

Trump calls for investigation of Biden



AFP News

President Donald Trump called yesterday on the US attorney general to investigate his "criminal" Democratic opponent Joe Biden, as he headed to a rally in the key state of Pennsylvania two weeks before election day.

Polls show Trump down or in a tight contest in most of the swing states that decide presidential races, but he believes a combination of frenetic campaigning and scorched earth personal attacks on Biden are giving him new momentum.

"Things are changing fast," Trump told the Fox & Friends program Tuesday, claiming that his own polling showed Biden is "imploding."

French teacher's killer sent SMS to parent

● History teacher Samuel Paty was beheaded on Friday outside his school

Reuters | Paris

The young man who beheaded a French teacher for showing caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad in class had sent an SMS message to one of the schoolchildren's parents who had complained about the images, a police source said yesterday.

The source told Reuters that it was not clear whether the parent - the father of a girl in the teacher's class - had responded to the SMS message.

History teacher Samuel Paty was beheaded on Friday outside his school in the Paris suburb of Conflans by an 18-year-old man of Chechen origin.

Prosecutors said the attacker, shot dead by police soon after



Richard Ferrand, speaker of the French National Assembly, and members of parliament pay tribute to Samuel Paty, the French teacher who was beheaded in a Paris suburb, in Paris, France

the attack, wanted to punish the teacher for showing his pupils cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad in a civics class on freedom of expression earlier this month.

BFM TV reported on Tuesday that the father who had denounced the teacher in a video on social media had exchanged Whatsapp messages with the killer in the days preceding the attack.

The beheaded teacher had

been the target of an angry social media campaign in the days before the murder.

The father, who has been detained by police, had posted a video on Facebook saying he wanted the teacher removed, prosecutors said at the weekend. The man also went to see the school principal to complain and put out another Facebook video, giving the name of the teacher and identifying the school.

News in brief



◆ Armenia and Azerbaijan said on Tuesday their foreign ministers would meet U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Washington on Friday in efforts to end the heaviest fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh since the 1990s. The State Department did not immediately comment. But the planned meetings suggest that, just before the U.S. presidential election, Washington is stepping up involvement in moves to calm a conflict that has killed hundreds of people since Sept. 27.

Washington to host talks on Nagorno-Karabakh

◆ Pope Francis wore a mask for the first time at a public function on Tuesday when he and other religious leaders attended a prayer service for peace around the world. The pope wore a white mask during the service at the Rome Basilica of Santa Maria in

Pope wears mask for first time at public service



Aracoeli. Previously he wore masks only in a car taking him to his weekly audiences in the Vatican. He had come under

some criticism, particularly on social media, for not wearing a mask at his general audiences and sometimes coming in relatively close contact with visitors.

US to breakup Google!

Reuters | Washington



The US Justice Department and 11 states filed an antitrust

lawsuit against Alphabet Inc's Google yesterday for allegedly breaking the law in using its market power to fend off rivals.

Google did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Google, whose search engine is so ubiquitous that its name has become a verb, had revenue of \$162 billion in 2019, more than the nation of Hungary.

Coming just days before the US presidential election, the filing's timing could be seen as a political gesture since it fulfills a promise made by President Donald Trump to

his supporters to hold certain companies to account for allegedly stifling conservative voices.

Republican Senator Josh Hawley, a vociferous Google critic, accused the company of keeping power through "illegal means" and called the lawsuit "the most important antitrust case in a generation."

The federal lawsuit marks a rare moment of agreement between the Trump administration and progressive Democrats. U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren tweeted on Sept. 10, using the hash tag #BreakUpBigTech, that she wanted "swift, aggressive action."

The 11 states which joined the lawsuit all have Republican attorneys general.

India says 'no timeframe' for release of soldier

AFP News

A Chinese soldier detained after straying into Indian territory near their high-altitude frontier will be handed back "after formalities are completed", New Delhi said Tuesday.

Both sides have engaged in a tense standoff along their 3,500-kilometre (2,200-mile) border since a battle in June left at least 20 Indian soldiers dead, as well as an unspecified number of Chinese casualties

India announced Monday that a corporal named Wang Ya Long had been "apprehended" in the harsh mountainous area of Ladakh.

Colonel Zhang Shuili, a Chinese military spokesman, said Wang got lost while looking for Tibetan herdsman's yak.

"We hope that the Indian side will live up to its promise to hand over the missing Chinese soldier as soon as possible" to

"maintain peace and tranquillity" on the border, he said in a statement.

An Indian government official said Tuesday that Wang "was well", but his release would come only "after completion of formalities".

"No timeframe is fixed as of now," he said, on condition of anonymity. India and China have poured tens of thousands of troops into the region since the June battle despite several rounds of talks.

Archaeologists unearth 'huge number' of Egyptian sarcophagi

CNN

Archaeologists in Egypt have discovered another large cache of unopened sarcophagi in Saqqara, adding to the trove of almost 60 coffins recently recovered from the ancient necropolis.

Although full details are yet to be announced, authorities said in a statement that "a huge number" of wooden sarcophagi had been unearthed. The country's Tourism and Antiquities Minister Khaled El-Enany said on Instagram that the find amounted to "dozens" of coffins, adding that they have been "sealed since ancient times."

The collection of sarcophagi, stored in three newly discovered burial shafts, is believed to date back more than 2,500 years. Colored and gilded statues were also found in the tombs, a government press release said.

On Monday, El-Enany and Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly visited the site alongside secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, Mustafa Waziri. Photos released by the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities show the trio being lowered into a shaft before inspecting painted coffins and a variety of other objects.

Monday's announcement marks the latest in a string of discoveries at Saqqara, a ne-



Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly and Tourism and Antiquities Minister Khaled El-Enany



2,500

The collection of sarcophagi, stored in three newly discovered burial shafts, is believed to date back more than 2,500 years.



“**New burial wells with dozens of colored coffins closed more than 2000 years ago were discovered We will announce details of the discovery soon ...**”

KHALED EL-ENANY

ropolis about 20 miles south of Cairo. The vast burial ground once served the royal capital of Memphis, and the site is also home to Egypt's oldest surviving pyramid.

In September, archaeologists at Saqqara discovered almost 30 closed coffins in one of three burial shafts measuring 10 to 12

meters (33 to 39 feet) deep. At a press conference earlier this month, the ministry said the discovery brought the total number found inside the tombs to 59.

Officials said they believe the coffins contain senior statesmen and priests from the 26th dynasty, which ruled Egypt from 664 B.C. to 525 B.C.

The ministry said that further details of this month's discovery will be announced at a press conference at the site in "the next few weeks." Its announcement also revealed that Prime Minister Madbouly had produced a video in which he thanked the ministry and "expressed his great pride in the unique Egyptian civilization."

Although it is not yet confirmed what will happen to the newly discovered sarcophagi, some of those found earlier this year are set to go on display at the soon-to-open Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza. Upon its opening, the 5.2-million-square-foot structure will become the world's largest museum devoted to a single civilization.