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European nations reach space funding accord -delegates

HRH Prince Salman commends former Ministers' contributions



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received, from left, the former Minister of Industry and Trade, Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, former Minister of Education, Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, and former Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, Ayman bin Tawfiq Al Moayyed. HRH Prince Salman commended them for their efforts during their tenures and wished them continued success in their future endeavours.

Houthi leaders reject UN de-escalation call

Al Mukalla

Houthi leaders have rejected calls from the UN Yemen envoy and members of the UN Security Council to halt their assaults on oil installations in southern Yemen and to extend the UN-brokered ceasefire.

The Houthi have definitely pledged to keep attacking oil installations with drones and missiles until their demands are met.

Houthi Deputy Foreign Minister Hussein A Ezzi slammed UN Yemen Envoy Hans Grundberg yesterday for urging the movement to de-escalate and resume peace negotiations, alleging that the Houthi movement had also provided compromises to seek peace in Yemen.

Monkeypox to be renamed 'MPOX'

New York

The World Health Organization is planning to rename monkeypox, designating it as "MPOX" in an effort to destigmatize the virus that gained a foothold in the US earlier this year, says a report citing people with knowledge of the matter.

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Russian rocket kills newborn in hospital

Vilnius, Ukraine

A Russian rocket struck the maternity wing of a hospital in eastern Ukraine yesterday, killing a newborn boy and critically injuring a doctor.

The overnight explosion left the small-town hospital a crumbled mess of bricks, scattering medical supplies across the small compound.

It was the second deadly strike on the small town of Vilnius in a week, and Mayor Nataliya Usienko said she feared it would not be the last.

"The attack started and the first S300 rocket hit the road. The second rocket hit this place, the main general hospital, at the maternity wing where people were," she said. "One woman gave birth two days ago. She delivered a boy. Unfortunately this rocket took the life of this child



Rescuers work at the site of a maternity ward of a hospital destroyed by a Russian missile attack in Vilnius

who lived only two days."

Six days ago, she said, 11 people died when a Russian rocket hit an apartment building.

"It's very dangerous to be

here," Usienko said. "It's 90%

certain to be hit again."

Municipal workers worked

well after sunset to shore up

generators for light and to run

their power tools.

Nataliya Pullman, a resident

passing the shattered hospital,

"I have no words, I have no feelings. I don't know what a normal human should feel. I'm in pain for victims," she said.

Kyrilo, the baby boy killed in the rocket attack, and his mother were supposed to have been discharged yesterday, Usienko said.

The International Rescue Committee's vice-president for emergencies, Bob Kitchen, deplored the attack.

Price for war

"The tragic images of rescuers working at the site of a maternity ward we saw this morning illustrate that women and children continue to pay the highest price for this war," Kitchen said. "No child should be born under a barrage of missile strikes. No child should die buried in rubble remaining from hospitals, where their mothers seek safety and protection."

Pope fires global charity arm leadership

Vatican City

appointed a commissioner to run it.

The surprise move involved the executives of Caritas Internationalis (CI), a Vatican-based confederation of 162 Catholic relief, development and social services organisations working in more than 200 countries.



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