

Octavian, later known as Augustus, compels the Roman Senate to elect him consul

Louis Daguerre's daguerreotype photographic process with complete working instructions is published "free to the world" in Paris as a gift from the French government



World War II: Over 4,000 Canadian and British soldiers are killed, wounded, or captured during a raid on Dieppe, France

Iran and Iraq begin a ceasefire in their eight-year-old war at 11 pm EDT

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Kofi Annan was my mentor and my friend. Tuesday marks eight years since his passing. He was a guiding force for good and his legacy as a global champion for peace remains an inspiration in my life and in my work.

@antonioguterres

02



The hour of the pioneers. By becoming the first Frenchwoman to venture into space, Sophie Adenot embodies French pride as much as a horizon for little girls who dream of infinity. The face of all possibilities.

@EmmanuelMacron

03



Strong country leadership is essential to achieving #HealthForAll. That's why @WHO is building its new WHO Representative (WR) Talent Pipeline to identify and prepare the next generation of public health leaders to serve as WHO's most senior representatives at country level.

@DrTedros

04



Extreme heat is reshaping the future of work in South Asia. Rising temperatures are putting millions of workers, productivity, and economic growth at risk.

@WorldBankGroup

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

Hamas says it is committed to Gaza deal

AFP | Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

Hamas said yesterday it remained committed to the US-backed Gaza peace deal after White House envoy Jared Kushner spoke to Israel about steps towards the group's disarmament.

"Hamas is committed to this agreed-upon process. It is clear that, so far, the Israeli side has not given the mediators clear approval of the roadmap," Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem told AFP. "There are timelines and procedural steps that need to be worked out in detail, but there must first be Israeli ap-

proval of the roadmap," he said. Kushner, President Donald Trump's son-in-law, held a rare meeting with Hamas on Sunday in Egypt before meeting the following day in Jerusalem with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has publicly rejected the latest phase of the deal.



A man carries an injured child at a hospital following a reported Houthi drone strike in the Mash'a area of Hays, south of Hodeidah

Qatar says Hormuz deal crucial for US-Iran talks

AFP | Doha, Qatar

Qatar, a key mediator in the stalled US-Iran talks, said yesterday that an agreement between Iran and Oman over the Strait of Hormuz would make it easier to resume negotiations to end the Middle East war.

Iran and Oman, both coastal states bordering the strait, have for weeks been discussing the future of navigation through the waterway, with Tehran saying the geographical coordinates of the route envisaged by both countries "have been agreed upon".

"We are also awaiting an agreement between the Sultanate of Oman and Iran regarding the Strait, which would enable

Trump says no talks taking place or planned with Iran

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump said yesterday that no talks with Tehran are under way or planned and insisted the blockade of Iran's ports remains in force.

"There are no talks or conversations going on, or

scheduled, with the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Naval Blockade remains in full force and effect," Trump wrote on his Truth Social network.

"The Hormuz Strait is open and operating. All water mines have been removed or detonated."

us to return to the framework of negotiations," Qatari foreign ministry spokesman Majed Al Ansari told reporters.

"The agreement over the Strait of Hormuz would make it much easier for us to resume

the talks between the United States and Iran," he added.

A memorandum of understanding signed between the two sides in June effectively collapsed over management of the strait.

UN says only 3% of Gaza cropland accessible and undamaged

AFP | Rome, Italy

Just three percent of the cropland in Gaza remains accessible and undamaged, the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization warned yesterday, citing an analysis of satellite images.

The report found that since October 2025, when a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Hamas took hold, the area of accessible and undamaged cropland had fallen to 448 hectares from 601 hectares, a reduction of 25.5 percent.

Another 3,643 hectares of cropland are accessible but too damaged to be farmed without rehabilitation, the FAO said.

"Without urgent action to restore safe access and provide



A Palestinian youth carries a sack of oranges from the razed farmland in the northern Gaza Strip town of Beit Hanun.

farmers with the support they need, opportunities to restore

local food production will continue to diminish," said Rein Paulsen, director of the agency's Office of Emergencies and Resilience.

Restrictions on the import of agricultural goods are also hampering recovery, with livestock farmers struggling to obtain animal feed and veterinary supplies.

Greenhouse availability has also declined, dropping 17.3 percent since October 2025 to 224 hectares that are accessible and undamaged.

The FAO said the reduced access could be explained mainly by the westward expansion of the so-called "Yellow Line" that separates the ceasefire zone from the area controlled by the Israeli military.

UK PM says not embarrassed by hoax messages with fake Trump aide

AFP | London, United Kingdom

New British Prime Minister Andy Burnham yesterday confirmed he had exchanged messages with someone pretending to be US President Donald Trump's chief of staff. Burnham sent a "few messages" via an unspecified communication channel to a person he believed to be the top aide, Susie Wiles, before becoming suspicious, Politico reported on Monday.

But addressing the hoax while on a visit to the central English city of Wolverhampton, Burnham said nothing sensitive had been discussed in the messages.

Asked if he was embarrassed at being taken in, he said: "No, I'm not, because there was a minimal exchange. Nothing of consequence, and actually, quickly I realised that this needed to be reported, and I did so.

"So I handled it in the right way. All politicians are receiving these pressures and



Andy Burnham

these challenges, but I did everything right," he told broadcasters.

"The correct action has been taken here and in the US," he added.

The incident was deemed serious enough for the British embassy in Washington to raise the matter with the White House, according to two sources cited by Politico.

Neither the date nor the content of the exchanges is known.

Burnham succeeded former Labour Party leader Keir Starmer as prime minister on July 20.

Pakistan court orders ex-PM Khan moved from jail to hospital

AFP | Islamabad, Pakistan

Pakistan's Supreme Court ordered authorities yesterday to move jailed former prime minister Imran Khan to hospital for medical checks, after the popular politician's lawyers complained about his poor health.

Imprisoned since 2023 on corruption charges he deems politically motivated, Khan will be moved "within the next two days" to Shifa International Hospital in the capital Islamabad, the court said in its order.

The three-bench court decided that the 73-year-old ex-cricket captain would also be allowed to meet with his family once a week and speak to his sons via telephone twice weekly.

"We are mindful of the constitutional and legal obligation... to safeguard the life,



health, dignity and security of persons in custody," the panel wrote.

Khan's personal physician Faisal Sultan, and sister and medical doctor Uzma Khan, "shall be permitted to remain associated with the prisoner's medical examination and treatment".

A medical board including an eye specialist and experts in internal medicine and cardiology would be established for Khan's treatment, the order said.

Trump, Carney hold talks as new US tariffs on Canada loom

AFP | Washington, United States

Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney has held urgent talks with US President Donald Trump, Ottawa confirmed yesterday, in an effort to avoid fresh US tariffs on Canadian goods as a midnight deadline fast approaches.

Trump signed orders for the steep 50-percent duties last month, with the White House alleging "discriminatory treatment" by Can-

ada against US alcohol, automobile and dairy products.

The tariffs are set to take effect Wednesday, covering products such as wine, hockey sticks and cement.

Efforts to avoid the tariffs are going down to the wire.

Carney spoke by phone with Trump on Monday afternoon about the trade negotia-

tions, a spokesperson for the Canadian leader told AFP. On Monday, Carney said that talks to avert the duties were at an "intense and delicate" stage.

