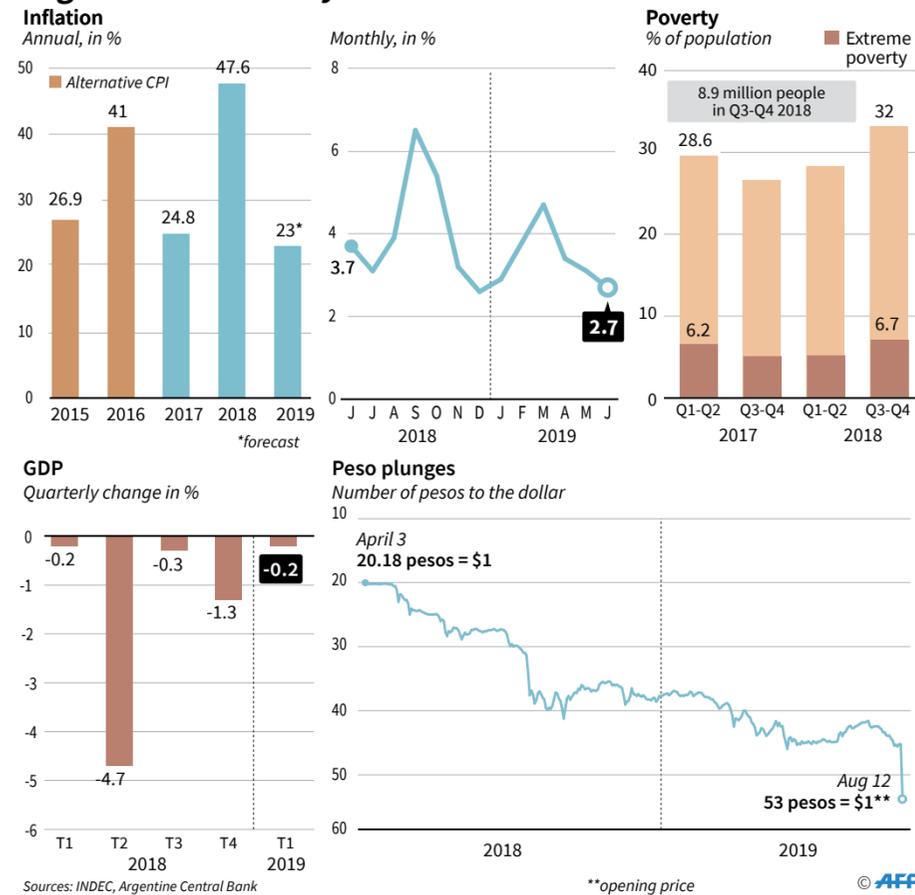
Fitch said the center-right's crushing political defeat in the primaries "increases risks of a break from the policy strategy of the current administration of Mauricio Macri guided by a program with the IMF."

Fernandez, now the clear favorite to unseat Macri in October's presidential election, has questioned the reform program backed by a \$56 billion rescue package from the International Monetary Fund.

The country is currently in a recession and posted 22 percent inflation for the first half of the year -- one of the highest rates in the world -- but the IMF said Macri's reform program was beginning to yield results.

Macri reacted on Wednesday by announcing salary hikes and tax cuts in a bid to win back voters with the October 27 presi-

Argentina's economy



dential election looming.

Macri said the measures would "benefit 17 million workers and their families and all small and medium-sized businesses, formal and informal, state and private."

He also announced an unspecified increase in the monthly minimum wage -- currently 12,500 pesos, or \$208 -- saying it would benefit two million workers.

In Buenos Aires, the sudden crisis left many businesses reeling.

"It took us by surprise," said Juan Manuel Bujia, commercial manager of the Rodo home appliance chain that employs 400 people.

"A lot of people anticipating the increases have been coming in to buy knowing prices are go-

ing to be higher next week and next month," Bujia said.

He said his suppliers had already priced in 10 percent increases on Argentine products and up to 15 percent on imports. "We are trying to pass on as little as possible" to customers, he said.

US retailer Walmart, which has 92 branches in Argentina, said it had seen a 15-20 percent hike in sales volumes between Monday and Wednesday and had not yet increased prices.

"It happens to us when there is a foreign exchange movement and people want to beat any price shift, especially with essentials like oil, sugar, flour, yerba mate and some dairy products," Walmart official Juan Pablo Quiroga told AFP.

Quiroga said some suppliers

had notified the retailer of price increases "from the end of this week or next week."

Buenos Aires has a fraught history with the IMF, and Fitch said "policy credibility and market access could still be severely tested amid weak economic conditions, high public debt and inflation."

Argentina defaulted on its debt in 2001 during the worst economic crisis in its history, and it took years before it could restore its credibility in world financial markets.

Fernandez said this week he considered an exchange rate of 60 pesos to the dollar as "reasonable" and said it should no longer fluctuate wildly.

Going into last weekend's primary elections, the peso was trading at 46.5 to the dollar.

UK court opens way for \$9bn claim against Nigeria

London, United Kingdom

A British judge on Friday gave the green light for a tiny private firm to seize more than \$9 billion in assets from the Nigerian government over a failed natural gas deal.

The amount represents one-fifth of the foreign reserves held by Africa's largest economy.

The decade-long dispute pits an unheralded firm founded by two Irish business partners against an energy-rich but politically-troubled nation of 200 million people.

The 2010 deal between the Process and Industrial Developments Limited (P&ID) company -- widely reported to be registered in the British Virgin Islands -- and the Nigerian government was meant to be a win-win for both sides.

It provided for P&ID to "build a state-of-the-art gas processing plant to refine natural gas... (that) Nigeria would receive free of charge to power its national electric grid," according to the company's website.



Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari waves at the crowd while he drives around the venue during his inauguration for a second term in Abuja, Nigeria

P&ID intended to sell the by-products from the process on the global market for "profits in the billions of dollars."

London court documents released on Friday showed that the arrangement fell through in 2012 without P&ID ever breaking ground on the plant.

It sued Nigerian government for breaching the agreement by failing to provide the gas -- or install the promised pipelines.

An arbitration tribunal in London awarded the firm \$6.6 billion (5.9 billion euros) in damages in January 2017.

P&ID said accrued interest of \$1.2 million a day had pushed that amount to more than \$9 billion -- about one-fifth of Nigeria's declared foreign reserves of \$45 billion.

The government's legal team countered that English courts did not have the jurisdiction to settle the dispute.

It told the English court that the original agreement was struck under "Nigerian law, and that as a matter of Nigerian law

the seat of the arbitration was Nigeria.

The government's lawyers added that the settlement was "manifestly excessive and penal," according to court documents.

But P&ID insisted that it was up to the English arbitration tribunal to decide where the case should be heard -- and who should issue the final ruling.

Justice Christopher Butcher of the Commercial Court in London agreed.

"I am prepared to make an order enforcing the final award," he wrote in his ruling on Friday.

"I will receive submissions from the parties as to the precise form of order appropriate."

A lawyer representing P&ID said the firm intended to "begin the process of seizing Nigerian assets in order to satisfy this award as soon as possible," the Bloomberg news agency reported.

The Nigeria government issued no immediate comment.

SoftBank plans to lend up to \$20bn to employees to invest in new fund: WSJ

Reuters

Japan's SoftBank Group Corp is planning to lend up to \$20 billion to its employees, including Chief Executive Masayoshi Son, to buy stakes in its second Vision Fund, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Saturday, citing people familiar with the matter.

The loans are likely to have an interest rate of about 5pc, the *WSJ* said, citing a source.

The government of Kazakhstan, an investor in the fund, is expected to make a contribution of about \$3 billion while banks such as Goldman Sachs Group Inc, Britain's Standard Chartered PLC and Japan's Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group Inc have also indicated they are willing to invest several hundred million dollars each.

SHOW



MICHELE COOPER

ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD (18+)(DRAMA/COMEDY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.30 + 6.00 + 11.30 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 12.00 + 5.30 + 11.00 PM.
 CITY CENTRE : 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM.
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX2D): 12.45 + 6.45 + (12.45 MN. THURS./FRI.)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I): 10.30 AM. + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM.
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 11.00 AM + 1.15 + 4.30 + 7.45 + 11.00 PM
 LEONARDO DICAPRIO, BRAD PITT, MARGOT ROBBIE

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD (PG)(ADVENTURE/

OASIS JUFFAIR 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.15 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 3.15 + 8.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM. + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SAAR: 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 ISABELA MONER, Q'ORIANKA KILCHER, BENICIO DEL TORO

MISSION MANGAL (PG-13)(HINDI/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM
 AKSHAY KUMAR, VIDYA BALAN, ANIRBAN BHATTACHARYYA

BATLA HOUSE (15+)(HINDI/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.15 + 5.45 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 JOHN ABRAHAM, MRUNAL THAKUR, NORA FATEHI

MASTER 2: IP MAN LEGACY (PG-15)(ACTION/CRIME)

SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 3.00 + 7.30 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM
 JIN ZHANG, DAVE BAUTISTA, MICHELLE YEOH

THE CURRENT WAR (PG-15)(DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY)

SEEF (II): 12.45 + 5.15 + 9.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM
 BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH, TOM HOLLAND, NICHOLAS HOULT

T-34 (PG-15)(ACTION/WAR/DRAMA)

SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 3.30 + 7.45 + 12.00 MN
 ALEXANDER PETROV, VINZENZ KIEFER, VICTOR DOBRONRAVOV

MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM NARRATIVE (PG-13)(ANIMATION/

Japanese (Arabic & English subtitle)
 SEEF (II): 1.30 + 5.45 + 10.00 PM
 J. DAVID BRIMMER, DANIEL J. EDWARDS, ERIKA ISHII

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (PG-15)(ACTION)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM + (12.45 MN THUS./FRI.)
 CITY CENTRE (ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX2D): 4.00 + 10.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE VIP (II): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM.
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 1.00 + 6.15 + 11.30 PM
 DWAYNE JOHNSON, JASON STATHAM, IDRIS ELBA

THE LION KING (PG)(ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 1.00 + 8.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM + (12.30 MN THURS./FRI.)
 SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 1.30 + 6.15 + 11.00 PM
 SAAR: 10.30 AM + 3.45 + 9.00 PM
 DONALD GLOVER, SETH ROGEN, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR

THE ANGRY BIRDS MOVIE 2 (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.15 + 3.30 + 5.45 + 8.00 + 10.15 PM

SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM
 SUDEIKIS, JOSH GAD, AWKAFINA

ALADDIN (PG)(ADVENTURE)

CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 WILL SMITH, NAOMI SCOTT, MENA MASSOUD

WELAD RIZK 2 (15+)(ARABIC/ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER)

CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 AHMAD EIZZ, AMR YOUSIF,

HELLO, LOVE, GOODBYE (PG-15)(FILIPINO/DRAMA)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM
 KATHRYN BERNARDO, ALDEN RICHARDS, MAYMAY ENTRATA

TOY STORY 4 (G)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 1.30 + 3.45 + 6.00 + 8.15 + 10.30 PM
 TOM HANKS, TIM ALLEN, JOAN CUSACK

SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE DARK (15+)(HORROR)

CITY CENTRE: 2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM
 ZOE MARGARET COLLETTI, MICHAEL GARZA, GABRIEL RUSH

SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME (PG-15)(ACTION)

CITY CENTRE: 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
 TOM HOLLAND, SAMUEL L. JACKSON, ZENDAYA

CRAWL (18+)(THRILLER/HORROR)

CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM
 KAYA SCODELARIO, BARRY PEPPER, ROSS ANDERSON

MOHAMMED HUSSAIN (PG-15)(ARABIC/COMEDY)

CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM
 MOHAMED SAAD, MAI SALEEM, MOHAMED THARWAT



CHAL MERA PUTT (PG-15) (PUNJABI)

SEEF (II): 11.00 AM. + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM.
 HAQI ALI, SIMI CHAHAL, AMRINDER GILL

THANNEER MATHAN DINANGAL (PG-13)(MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 VINEETH SREENIVASAN, IRSHAD, MATHEW THOMAS

AMBILI (PG-15) (MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.30 AM + 5.15 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 AL HAMRA : 6.00 + (12.00 MN. THURS./FRI.)
 SOUBIN SAHIR, NAVEEN NAZIM, TANVI RAM

COMALI (PG-13) (TAMIL)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 AL HAMRA : 9.00 PM
 JAYAM RAVI, KAJAL AGGARWAL, SAMYUKTHA HEGDE

RAKSHASUDU (PG-15) (TELEGU)

AL HAMRA : 12.00 NOON
 SAI SRINIVAS BALLAMKONDA, ANUPAMA PAREMESHWARAN

KOLAIYUTHIR KAALAM (PG-15) (TAMIL)

AL HAMRA: 3.00 PM
 NAYANTHARA, LEE NICHOLAS HARRIS, RO ASHIKA
 NERKONDA PAARVAI (PG-15)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 2.15 + 8.00 PM

VIDYA BALAN, AJITH KUMAR, SHRADDHA SRINATH

JABARIYA JODI (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 3.00 + 8.30 PM

SIDHARTH MALHOTRA, PARINEETI CHOPRA, APARSHAKTI KHURANA

MOVIE PREVIEW

Gerard Butler's Mike Banning is back in 'Angel Has Fallen'

The third Fallen installment sees Gerard Butler's beleaguered secret service agent becoming a fall guy

Gerard Butler go from hunter to hunted

Angel Has Fallen is an upcoming American action thriller film directed by Ric Roman Waugh, starring Gerard Butler and Morgan Freeman in the lead roles, with Jada Pinkett Smith, Lance Reddick, Tim Blake Nelson, Piper Perabo, Nick Nolte and Danny Huston in supporting roles.

It is the third installment in the Fallen film series, following Olympus Has Fallen (2013) and London Has Fallen (2016). The film follows United States Secret Service agent Mike Banning, who must race against time to clear his name after being framed for an attack on the US President, Allan Trumbull.

After the events in the previous film, Secret Service agent Mike Banning finds himself framed for an assassination attempt on President Allan Trumbull. Pursued by his own agency



A scene from 'Angel Has Fallen'

and the FBI, Banning turns to unlikely allies in a race against time to clear his name and uncover the real terrorist threat.

On October 28, 2016, it was announced that a sequel titled Angel Has Fallen is in development, with Gerard Butler reprising his

role, as well as once again acting as a producer on the film.

On July 25, 2017, Ric Roman Waugh was announced as di-

rector for Angel Has Fallen. On January 10th, 2018, Holt McCallany joined the cast as Wade Jennings, an ex-military turned



In the film, Secret Service Agent Mike Banning is framed for the attempted assassination of the President and must evade his own agency and the FBI as he tries to uncover the real threat

head of a technology company. On January 18, 2018, Jada Pinkett Smith and Tim Blake Nelson are confirmed to appear in Angel Has Fallen and the filming of it is set to start on February 7, 2018. On February 13, 2018, Piper Perabo joined the cast. On March 12, 2018, Lance Reddick joined the cast as Secret Service Director Gentry.

Aaron Eckhart, who played president Benjamin Asher in the first two films, is not returning to this film as The President of the United States. On March 21, 2018, Michael Landes is set to portray White House Chief of Staff Sam Wilcox. On January 22, 2019, David Buckley was announced as the film's composer, replacing Trevor Morris who scored the previous 2 films.

Angel Has Fallen commenced filming in Virginia Water Lake. Holt McCallany had to drop out of his role on Angel Has Fallen due to scheduling conflicts with the show Mindhunter.

It is scheduled to be released on August 23, 2019.

Miley Cyrus

celebs



Miley, Liam's families urge them to take some time before final decision

Los Angeles

While Miley Cyrus and husband have decided to parted ways, their families do not accept it and have urged them to take some time. Even when they were dating, the two went through a number of breakups and makeups. "Their families have urged them to take some time to breathe before they make any final decisions," E! News quoted a source as saying.

"They are both upset about how



Liam Hemsworth

this has blown up and are both hurting right now," the insider added.

The source further explained that till the time they were together before marriage, "they were in a great place," which led them to "finally tie the knot".

However, "their relationship completely changed" post their nuptials, added the insider.

And the couple even released a joint statement together announcing their split to which the source added that the two had different priorities in life.

"Miley got back in the studio and was focused and serious about her new music," the insider said.

Meanwhile, "Liam was continuing to party with his friends. They used to party, but Miley outgrew that phase," the source stated. And seems like the split is quite serious this time as the source told, "they are trying not to communicate and really give each other space."

A few days ago, the 'Nothing Breaks Like a Heart' and Hemsworth took everybody by surprise when they released a statement which read "Liam and Miley have agreed to separate at this time," the singer's representative said in a statement to the outlet.

Kerry Washington, Sterling K Brown teaming up for 'Shadow Force'

Los Angeles

Kerry Washington and Sterling K Brown will headline the action drama feature "Shadow Force".

The film is described as a "fresh take on 'Mr And Mrs Smith'" and will be produced by the two actors, reported Deadline.

The script has been penned by Leon Chills, who has also written the upcoming comedy "Heaven Hath No Fury."

Washington, best known for "Scandal", "Confirmation" and "Django Unchained", will produce through her banner Simpson Street with Pilar Savone.

Brown, the star of shows such as "The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story" and "This Is Us", will produce via his production house Indian Meadows Productions along with Danielle Reardon.

Washington is currently filming the Lynn Shelton-directed limited series "Little Fires Everywhere" for Hulu.



Kerry Washington

Heather Locklear ordered to mental facility in police battery case

Los Angeles

Actress Heather Locklear has been sentenced to 30 days in a mental health facility for the cop battery case.

According to TMZ, the actress pleaded no contest to eight misdemeanors -- six of which were related to the battery of a police officer or EMT.

The judge stayed a 120-day jail sentence, meaning Locklear must complete the 30-day treatment or face the jail sentence.

Once she is done with the imprisonment, she'll be on three years of informal or unsupervised probation.



Heather Locklear

Olivia Colman to guest star in 'The Simpsons'

Los Angeles

Academy Award winner Olivia Colman is the latest addition to the star-studded voice cast of "The Simpsons".

The actor, who will be seen essaying the part of Queen Elizabeth II in the third season of "The Crown", will feature in the upcoming 31st season of the animated show.

Colman has joined the season 31 guest roster that also includes John Legend, Chrissy Teigen, Jason Momoa, Bob Odenkirk, John Mulaney and Jane Goodall.



Olivia Colman

Nicki Minaj changes Twitter name to 'Mrs. Petty' amidst marriage speculations

Los Angeles

Ahead of her marriage to beau Kenneth Petty, rapper Nicki Minaj has changed her Twitter profile name to 'Mrs. Petty'.

The rapper has announced that she will marry Petty in "about 80 days" on Monday's episode of her 'Queen Radio' show.

The 'Barbie Dreams' singer explained that she and Petty "filed for the marriage license and still



Nicki Minaj

had to pick it up", but since she was travelling, she had to get the license renewed, People reported.

"From that time, you have 90 days to get married. That was about a week ago, so now I have about 80 days," Minaj shared.

Minaj revealed that she and Petty are planning to celebrate their union with a small, intimate ceremony and will plan a big wedding as per her work schedule later.

Caitriona Balfe marries boyfriend Tony McGill

Los Angeles

"Outlander" star Caitriona Balfe has tied the knot with boyfriend Tony McGill.



Tony McGill

Beasley-Suffolk, who performed a Roman Catholic service."

The couple is yet to officially announce their wedding.

Sam Heughan, who stars opposite Balfe in the Starz show, seems to have attended the wedding after he shared a photo on Monday from what appears to be the ceremony.

Dressed in a gray suit, blue and black tie, and black shoes, Heughan captioned the photo, "Remarkable weekend."

Balfe had revealed during the 2018 Golden Globes that McGill had proposed to her "over the break" from the show's shooting.

They first sparked dating rumours after they were seen together in 2015 when a friend shared an Instagram video of Balfe sitting on McGill's lap.

Brody Jenner still 'best friends' with ex-wife Kaitlynn Carter

Los Angeles

Brody Jenner who called it quits with his ex-wife Kaitlynn Carter earlier this month said that he is still 'best friends' with her.

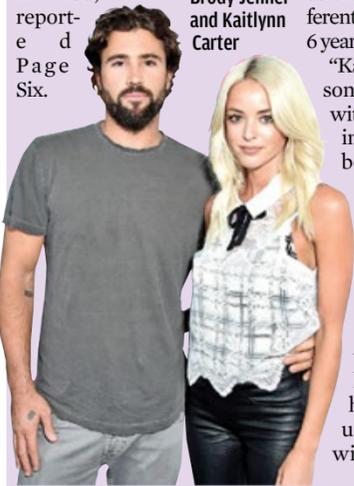
"The Hills: New Beginnings" star issued a statement defending his ex. The couple revealed that they were never legally married, reported Page Six.

Brody Jenner and Kaitlynn Carter

"There is far too much negativity being directed at someone who I love and care about very much," Jenner wrote on his Instagram account.

"I feel the need to set the story straight. Kaitlynn and I have been best friends for 6 years, and we continue to be. We like many others before us and many after us grew in different directions over those same 6 years," he added.

"Kaitlynn is a wonderful person, beautiful and fun to be with, always a positive force in my life. We decided the best move for both of us was to keep our love for each other strong but move forward separately with our lives. I respect Kaitlynn and care deeply about her. She deserves to be able to move forward in her life with respect and happiness," he continued. Carter responded with a heart emoji.



Caitriona Balfe

Kristen Wiig is engaged to longtime boyfriend Avi Rothman!

Los Angeles

Actor Kristen Wiig and longtime boyfriend and actor Avi Rothman are engaged!

However, the couple exchanged rings earlier this year but the news was confirmed on Friday by People. The duo kept their engagement a private affair.

Wiig and Rothman have been together for more than three years but first came into the spotlight when they were spotted together in 2016. They were seen engaged in some PDA in Kauai, Hawaii.

"They're really happy together," a source close to the couple told People.

The two first sparked engagement rumours back in May this year when Wiig was spotted wearing a big ring on her left ring finger at a premiere.



Kristen Wiig and Avi Rothman

On the work front, Wiig is currently working for her upcoming feature 'Barb and Star Go to Vista Del Mar' which also stars Annie Mulolo. The two have reunited after writing an Oscar-nominated script for 2011 romantic-comedy 'Bridesmaids'.

Martin Freeman confirms 'Black Panther' return

Los Angeles

Marvel Studios may not have made any formal announcements about "Black Panther" sequel, but actor Martin Freeman has confirmed his involvement in the project.

Freeman, who played CIA Agent Everett Ross in the Chadwick Boseman-fronted 2018 film, said he is not sure when the much-anticipated sequel will get into production.

"As far as I know, I will be (returning). As far as I know, I will be in another Black Panther. That's my understanding. As to when that will happen, I don't know," Freeman told Collider when asked about his return to Marvel Cinematic Universe.



Martin Freeman

SPORTS
sports

Lewandowski to the rescue as Hertha hold Bayern in season opener



Bayern Munich's Polish forward Robert Lewandowski (R) scores the opening goal next to Hertha Berlin's Australian midfielder Mathew Leckie

AFP | Berlin

Abbrace for Robert Lewandowski was not enough to save Bayern Munich from making a spluttering start to the new Bundesliga season as the reigning German champions were held to a 2-2 draw at home to Hertha Berlin on Friday.

Lewandowski insisted that visitors Hertha had been "lucky" after he saved a point for Bayern with a second-half penalty.

Hertha, who finished 11th last season, cancelled out Lewandowski's opener with two unusual goals to take a surprise lead in the first half and ultimately deal an early blow to Bayern's title defence.

"We didn't play badly, and they barely had a shot. They were lucky," Lewandowski told ZDF.

"It wasn't a false start to the season. We were the better team and should have won," said coach Niko Kovac.

Despite winning the domestic double last season, Bayern opened the season under pressure after a 2-0 defeat to Borussia Dortmund in the German Supercup two weeks ago.

Questions over Kovac's tactics and relentless criticism of the club's transfer policy had also unsettled Bayern in the build-up, but they looked sharp early on as Joshua Kimmich and Serge Gnabry probed

and prodded on the right wing.

The duo finally broke Hertha on 24 minutes, as Kimmich set up Gnabry to send a fizzing cross towards Lewandowski, who prodded home at full stretch from close range.

With Bayern completely in control, Hertha struck twice in quick succession to turn the game on its head.

The equaliser arrived with a dollop of good fortune on 36 minutes, as a hopeful long-range effort from Dodi Lukebakio deflected off Vedad Ibisevic and wrong-footed goalkeeper Manuel Neuer.

Three minutes later, Hertha took the lead in curious fashion after Marko Grujic clashed heads with new Bayern signing Benjamin Pavard.

While Pavard pulled up holding his head, Grujic managed to chase down the loose ball and round Neuer before himself collapsing to the turf.

Both players were quickly back on their feet, and Grujic was in the spotlight again when he pulled down Lewandowski off the ball on the hour mark.

The resulting penalty, given by VAR, was coolly converted by the Polish striker to bring Bayern back on level terms.

Lewandowski, Gnabry and Corentin Tolisso all came close as Bayern pushed for the winner late on, but Hertha held sharp early on as Joshua Kimmich and Serge Gnabry probed

Barty reaches Cincy semis

● Ashleigh Barty edges closer to top WTA ranking with win over Maria Sakkari

● Naomi Osaka withdraws mid-match from Cincinnati with injury

AFP | Cincinnati

Ashleigh Barty edged closer to a return to the top WTA ranking on Friday, reaching the WTA semi-finals as current number one Naomi Osaka retired with a knee injury.

Barty, the Australian top seed, engineered her second comeback in as many days, overhauling Maria Sakkari 5-7, 6-2, 6-0.

But the US Open alarm bells were ringing for Osaka less than two weeks before the start of her title defence at Flushing Meadows after a left knee injury saw her retire against Sofia Kenin -- sending the American into the semis with a 6-4, 1-6, 2-0 victory.

Osaka's left knee trouble was more of a concern, the Japanese star admitting it put a cloud over her upcoming US Open title defence.

"Last year I won the US Open and this year I'm trying to play the US Open," she said.

"I don't even really think about winning the tournament. I just want to have the chance to play it. now.



Ashleigh Barty of Australia returns a shot to Maria Sakkari of Greece



Naomi Osaka's withdrawal comes after Serena Williams, the woman she beat in a tumultuous final at Flushing Meadows last year, pulled out of Cincinnati with back problems

"If there is a 1 percent chance of me not playing it, that's what's concerning me."

Osaka had won the second set to level the match when she first complained of apparent knee pain and after one game of the third set called for the physio.

With the knee heavily taped Osaka played one more game before packing it in and sending Kenin to the semis. "This is not the way I wanted to win," said Kenin, who will next play fellow American Madison Keys, a 6-2, 6-3 winner over Venus Williams.

French Open champion Barty will play for a place in the final against Russian veteran Svetlana Kuznetsova, who beat third seed Karolina Pliskova 3-6, 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 to end the Czech's

chances of claiming the number one ranking next week.

Serving for the match at 5-4 in the second set, Pliskova was broken. Kuznetsova dominated the ensuing tiebreaker and took charge in the third set as Pliskova began to fade.

"I tried to play every point and stay in there," Kuznetsova said. "She served amazing. She ached me almost every time I had a break point."

Barty said a potential return to number one wouldn't be her focus this weekend.

"I'm in the semis for the first time here," she said. "I'm not thinking of the ranking at all."

"I'm playing one match at a time. If I can win matches, the ranking will take care of itself."

Murray confident dropping doubles is necessary

AFP | Cincinnati

After flirting for a few months with doubles as he recovers from January hip surgery, Andy Murray said Friday that his days in that speciality are over.

Murray and Feliciano Lopez lost in the Cincinnati Masters men's doubles quarter-finals, going down in what for the 32-year-old Scot was an uncomfortable confrontation with his elder brother Jamie -- who combined with fellow Brit Ken Skupski for a 6-7 (5/7), 7-5, 10-4 defeat of

Murray and Lopez.

"It's tough to play against Jamie," Murray said after facing his sibling in doubles for only the second time.

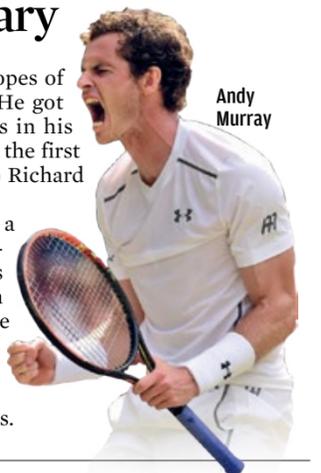
"It was not the most enjoyable match, the atmosphere felt a bit flat. But it was fine -- I'm glad Jamie got through."

Three-time Grand Slam champion Murray, who feared his career might be over before his hip operation, began playing doubles at Queen's Club in June, winning that grass court title with Lopez.

He said Friday he has decided

to dump doubles in hopes of returning to singles. He got a taste of what awaits in his comeback as he lost in the first round at Cincinnati to Richard Gasquet.

Murray accepted a wild card into the singles draw at next week's ATP tournament in Winston-Salem, but he will not play singles at the US Open where he would have to contest best-of-five set matches.



Andy Murray

Bilbao's 38-year-old striker stuns Barcelona in title defence opener

AFP | Madrid

Barcelona made a nightmare start to the defence of their La Liga title on Friday by losing 1-0 to Athletic Bilbao, after a sensational late volley from substitute Aritz Aduriz.

Suarez hobbled off in the 37th minute with what looked like a calf injury before Aduriz came on in the 88th, the 38-year-old striker who has announced he will retire at the end of the season.

This was a spectacular start to the finale as Aduriz threw himself into the air and acrobatically volleyed past Marc-Andre ter Stegen to send San Mames wild on La Liga's opening night.

"The competition has put us in our place," said Gerard Pique afterwards. "We were not us."

Barca were already without Lionel Messi, who sustained a calf injury during pre-season, and before kick-off confirmed they were about to lose Philippe Coutinho, a loan deal "agreed in principle" with Bayern Munich, according to the club's director Guillermo Amor.

Suarez will undergo tests on Tuesday to diagnose the length of his absence but Messi's return, and perhaps negotiations for Paris Saint-Germain striker Neymar, might assume added urgency during his absence.

Antoine Griezmann will be expected to step up too but after



Athletic Bilbao's Aritz Aduriz scores a goal

joining from Atletico Madrid in July, he endured an underwhelming debut. Coutinho is evidence of the need for time

to adjust. Bilbao, who finished eighth last season, held Barca to a goalless draw in February and they

were good value for another point until Aduriz intervened.

He has scored more than 200 goals in his 20-year career but perhaps none as memorable as this one. La Liga's first of the season may even prove to be its best.

'Beautiful football'

"Sometimes football can be so beautiful," said Aduriz afterwards. "It will be impossible not to miss this but everything has a beginning and an end. I am incredibly grateful to be able to choose this ending."

For Barca, there was at least the consolation of an excellent performance from Frenkie de Jong, also making his debut in place of Sergio Busquets.

De Jong fully justified his

place with a serene display, seamlessly linking midfield to attack and dictating tempo with a maturity well beyond his 22 years.

By contrast, Griezmann never really settled after a nervous start, allowing a simple pass to slip under his foot before hacking late at the shin of Unai Lopez.

Inaki Williams, meanwhile, fresh from signing a nine-year contract last week, started fast, as he saw a rasping shot pushed wide and then skipped in behind Nelson Semedo but was again denied by Ter Stegen.

De Jong was tidy and composed but Barca were less controlled and their rhythm knocked further by Suarez departing shortly before half-time.

Djokovic beats Pouille to reach Cincinnati semis



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot to Lucas Pouille of France

Reuters | Cincinnati

Novak Djokovic wore down Lucas Pouille after an even first set, dispatching the Frenchman 7-6(2) 6-1 in a Cincinnati Masters quarter-final in Ohio on Friday.

The match was much closer than when the pair met in the Australian Open semi-finals in January, when Djokovic conceded only four games before going on to win the title.

It took Djokovic nearly an hour to prevail in the first set but he closed out a one-sided tiebreak with a deft backhand passing shot.

The second was one-way traffic as the world number one played with relentless efficiency against an opponent who ran out of answers.

Perhaps the only concern for Djokovic with the U.S. Open looming in less than two weeks was a sore elbow which required brief treatment by his trainer late in the match.

"I managed to finish the match, had a little bit of tightness in my elbow but hopefully everything will be fine for tomorrow," Djokovic said in an on-court interview.



I managed to finish the match, had a little bit of tightness in my elbow but hopefully everything will be fine for tomorrow

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

He will have less than 24 hours to recover for a semi-final against Daniil Medvedev, who continued his recent hot form, ousting Russian compatriot Andrey Rublev 6-2 6-3 in barely an hour.

Medvedev, a career-high eighth in the rankings, faced only one break point.

He has made two finals in the past two weeks, losing to Nick Kyrgios in Washington and Rafa Nadal in Montreal.

In other quarter-final action, Frenchman Richard Gasquet continued his comeback from groin surgery by defeating 11th seeded Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut 7-6(2) 3-6 6-2.

Gasquet, who defeated Andy Murray in the opening round, set up a semi-final clash with Belgian 16th seed David Goffin.

Goffin advanced when his quarter-final opponent, Japan's Yoshihito Nishio, pulled out before their match on Friday due to illness.

Liverpool extend perfect start

Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino shoot Liverpool to victory at Southampton

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang sinks Burnley to maintain Arsenal's winning start

AFP | London

Liverpool made it two successive wins to start their Premier League title bid as goals from Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino clinched a hard-fought 2-1 victory over Southampton yesterday.

Jürgen Klopp's tired team were ragged in their passing and lacked organisation in defence, but still showed enough mental strength to come away with three points.

It was completely against the run of play when Senegal winger Mane put Liverpool ahead against his former club just before half time at St Mary's.

Brazil forward Firmino scored a clinical second but a dreadful error by Reds goalkeeper Adrian gifted a goal to Danny Ings that set up a tense finish.

Former Liverpool forward Ings should really have equalised to give Southampton what would have been a well-deserved point.

The reason for the Champions League winners' lacklustre display was not hard to find.

While Southampton were recovering from their defeat at

Burnley on the opening weekend of the season, Klopp's men were in Istanbul, playing extra-time against Chelsea in Wednesday's European Super Cup victory.

That gruelling trip seemed to take its toll against Southampton and Liverpool, who also faced Manchester City at Wembley in the Community Shield 13 days ago, looked out on their feet at times.

Liverpool soon began to struggle against a lively home side, who should have gone ahead after 21 minutes when Maya Yoshida got above Virgil Van Dijk to reach a corner from James Ward-Prowse, only to see Adrian parry his header to safety.

The Spanish goalkeeper was in action again just short of the half-hour, pushing out a low cross from Ryan Bertrand and for a few seconds all was chaos in the Liverpool penalty area as defenders tried in vain to clear the ball.

And neither Joel Matip nor Van Dijk dealt with a first-time cross by Ward-Prowse from the right, Che Adams getting between them to nod the ball over the crossbar.

Second wind

Mane gave Liverpool the lead in first half stoppage-time when he took a pass inside from James Milner before sidestepping a defender and curling a shot inside



Roberto Firmino of Liverpool vies for the ball with Oriol Romeu of Southampton

the far post.

That and the interval seemed to give Liverpool their second wind.

Mohamed Salah had an excellent chance to double their lead 10 minutes after half-time when he raced clear of defenders, but the Egypt striker failed to disguise his shot, allowing Angus Gunn to spread himself and save.

Firmino sliced the ball wide of goal after Mane had outpaced the defence and swept the ball in low from the left.

Southampton sent on Ings and

he faded a shot just over the crossbar from distance.

But after 70 minutes Liverpool showed again how deadly they can be when teams relax against them even for a second.

Mane won the ball from Southampton's own throw-in and found Firmino, who danced inside along the edge of the penalty area, waited his moment and shot low past Gunn.

Andrew Robertson was denied a goal-of-the-month contender when Gunn dived to his right to block the Scotland

left-back's volley after a quick exchange of passes with Mane.

Adrian had to save well when Matip deflected Stuart Armstrong's cross towards the corner of his own net.

But the goalkeeper blundered badly with seven minutes left, hitting an attempted clearance against Ings' right foot and back into goal under no pressure at all.

And Ings miskicked from six yards when any sort of contact would have produced an equaliser in the closing moments.

Brave Smith out for 92 after being hit in head by Archer bouncer

AFP | London

Australia batsman Steve Smith just missed his third Ashes hundred in as many innings after returning following a sickening blow to the neck from a Jofra Archer bouncer on the fourth day of the second Test against England at Lord's yesterday.

Smith left the field during the day's second session. He came back and was eventually out leg before wicket for 92, the first time this series he had failed to make three figures.

The star batsman was on 80 when he turned away from an express delivery from England fast bowler Archer timed at 92.4 mph. The ball struck him on the side of the neck and head.

Smith, fell face forward onto the ground. He was wearing a helmet without the additional neck protection that was introduced following the death of Phillip Hughes after his former Australia team-mate died after being hit by a bouncer in a 2014 domestic Sheffield Shield match in Sydney.

Smith received several minutes of on-field treatment involving both Australian and English medical staff.

He got to his feet but, after a prolonged conversation with Australia team doctor Richard Saw, decided to retire hurt.

Smith received a generous round of applause as he walked back into the pavilion.

Australia were then 203-6, 55 runs behind England's first-in-



Australia's Steve Smith plays a shot

nings 258.

World Cup-winner Archer, making his Test debut, had previously struck Smith on his unprotected forearm with another bouncer during a fiery eight-over spell that cost 31 runs.

Smith resumed his innings as soon as he could. After 46 minutes off the field, he came back in when Peter Siddle was caught behind off Chris Woakes to leave Australia 218-7.

From the second and third balls he faced on his return, Smith hit two fours off Woakes: a slammed shot over mid-on followed by a backfoot drive through the covers.

But on 92, facing his ninth ball after resuming, Smith shouldered arms to a Woakes delivery that nipped back and was plumb lbw to leave Australia 234-8.

Smith turned towards the

pavilion, signalling that he was reviewing umpire Chris Gafaney's decision almost as an after-thought.

Replays confirmed his dismissal, with Smith receiving more applause from the MCC members in the pavilion as he walked back in.

A Cricket Australia spokesman, explaining how Smith had been allowed to resume his innings, said: "Steve was hit on the neck below the left ear.

"He was assessed lying on the pitch at the instructions of team doctor Richard Saw.

"Dr Saw made the precautionary decision to remove Steve from the field of play to have him further assessed under Cricket Australia's head impact protocol. Steve then passed his assessments and will now be monitored on an ongoing basis, as is routine."

Sri Lanka set up final day thriller against New Zealand



Sri Lanka's Dimuth Karunaratne plays a shot

AFP | Galle, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's batters set the stage yesterday for a thrilling final day, reaching 133 without loss at stumps on day four as they chased 268 to beat New Zealand in the first Test in Galle.

Openers Dimuth Karunaratne and Lahiru Thirimanne were involved in a record opening stand of 133 runs and benefited from some sloppy fielding by the tourists.

It leaves Sri Lanka needing a further 135 runs to record their first win in the World Test Championship.

Karunaratne was unbeaten on 71 off 168 balls with two boundaries while Thirimanne was on 57 having faced 132 deliveries and hit four fours. They were in no mood to withdraw to the dressing room but bad light ended play 34 minutes before schedule.

Batting fourth in Galle is not the prettiest thing for batsmen and the highest successful run chase here is 99. But this track

held together and there weren't any demons for batsmen making life difficult.

Both openers were slow off the blocks with the first boundary coming in the 22nd over. Karunaratne was the first to reach half-century with a cut shot off William Somerville. It was the Sri Lankan skipper's 23rd Test fifty.

Thirimanne reached his sixth half-century with a flick for four off Ajaz Patel. After a series of low scores, he was under pressure to post a decent figure and the half-century will have saved his place for the next Test in Colombo.

A bat pad chance off Thirimanne when he was on 29 fell just short of short leg fielder Tom Latham. But the luckier of the two openers was Karunaratne, who was put down twice. Latham spilled a chance at short leg when he was on 58 off the bowling of Patel and in the very next over B.J. Watling missed a stumping chance off Somerville.