

## Italy defiant as migrant ship stranded in

AFP | Rome

Italy defiantly declared yesterday that its ports were closed to foreign-flagged rescue ships as German charity vessel Lifeline lay off the coast of Malta in limbo with more than 230 migrants aboard.

Malta nevertheless said it had sent in humanitarian supplies.

"The Lifeline, an illegal ship with 239 immigrants on board is in Maltese waters," Italy's far-right Interior Minister Matteo Salvini wrote on Facebook. "These boats can forget about reaching Italy."

## Vietnam busts \$26 mn online betting ring: state media

AFP | Hanoi

Vietnamese police broke up an online football gambling ring worth around \$26 million, arresting four people as authorities look to stop black market betting that surges during sporting events like the ongoing World Cup.

Gambling is illegal in Vietnam apart from the state-run lottery and a few casinos which are only open to foreigners.

But the law is widely flouted, especially during top-tier sports competitions when many punters head online or to illegal gambling

## Ex-Vatican diplomat admits guilt at child porn trail

Reuters | Vatican City

A Catholic priest who worked as a diplomat at the Vatican's embassy in Washington admitted at the start of his trial on Friday that he had possessed child pornography while based in the United States.

Msgr. Carlo Alberto Capella, who was arrested in the Vatican in April after he had been recalled, told the court he had developed a "morbid" desire after he arrived in the United States.

## 150-mln-yr-old turtle fossil discovered in China

Xinhua | Chongqing

A turtle fossil dating back 150 million years to the Jurassic Period has been found in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality.

Farmer Liu Changyu found a turtle-shell-shaped "rock" while in Qijiang District earlier this month.

Liu's daughter uploaded photos to WeChat, which were spread and spotted by the district's land resources and housing management bureau, said Xie Xianming, director of the geopark management department of the bureau.

# Ethiopian PM escapes blast

One killed, several injured in the attack; Police say six under investigation for the grenade attack

● **Attack killed one person, wounds scores**

● **Premier says assault aimed at dividing nation**

Reuters | Addis Ababa

Ethiopia's new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed escaped a grenade attack yesterday at a rally in the capital that killed one person and left scores wounded, officials and witnesses said.

The attack was launched by an unidentified assailant moments after 41-year-old prime minister, a former soldier who took office in April, finished his speech to tens of thousands of people gathered in the centre of Addis Ababa. A witness saw Abiy whisked away by guards. Another witness told Reuters the assailant with the grenade had been wrestled to the ground by police before it exploded.

Health Minister Amir Aman



Ethiopia's new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed got involved in politics at the tender age of 15 when he joined the struggle against the Derg military regime in 1991

said one person was killed and 154 were wounded, with 10 of them in critical condition.

Addressing the nation on television shortly after the blast and still wearing a green t-shirt he was handed at the rally, Abiy said the attack was an "attempt by forces who do not want to see



Ethiopians react after an explosion during a rally in support of the new Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. Inset, PM Ahmed

Ethiopia united." Abiy took office after his predecessor, Hailemariam Desalegn, resigned in February following protests in which hundreds of people were killed between 2015 and 2017.

Ethiopian police said that six

suspects were under investigation for a grenade attack.

"Six suspects are currently under investigation for involvement in the attack," the Federal Police Commission said in a statement. The attack

was launched moments after 41-year-old prime minister Abiy Ahmed, a former soldier who took office in April, finished his speech to tens of thousands of people gathered in the centre of Addis Ababa.

## North Korea still a nuclear threat: Trump

● **Kim and Trump signed a pledge "to work towards complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula"**

AFP | Washington

US President Donald Trump on Friday cited "an unusual and extraordinary threat" from North Korea's nuclear arsenal to extend sanctions on Kim Jong Un's regime, despite touting the success of a historic summit earlier this month.

After flying back to Washington last week, boasting of success, the US leader tweeted:



US President Donald Trump

"There is no longer a Nuclear Threat from North Korea."

"Sleep well tonight!" he added on June 13, a day after the Sin-

gapore meeting.

But a presidential declaration sent to Congress on Friday struck a different note as it explained why the administration would keep in place tough economic restrictions first imposed by former president George W. Bush. "The existence and risk of proliferation of weapons-usable fissile material on the Korean Peninsula and the actions and policies of the Government of North Korea continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States," it said.

Though the notice is consid-

## US stops more training exercises

Washington

The US and South Korea have agreed to indefinitely suspend two exchange program training exercises, to support diplomatic negotiations with North Korea, the Pentagon said Friday.

The move comes after the two countries announced the shelving of the large-scale Ulchi Freedom Guardian exercises slated for August, making good on a pledge by President Donald Trump during his summit with North Korea's leader. Two Korean Marine Exchange Program training exercises scheduled to occur in the next three months have now been shelved.

ered pro format, the disparity in tone reflects the work that US officials concede remains to be done as negotiators thrash out the details of Pyongyang's disarmament.

## Emmanuel Macron not understanding little people, says Francois Pinault

AFP | Paris

One of France's richest women Francois Pinault faced a backlash yesterday for accusing President Emmanuel Macron of "not understanding little people". "I am afraid that he is leading France towards a system that forgets the most modest," the French billionaire and luxury goods mogul told M du Monde magazine on Friday.

Emmanuel Macron was criticised this week for unveiling plans for a swimming pool at his private presidential retreat. Pinault was said to be close to former president Jacques Chirac, prosecuted in 2011 for embezzlement during his time as mayor of Paris, and voted for the Socialist Francois Hollande in the 2012 presidential election. Defending Emmanuel Macron, government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux told Radio 1: "From someone who for a long time did not pay taxes."

## 100 coffins to the border

AP | Seoul

The US military said it moved 100 wooden coffins to the inter-Korean border on Saturday to prepare for North Korea's returning of the remains of American soldiers

who have been missing since the 1950-53 Korean War.

US Forces Korea spokesman Col. Chad Carroll also said 158 metal transfer cases were sent to a U.S. air base near Seoul and would be used to send the remains home.

## Paw prints of pet dog help trace missing toddler

Dailymail | Michigan



Police said family's dog, a pit-boxer named Apollo, may have saved Princeton Peake's life by sticking by his side



Missing toddler, 2, is found in woods nearly a mile from his house after police follow paw prints from his trusty dog who never left his side

property and the surrounding cornfields, woods and swamps, managing only to find his small son's sippy cup. The boy's mother, Myhia Perez, said discovering that her son had gone missing was terrifying. "I about died," she said. After responding to the scene, police said they quickly discovered paw prints leading to a wooded area near the house.

Sheriff Daniel Abbott said that the family's dog, a pit-boxer named Apollo, may have saved Princeton Peake's life by sticking by his side.