

1346

Battle of Crécy: Edward III's English longbows defeat Philip VI's army south of Calais in northern France, cannons are used for the first time in battle

1682

English astronomer Edmond Halley first observes the comet named after him



1873

The first free kindergarten in the United States is started by Susan Blow in Carondelet, a suburb of St. Louis, Missouri

1959

British Motor Corporation introduces the Morris Mini-Minor, designed by Alec Issigonis; it is only 10 feet long yet seats four passengers

X

TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Earlier today, held productive discussions with Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka of Fiji. India's ties with Fiji are time-tested and are growing significantly.

@narendramodi

02



@WHO received reports of two strikes on the Nasser Medical Complex this morning, resulting in the deaths of at least 20 people, including four health workers and five journalists. Fifty others were injured, among them critically ill patients who were already receiving care.

@DrTedros

03



Thanks to President Trump's law enforcement policies, crime in DC is way down.

@VP

04



Those who support the policies that enable the abuse of children should be utterly shamed and shunned. Tell them so to their face and expel them from all social interactions.

@elonmusk

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

# Trump tightens grip on security in US capital

Troops in Washington began carrying their service-issued weapons

● Trump directed the hiring of additional National Park Police

● Trump also took aim at cashless bail in a separate order

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump yesterday announced new measures that tightened his grip on security in Washington, a day after National Guard troops began carrying weapons in the US capital.

Trump ordered the deployment of the National Guard -- who now number more than 2,200 -- earlier this month as part of what he has billed as a



National Guard members patrol Union Station in Washington, DC

crackdown on allegedly out-of-control crime in the city.

On Monday, Trump ordered Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth to set up a specialized unit

within Washington's National Guard "dedicated to ensuring public safety and order in the nation's capital."

In the same executive order,

Trump directed the hiring of additional National Park Police in the city, as well as more prosecutors to focus on prosecuting violent and property crimes.

Trump also took aim at cashless bail in a separate order, and told law enforcement that anyone arrested should be held in federal custody "to the fullest extent permissible" and federal charges should be pursued against them.

Those steps are aimed at ensuring that "criminal defendants who pose a threat to public safety are not released from custody prior to trial," the president wrote. The previous day, National Guard troops in Washington began carrying their service-issued weapons, the US military said, noting that they are only authorized to use force as a last resort.

## Trump slams 'purge' in S. Korea ahead of visit by President Lee

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump yesterday suggested that a "purge or revolution" was underway in South Korea, hours before new President Lee Jae Myung was due at the White House.

"WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOUTH KOREA? Seems like a Purge or Revolution. We can't have that and do business there," Trump posted.

He did not specify to what he was referring but said he would bring it up with Lee.

South Korean prosecutors on Sunday filed an arrest warrant for former prime minister Han Duck-soo, accusing him of aiding ex-president Yoon Suk Yeol in his short-lived imposition of martial law in December.

Yoon, a conservative with close ties with the United States, was impeached after his strong-armed tactic to seize power,



US President Donald Trump listens as South Korean President Lee Jae Myung speaks during their meeting in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, D

which he took after facing deadlock in parliament.

The martial law bid was a throwback to South Korea's earlier era of military rule and was swiftly reversed after an

impromptu popular revolt.

Trump has tested the limits of his own presidential authority, sending troops into the capital Washington in what he called an effort to fight crime and earlier

sending forces into Los Angeles after demonstrations against his crackdown on immigration.

Lee comes from South Korea's left but has voiced eagerness to start a productive relationship with Trump.

The two presidents could see eye-to-eye on North Korea.

Trump in his first term met three times with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, and Lee is an advocate of outreach with the North.

It is not the first time Trump has surprised an unsuspecting foreign leader with a disputable claim about their domestic policies.

In May, Trump ambushed South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in a White House meeting by alleging a "genocide" against white farmers by the post-apartheid government, which denies any such campaign.

## Human ancestor Lucy gets first European showing in Prague

AFP | Prague, Czech Republic

The 3.18-million-year-old bone fragments of human ancestor Lucy, which rarely leave Ethiopia, went on display in Prague yesterday, with the Czech prime minister hailing the fossils' "first ever" showing in Europe.

The ancient remains of the Australopithecus afarensis were discovered in Ethiopia in 1974. The find was, at the time, the most complete ever made and revolutionised the understanding of humanity's ancestors.

At the Czech National Museum, Lucy's remains are presented alongside Selam, the fossil of a baby Australopithecus who lived about 100,000 years earlier than Lucy and was found in the



same place 25 years later.

The fossils lent by Ethiopia's National Museum in Addis Ababa landed in Prague on August 15, under stringent security measures.

"Both skeletons rank among the most precious exhibits of the global heritage... they are exhibited in a European country for the first time ever," Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala said at the ceremonial opening with a military brass band.

The hyperrealistic artistic reconstruction models of human ancestor Australopithecus afarensis 'Lucy' (R), and 'Selam' (L), a baby Australopithecus who lived about 100,000 years earlier than Lucy, are on display at the Czech National Museum in Prague

## SpaceX delays Starship megarocket launch in latest setback

South Padre Island, United States

SpaceX delayed a planned test flight for its Starship megarocket by 24 hours until Monday, saying it needed time to troubleshoot problems, in the latest setback for Elon Musk's behemoth after a series of explosive failures.

The recent problems have led some observers to doubt whether the world's biggest and most powerful launch vehicle will be capable of taking humans back to the Moon -- or achieving Musk's dreams of colonizing Mars.

The rocket had been scheduled to blast off on its tenth flight from the company's Starbase in southern Texas at 6:30 pm local time (2330 GMT) on Sunday.

However, around 15 minutes before lift-off, SpaceX scrubbed the flight, which is a relatively common event for space launches.

"Standing down from today's tenth flight of Starship to allow time to troubleshoot an issue with ground systems," it said on X.

Musk later posted on the same platform that a "ground side liquid oxygen leak needs to be fixed."

## Israel army says to 'conduct initial inquiry' on Gaza hospital strike

Jerusalem, Undefined

The Israeli military said yesterday it will investigate a strike in the area of Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis, which Gaza's civil defence agency said killed 15 people including four journalists.

"Earlier today (Monday), IDF troops carried out a strike in the area of Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis. The Chief of the General Staff instructed to conduct an initial inquiry as soon as possible," the military said in a statement, adding it "regrets any harm to uninvolved individuals and does not target journalists as such."

## UN delays vote on Lebanon peacekeepers

United Nations, United States

An expected United Nations Security Council vote on the future of the blue helmet peacekeeping mission in south Lebanon, which has faced US and Israeli opposition, was pushed back yesterday as negotiations continued.

The Council is debating a French-drafted compromise that would keep the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).