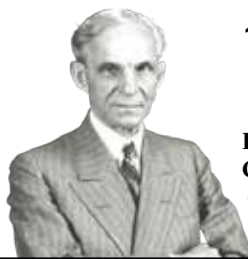


1896

Dow Jones index begins with an average of 12 industrial stocks (closing is 40.94)

1908

At Masjed Soleyman in southwest Persia, the first major commercial oil strike in the Middle East is made, rights acquired by the United Kingdom



1927

Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company produce the last (and 15th million) Model T Ford / Tin Lizzie



1948

South Africa elects a nationalist government under D. F. Malan with an apartheid policy

# Bakhmut to crumbles jets

Report by 1 June



**We are withdrawing units from Bakhmut today. We are handing over positions to the military, ammunition and everything. We pull back, we rest, we prepare and then we will get new tasks**

WAGNER BOSS YEVGENY PRIGOZHIN

Russia subjected Ukraine to a campaign of aerial bombardments on infrastructure including energy facilities during the winter months but these attacks recently diminished.

Kyiv has become increasingly adept at taking down waves of Russian cruise missiles and drones after appealing to Western allies for greater air defence capabilities.

Separately, the Russian-installed head of Crimea announced that air defence had intercepted several drones targeting various parts of the territory annexed from Ukraine in 2014.

"Six drones were shot down or blocked ... in different parts of Crimea," Sergei Aksyonov announced on social media, adding that no one had been injured.

In Moscow, Russia's FSB security service said it had arrested two Ukrainians who had allegedly planned to target nuclear power plants in the country.

The aim was to cause "serious economic harm to Russia and damage its reputation", the FSB alleged in a statement.

## Two police, one woman killed in Japan gun and knife attack

AFP | Tokyo

A woman and two male police officers were killed in a shooting and stabbing attack at a farm in central Japan yesterday, police said.

A suspect, believed to be a farmer in his 30s, was holed up inside a building after the incident, which also left a fourth person injured, according to police and media reports.

The suspect's mother escaped from the building where he was hiding, Kyodo News reported late yesterday.

Authorities urged people to stay indoors in the semi-rural area around the city of Nakano in Nagano region, where the attack took place.

It was a rare instance of violent crime in Japan, which has a low murder rate and some of the world's toughest gun laws.

Public broadcaster NHK and other major outlets said the woman was stabbed and the two police officers were shot in the afternoon attack.

The slain officers were identified as Yoshiaki Tamai, 46, and Takuo Ikeuchi, 61, a Nagano police spokesman told AFP early Friday.

The deceased woman was believed to be in her 40s or 50s, the spokesman said.

Two women had escaped the



The house where a suspect has barricaded himself with a hunting gun in Nakano City



**It was a rare instance of violent crime in Japan, which has a low murder rate and some of the world's toughest gun laws**

house where the suspect was holed up, one at around 8:35 pm (1135 GMT) and the other soon after midnight, he added.

A witness told NHK he had

been working at a farm nearby when "a woman came running from the road saying 'help me', and she fell down".

"Behind her came a man wearing camouflage and carrying a large knife, who stabbed her in the back," the 72-year-old witness said.

He said he called emergency services while neighbours tried to resuscitate the woman.

NHK, citing police, said the attacker then fired what appeared to be a shotgun at the police officers who arrived at the scene.

The officers were inside a patrol car and the attacker placed the weapon against a window of the vehicle and fired twice, NHK reported.

## Dramatic Sydney blaze consumes seven-storey building



A video grab shows a fire in central Sydney  
AFP | Sydney

cue NSW said in an update after night fell in the city.

Two buildings had been affected by the fire, it said, both believed to have been vacant.

"Crews have also been dousing smaller fires which threatened to spread to surrounding buildings, including residential apartments."

One firefighter suffered a minor burn on his right arm but did not need hospital treatment, the fire service said.

"Firefighting operations are expected to continue throughout the night," it said.

There were no other reports of injuries from the blaze, which broke out in the afternoon in a building described by local media as a heritage-listed, unoccupied former hat factory.

"The public is urged to avoid the area as firefighting operations continue," the fire service said, as the sound of emergency vehicle sirens echoed through the city streets.

The carcass of a burning van was parked in front.

"More than 100 firefighters, from 20 fire trucks and multiple stations, continue to work to extinguish the blaze," Fire and Res-

## Thieves again ram-raid luxury shop in France

AFP | Paris

Thieves yesterday smashed a car into a luxury store for the third time this year in the same French city to steal handbags and other valuables, a police source said.

The burglary at dawn from the Hermes shop in the north-eastern city of Lille comes just days after another store belonging to Louis Vuitton was targeted some 100 metres down the road on Wednesday last week.

The Louis Vuitton shop was itself already burgled in January. The thieves yesterday made off with clothes, jewellery and handbags, but part of the loot



The outside of the Hermes luxury store on rue Grande-Chaussee

was abandoned on site, the source said.

They also left behind two cars, including the one used

to ram-raid the shop, but police were on the lookout for a third vehicle used, the source added.

## Vietnam jails noodle vendor who parodied Salt Bae

AFP | Hanoi

A Vietnam court has jailed a noodle seller who went viral for impersonating Salt Bae, after the celebrity chef served a gold-leaf steak to a powerful official, his lawyer said.

In 2021, Peter Lam Bui posted a parody video impersonating Salt Bae - Turkish chef Nusret Gokce who parlayed his meme stardom into high-end eateries - by sprinkling herbs on noodle soup, and calling himself "Green Onion Bae".

But that video came after a clip of a high-ranking Vietnamese official in London tucking into a steak at Gokce's Knightsbridge venue went viral in Vietnam.

Lam was in trouble within days of uploading his video and filmed a police visit to his home



Peter Lam Bui

in the central city of Danang.

Yesterday, the 39-year-old former activist was convicted of spreading anti-state propaganda by a court in Danang, lawyer Le Dinh Viet told AFP.

"They charged the defendant based on posts and video clips Lam had on his accounts on social media platforms," Viet said.

There was nothing about the Salt Bae clip, he added.

Lam denied the charges and said he had only "expressed his personal viewpoint and exercised his right to freedom of speech".

He was also sentenced to four years probation.

Lam's parody video came after To Lam, Vietnam's minister of public security - whose agency monitors dissent and surveils activists - was filmed eating at Gokce's luxury Nusr-Et Steakhouse.

The restaurant serves up steaks wrapped in edible 24-carat gold leaf, reportedly costing more than US\$1,000, and the video sparked anger over the decadence on display while Vietnam struggled through the COVID-19 pandemic.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



People in the Horn of Africa are paying an unconscionable price for a climate crisis they did nothing to cause. We owe them solidarity. We owe them assistance. We owe them a measure of hope for the future.

@antoniogeturres

02



Heart-breaking to see the devastation caused by the floods in the beautiful region of Emilia Romagna. I have come here to tell you that Europe is mourning with you. And that we are by your side.

@vonderleyen

03



The threats to health from our changing climate are here and now. #ClimateAction is essential for protecting health. This is why @WHO is mobilising the health community to take part in demanding, creating and implementing solutions. #WHA76

@DrTedros

04



Today, America mourns the murder of George Floyd three years later. I'll never forget Gianna Floyd's words: "Daddy changed the world." He has - unifying people of every race and generation in peace and with purpose to say: Enough. Hate can never have safe harbor in America.

@POTUS

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