

Japan halts missile drills after Trump-Kim summit

AFP | Tokyo

Japan has halted evacuation drills simulating a North Korean missile attack in the wake of historic talks between Washington and Pyongyang, local media reported yesterday.

Government officials did not immediately confirm the reports, but authorities in one town said they were suspending a drill planned for next week on orders from Tokyo.

The decision comes after US President Donald Trump and North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un met last week in Singapore.

G7 ambassadors 'deeply concerned' about Oleg Sentsov

AFP | Kiev

G7 Ambassadors said yesterday they were deeply concerned about Ukrainian filmmaker Oleg Sentsov, who has been on hunger strike for more than a month as he serves a 20-year term in a Russian prison camp.

"We are deeply concerned about the situation of Oleg Sentsov and other Ukrainian prisoners and detainees in Russia," the countries' ambassadors to Kiev said in a joint statement released via Twitter.

"Their release, as part of a broader bilateral exchange of detainees, would be an important humanitarian step forward," it said.

Ex-russian club boss arrested over world cup ticket scam

AFP | Moscow

Russia yesterday said it has arrested a former executive director of North Caucasus football team Anzhi on suspicion of embezzlement, while reports linked him to a major scam offering World Cup tickets to Chinese fans. A spokeswoman for Moscow's Tverskoi district court, Anastasia Dzyurko, confirmed to AFP that Eldar Isayev was detained Wednesday until August 18 on a charge of large-scale embezzlement.

Jellyfish leaves from Spanish beaches

Dailymail | Malaga

Eleven tonnes of jellyfish have been cleared from Costa del Sol beaches after 150 holidaymakers were treated for stings.

Around eight tonnes were collected from the shore between the eastern resort of Nerja and Velez-Malaga just east and another three tonnes between Torremolinos and Mijas. The high number of jellyfish has been blamed on unseasonal rains.

Trump retreats on policy

President signs order to 'keep families together' but derides US immigration laws at Minnesota rally

AFP | Washington

President Donald Trump has ordered an end to the separation of migrant children from their parents on the US border, reversing a tough policy under heavy pressure from his fellow Republicans, Democrats and the international community.

The spectacular about-face comes after more than 2,300 children were stripped from their parents and adult relatives after illegally crossing the border since May 5 and placed in tent camps and other facilities, with no way to contact their relatives.

Despite the order, there was no plan in place to reunite the thousands of children already separated from their families, according to multiple U.S. media reports citing officials from the Health and Human Services Department (HHS).

Those youngsters would re-



Watched by Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen (L) and Vice President Mike Pence, US President Donald Trump shows an executive order on immigration which he just signed in the Oval Office of the White House

main separated while their parents were under federal custody during immigration proceedings, according to The New York Times, before officials backed off those comments late on June 20.

"It is still very early and we

are awaiting further guidance on the matter," said Brian Marriott, senior director of communications at HHS's Administration of Children and Families.

"Reunification is always the ultimate goal," he said.

Pictures and accounts of the

KEY POINTS

- Any adult caught crossing the border illegally, even if to request asylum, will be arrested and charged with criminal illegal entry.
- The children of migrant family groups crossing the border illegally will no longer be separated from them.
- The family units will be held by DHS over the period required for their court trial on illegal entry charges, and for reviews of their immigration requests.
- However, Trump's order also says that, "to the extent practicable", cases involving families will be prioritized.
- The Department of Defence was ordered to allow any available facilities to be used for housing illegal immigrants, and, if necessary, to build new facilities for them.

separations sparked outrage and a rebellion among Republicans in Trump's own party, as well as international accusation that the US was committing human rights violations.

"What we have done today is we are keeping families together," Trump said as he signed the executive order. "I didn't like the sight or the feeling of families being separated."

At a later campaign-style rally of supporters in the northern state of Minnesota, he reiterated that the change does not mean a softening at the border.

"We will keep families together, but the border is going to be just as tough," he said.

Trump then accused rival Democrats of putting "illegal immigrants before they put American citizens."

For weeks, Trump had insisted he was bound by law to split the children from their parents and that only Congress could resolve the problem.

Killing of dogs for meat illegal, rules South Korean court

● One million dogs believed to be eaten annually

AFP | Seoul

A South Korean court has ruled the killing of dogs for meat is illegal, in a landmark decision that animal rights activists said yesterday could pave the way to outlawing eating canines.

The meat has long been a part of South Korean cuisine, with about one million dogs believed to be eaten annually.

But consumption has declined as South Koreans increasingly embrace the idea of dogs as man's best friend rather than livestock, with the practice now something of a taboo among



This picture taken shows South Korean animal rights activists wearing dog-shaped masks outside a court in Seoul

younger generations and pressure from activists mounting.

Even so it remains a legal grey area. Despite no specific ban, authorities have invoked

hygiene regulations or animal protection laws that ban cruel slaughter methods to crack

down on dog farms and restaurants ahead of international

events such as the Pyeongchang Olympics.

Animal rights group Care last year filed complaints against a dog farm operator in Bucheon.



South Korea is the only country in the world known to solely raise dogs on intensive dog farming facilities to supply the demand for dog meat and associated products

Millionaire developer jailed for ordering killing

Sydney

A millionaire property developer could die in jail after he was sentenced yesterday to 39 years behind bars for ordering the killing of a former business associate in a wealthy Sydney suburb.

Ron Medich, 70, was in April found guilty of directing the 2009 murder of Scottish-born property tycoon Michael McGurk and for organising intimidation of his wife.

McGurk was shot in the head by a gunman in front of his young son as he stepped from his Mercedes in the harbour-side suburb of Cremorne.

Medich and McGurk were involved in multi-million-dollar property and financing partnerships before the relationship turned sour.

Laughter is the best medicine!

Dailymail | Hoddesdon

This is the moment a father-to-be rushed to hospital following a motorbike accident burst into song as medics tended to his injuries.

'Cheeky chappy' Billy, 25, who was left pinned beneath a car in the smash in Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, was feeling the effects of pain relief medication when he started singing the Ed Sheeran hit Shape of You - and urged his doctors to join in.

Despite their concerns over the internal injuries he'd suffered, staff couldn't help but smile at jovial Billy's pleas for a singalong on Wednesday night's episode of 24 Hours in A&E, which followed his stint at St George's Hospital in London following the accident - which happened just weeks before his girlfriend Jade was due to give birth. Billy had been told to



Billy

lie as still as possible while the doctors assessed his potentially life-threatening injuries.

After a scan gave his spine the all-clear doctors removed his neck brace, and set about fixing his dislocated elbow in a gruesome procedure.

To make sure he didn't feel a thing consultant Melissa gave him a powerful sedative, but then as he slowly came round

he questioned what was wrong. 'Why do I feel weird?' Billy asked before turning to the doctor who was forming a cast around his arm. High on the medication he then asked if the doctor would sing with him, and launched into the chorus of Ed Sheeran's hit song Shape of You. Staff confessed they couldn't join in because they didn't know the lyrics.



Billy was feeling the effects of pain relief medication when he started singing the 'Shape of You'

Burger King pulls WC ad

AFP | Moscow

Burger King has apologised for an online ad offering burgers to Russian women who get impregnated by football players during the World Cup the country is hosting until July 15.

The promotion on the global fast food chain's account on VK -- a local rival of Facebook -- suggested Russia could benefit from some good "football genes".

"As part of its social responsibility (campaign), Burger King is offering a reward to women who get impregnated by football stars," said Burger King.

"Every woman will get three million rubles (around \$45,000) and a lifetime's supply of Whopper burgers. Women who manage to get the best football genes will ensure



Burger King logo

Russia's success in future generations."

The post ended with a call: "Go ahead! We believe in you!"

Burger King removed the ad and tried to make amends after a furore erupted on social media and in international media.

"We apologise for our statement. It turned out to be too offensive," Burger King said.