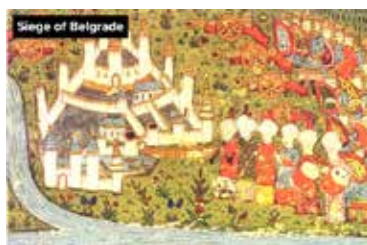


1099

Godfrey of Bouillon is elected the first Defender of the Holy Sepulchre of The Kingdom of Jerusalem during the First Crusade

1456

Hungarian army under John Hunyadi defeat the forces of Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II and end the Siege of Belgrade (Nándorfehérvár). Halting Ottoman expansion in Europe for 70 years.



1515 1963

First Congress of Vienna settles issues between Poland and Holy Roman Empire and demonstrates the Habsburgs growing influence

Sarawak achieves independence from British colonial rule

TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



I had a very substantive meeting today on drone development, production, and procurement. Government officials, the National Security and Defense Council, the Armed Forces of Ukraine, and the Office team are working together.

@ZelenskyyUa

02



Deeply shocked and saddened at the loss of lives, many of them young students, in a tragic air crash in Dhaka. Our hearts go out to the bereaved families. We pray for the swift recovery of those injured. India stands in solidarity with Bangladesh and is ready to extend all possible support and assistance.

@narendramodi

03



I welcome the signature of the Declaration of Principles between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo & the AFC/M23. The @UN remains committed to supporting efforts toward peace, protection of civilians & stability in the DRC in close collaboration with national authorities, regional & international partners.

@antonioguterres

04



President Trump hosts Republican Senators at the White House for dinner. MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!

@WhiteHouse

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

# War in Gaza ‘must end now’, urge UK, 24 allies

Civilians’ suffering had “reached new depths”



Palestinians rush a casualty of an Israeli strike on an apartment at the Nuseirat refugee camp, into Al-Awda hospital in the central Gaza Strip

## ● Branded Israeli-supported relief effort in Gaza as “dangerous”

## ● UN agencies were replaced as the main distributor of aid in the territory

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Britain and 24 Western allies, including Australia, Canada, France and Italy, declared yesterday that the war in Gaza “must end now”, arguing that civilians’ suffering had “reached new depths”.

“We urge the parties and the international community to unite in a common effort to bring this terrible conflict to an end, through an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire,” the grouping added in a joint statement.

“Further bloodshed serves no purpose. We reaffirm our complete support to the efforts of the US, Qatar and Egypt to

achieve this.”

The signatories -- which also included Japan, several EU countries, Switzerland and New Zealand -- added they were “prepared to take further action to support an immediate ceasefire”.

The wide-ranging statement branded the controversial Israeli-supported relief effort in Gaza as “dangerous” and said it deprives Gazans of “human dignity”.

“We condemn the drip feeding of aid and the inhumane killing of civilians, including children, seeking to meet their most basic needs of water and food,” the statement said.

“The Israeli government’s denial of essential humanitarian assistance to the civilian population is unacceptable,” it added, urging Israel to “comply with its obligations under international humanitarian law”.

The statement called for the Israeli government “to immediately lift restrictions on the flow of aid and to urgently enable the UN and humanitarian NGOs to do their life saving work safely and effectively”.

The UN said last week that it had recorded 875 people who had been killed in Gaza while trying to get food via the US- and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF).

It has replaced UN agencies as the main distributor of aid in the territory.

The 25-nation statement also condemned the continued detention of hostages in Gaza by Hamas militants, demanding “their immediate and unconditional release” and noting a negotiated ceasefire “offers the best hope of bringing them home”.

Meanwhile, the signatories said they “strongly oppose any steps towards territorial or demographic change in the Occupied Palestinian Territories” and said an Israeli plan to shift Palestinians into a so-called “humanitarian city” was unacceptable.

“Permanent forced displacement is a violation of international humanitarian law,” they warned. The statement was also signed by EU Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management Hadja Lahbib.

## UNRWA says some Gaza staff starving as malnutrition soars

Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

The UN agency for Palestinian refugees said yesterday that it was “receiving desperate messages of starvation” from its Gaza staff, as the Palestinian territory experiences surging levels of hunger.

Gaza’s population of more than two million people are facing severe shortages of food and other essentials, with doctors, the civil defence agency and medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) reporting a spike in malnutrition cas-

es in recent days.

In a post on X, UNRWA said that shortages in the Palestinian territory had caused food prices to increase by 40 times, while the aid stockpiled in its warehouses outside Gaza could feed “the entire population for over three months.”

After talks to extend a six-week ceasefire broke down, Israel imposed a full blockade on Gaza on March 2, allowing nothing in until trucks were again permitted at a trickle in late May. The civil defence agency on Sunday reported at

least three infant deaths from “severe hunger and malnutrition” in the past week.

Eighteen reportedly died of starvation within 24 hours between Saturday and Sunday, the ministry said.

“Infants under one year of age suffer from a lack of milk, which leads to a significant decrease in their weight and a decrease in their immunity that makes them vulnerable to diseases,” said Mohammed Abu Salmiya, the director of Gaza’s Al-Shifa Hospital.

## US passenger jet has close call with B-52 bomber



Representative picture  
Washington, United States

A passenger jet performed an “aggressive maneuver” to avoid a mid-air collision with a US military bomber over the state of North Dakota, according to recorded audio of the commercial pilot.

Delta Flight 3788, operated by SkyWest, took off from Minneapolis and was approaching the city of Minot when the pilot rapidly rerouted after seeing another aircraft nearing from the right.

“I don’t know how fast they were going, but they were a lot faster than us, I felt it was the safest thing to do to turn behind it,” the pilot told passengers.

“Sorry about the aggressive maneuver. It caught me by surprise, this is not normal at all.”

SkyWest was investigating the Friday incident. The flight was cleared for approach by the tower “but performed a go-around when another aircraft became visible in their flight path,” the carrier said

in a statement reported by US media.

The US Air Force did not provide specifics about the near miss but confirmed in a statement reported by the Washington Post that a B-52 bomber was performing a fly-over at the North Dakota State Fair, which occurred in Minot.

The northern city, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) from the Canada border, is home to a commercial airport and a US Air Force base.

In the video, posted to Instagram and verified by Storyful, the SkyWest pilot told passengers that “nobody told us” about the other plane.

He said the Minot tower, which does not use radar -- a common situation in smaller, more remote airfields in the United States -- offered guidance that could have put the passenger jet in jeopardy.

“He said ‘Turn right.’ I said there’s an airplane over there. And he says ‘Turn left,’” the pilot said according to the video.

## Russia publishes rare footage of largest drone factory



Workers assemble drones at a production facility in Russia’s Tatarstan region.

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russia has showcased what it calls the biggest drone factory in the world, broadcasting rare footage from inside a plant assembling the deadly attack drones it fires at Ukraine on a daily basis.

Moscow has launched record numbers of drones at Ukrainian cities in recent weeks, escalating aerial attacks as it ignores calls from US President Donald Trump to halt its offensives.

The video, published Sunday by Zvezda, a TV channel owned by the Russian defence ministry, showed workers with their faces blurred assembling

jet-black triangle-shaped attack drones.

“This is the world’s largest factory producing unmanned combat aerial vehicles, and the most secretive one,” said Timur Shagivaleev, plant director who has been sanctioned by the United States.

The plant is near the town of Yelabuga in the central Russian region of Tatarstan, located in what was initially planned to be a special economic zone to boost science and business in the region.

More than 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) from the Ukrainian border, it has now become a target for Kyiv’s own long-range attacks.