

1792

Mount Unzen on Japan's Shimabara Peninsula erupts, creating a tsunami and killing about 15,000 people in the country's deadliest volcanic eruption

1832

First US Democratic National Convention is held in Baltimore



1871

French Army attacks Paris, starting the Semaine Sanglante (Bloody Week), a weeklong battle that kills 10,000-15,000 and ends the Paris Commune

1932

After flying for 17 hours from Newfoundland, Amelia Earhart lands near Londonderry, Northern Ireland, completing the first solo transatlantic flight by a woman

Netanyahu says minister's handling of flotilla activists 'not in line with Israel's values'



AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday criticised National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir over his handling of detained

flotilla activists, adding that he had ordered the activists' deportation. "The way minister Ben Gvir dealt with the flotilla activists is not in line with Israel's values and norms. I have instructed the

relevant authorities to deport the provocateurs (activists) as soon as possible," Netanyahu said in a statement, after Ben Gvir published a video showing them kneeling with their hands bound.

Ben Gvir posts video showing flotilla activists bound, forced to kneel



In the video shared by Mr Itamar Ben Gvir, he is seen encouraging staff at the detention centre as they push down an activist who had stood up to say "free free Palestine" as he walked by. PHOTO: REUTERS

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir posted a video on Wednesday showing detained activists from a Gaza-bound flotilla kneeling with their hands tied behind their backs and foreheads on the ground.

The footage, published on Ben Gvir's X account and captioned "Welcome to Israel", shows dozens of activists on the deck of a military boat with the Israeli national anthem

blaring, and in detention in Israel, where the minister is seen waving an Israeli flag.

The Global Sumud Flotilla set sail from Turkey last week in the latest attempt by activists to breach Israel's blockade of the Palestinian territory, after Israeli forces intercepted a previous convoy last month.

In the video he shared, he is seen encouraging staff at the detention centre as they push down an activist who had stood up to say "free free Palestine" as he walked by.

Beyond Mideast

Iran says any new war will spread far beyond the region

Tehran, Iran

Iran's Revolutionary Guards on Wednesday warned that any renewed US-Israeli attack on the Islamic republic would ignite a war extending far beyond the Middle East.

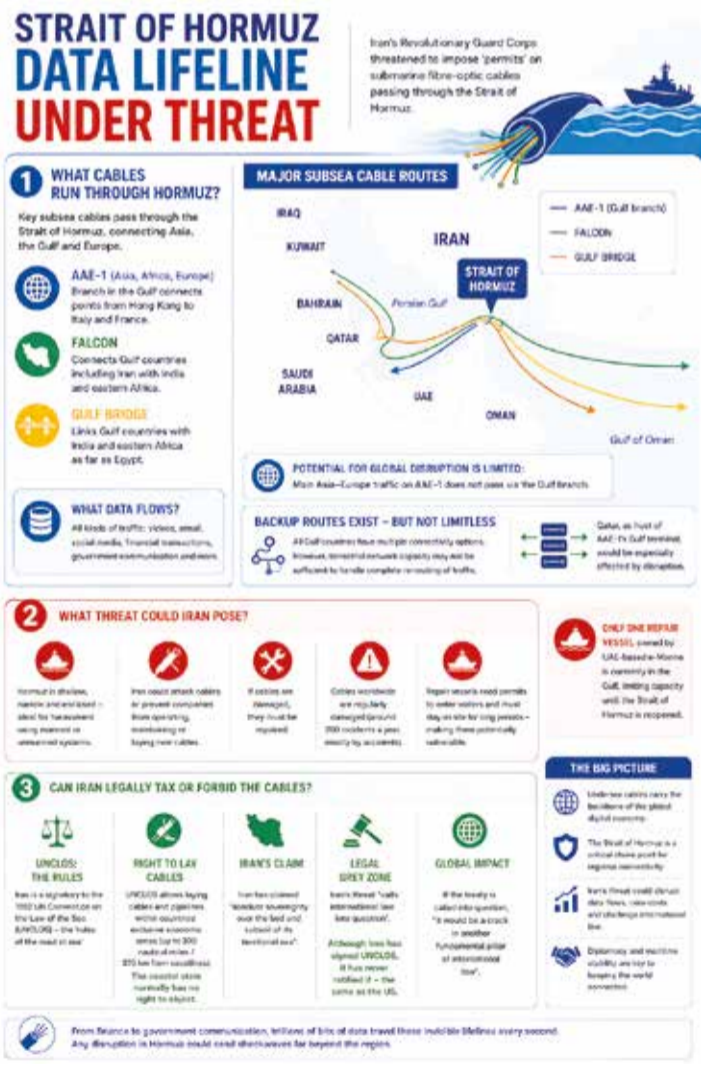
In a statement carried by Sepah News, the Guards said a fresh conflict would no longer remain confined to the region and warned of devastating retaliation against American and Israeli interests.

"If the aggression against Iran is repeated, the promised regional war will this time spread far beyond the region, and our devastating blows will crush you," the statement said.

The warning came amid rising tensions despite an April 8 ceasefire that halted nearly 40 days of fighting between Iran and the US-Israeli alliance.

Iranian officials have increasingly warned that any future military action could trigger wider instability affecting global security, energy routes and allied forces across multiple regions.

The conflict, which erupted on February 28, killed several senior Iranian leaders, including supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and sparked retaliatory missile and drone strikes.



Israel army chief says military 'on highest alert'

Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's army chief Lieutenant Colonel Eyal Zamir yesterday said the military was at its

highest alert level, as Tehran and Washington traded threats of war.

"At this moment, the IDF (military) is on the highest level

of alert and prepared for any development," Zamir said at a meeting of all division commanders, according to a statement issued by the military.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards Navy said they allowed over 25 vessels including oil tankers to transit the Strait of Hormuz over the past 24 hours.

"Over the past 24 hours, 26

26 ships crossed Hormuz

vessels -- including oil tankers, container ships and other

commercial vessels -- transited the Strait of Hormuz," said the Guards' navy in a post on X.

It added that the ships passed after "coordination and security provided by the IRGC navy".

Israel FM slams video of detained flotilla activists shared by minister

Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's Foreign Minister Gideon Saar on Wednesday condemned a video shared by the country's far-right national security minister showing detained activists with their hands bound and forced to kneel.

"You knowingly caused harm to our State in this disgraceful display -- and not

for the first time. You have undone tremendous, professional, and successful efforts made by so many people -- from IDF soldiers to Foreign Ministry staff and many others. No, you are not the face of Israel," Saar said on X in response to a video posted by minister Itamar Ben Gvir showing him heckling detained activists from a Gaza-bound flotilla.

Irish foreign minister 'appalled' by video

AFP | Dublin, Ireland

Irish foreign minister Helen McEntee on Wednesday said she was "appalled and shocked" by a video of activists, including Irish citizens, detained by Israel from a Gaza-bound flotilla.

McEntee demanded the im-

mediate release of the "illegally detained" activists after Israel's security minister posted a video showing dozens kneeling with their hands tied and foreheads on the ground. Among the detainees is the sister of Irish President Catherine Connolly.

US envoy to Israel slams minister's 'despicable actions' in video of flotilla activists

Jerusalem, Undefined

The US ambassador to Israel sharply criticised far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir on Wednesday, after he posted a video showing detained activists from a Gaza-bound flotilla kneeling with their hands

tied and foreheads on the ground.

"Universal outrage & condemnation from every high-ranking Israeli official... for despicable actions by Ben Gvir. Flotilla was stupid stunt, but Ben Gvir betrayed dignity of his nation," Mike Huckabee wrote on X.

EU condemns Israel's detention of Gaza flotilla activists

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

European Commissioner Hadja Lahbib on Wednesday sharply criticised the treatment of activists from a Gaza-bound flotilla, saying that "no one should be punished for defending

humanity".

"Watch this video. These are not convicted criminals. These are activists trying to get bread to the hungry," Lahbib, whose brief is equality, preparedness and crisis management, wrote on X.



TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Yesterday I convened an Emergency Committee on the #Ebola outbreak in the #DRC and #Uganda. The Committee agreed that the situation is a public health emergency of international concern. @WHO assesses the risk of the epidemic as high at the national and regional levels, and low at the global level.

@DrTedros

02



The @UN remains the essential, one-of-a-kind meeting ground to advance peace, sustainable development & human rights. But it is only as strong as countries' commitment to it. We must come together -- across nations, cultures & generations -- around a simple truth: Humanity is strongest when we stand as one.

@antoniouterres

03



A special strategic partnership that will not only benefit our nations but also all of humanity! The results of my visit to Italy will ensure greater connections for investments, better commercial opportunities, stronger cultural ties, and more.

@narendramodi

04



Russia's public threats against our Baltic States are completely unacceptable. Let there be no doubt. A threat against one Member State is a threat against our entire Union.

@vonderleyen

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