

Possible date for establishment of the Iroquois (Haudenosaunee) League [disputed date - other research places date between 1450 and 1660]

The body of Jack the Ripper's first victim, Mary Ann Nichols, is found in Whitechapel in London's East End



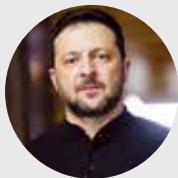
Sun Yat-sen and his supporters' rump parliament establish a military government in Guangzhou, China, and elect him generalissimo

The Liberal Party of Australia is founded by Robert Menzies



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TWEETS

01



We are preparing for new communication with envoys of the U.S. President. More details will follow tomorrow. We are doing everything to ensure that war doesn't remain the only option for what comes next.

@ZelenskyyUa

02



My heart goes out to all those affected by the devastating flash floods. Europe is allocating 2 million in immediate humanitarian aid for Nepal. To deliver life-saving assistance to families and communities hit hardest. Europe stands with you.

@vonderleyen

03



What happens when AI reaches the whole school system? In Peru, AI is helping students strengthen math skills, explore career pathways, and giving teachers and principals tools to focus on what matters most: learning.

@WorldBankGroup

04



Welcome the designation of the Global Harmonization Centre in the Republic of Korea as a new @WHO Collaborating Centre for health products regulatory system strengthening and training.

@DrTedros

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

Manhunt in Switzerland after fatal rave shooting

AFP | Aarau, Switzerland

Swiss police were yesterday hunting at least one gunman who opened fire at a rave, killing one person and wounding five others, some of them seriously.

The shooting, which happened in the early hours in Aarau, near Zurich, and sent partygoers running for cover, is a rare event in the Alpine nation, despite its long tradition of gun ownership.

The last major shooting occurred in 2001, when 14 members of the parliament and local government of the canton of Zug, near Lucerne, were killed by a gunman who then took his own life.

According to local media, shots were fired before 3:00 am (0100 GMT) near the Aarauer Rave, an annual techno party attended by some 3,500 people at the Aarau racetrack from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning.

"A 22-year-old woman died of her injuries at the scene. Four men and one woman, aged between 24 and 27, were taken to hospital. They are suffering from injuries ranging from minor to serious," local police announced on X.

Investigators are still in the dark about the attacker or attackers, police spokesman Bernhard Graser told reporters.

"For the moment, we have no reliable information regarding the perpetrators. We do not know whether it is a single person or several, nor whether they fled in a vehicle or on foot," he said.

"Certain elements suggest they may no longer be in the area, but we have still deployed a significant police presence in the region ... so that we can arrest them if they are still there."

The area of the shooting remains sealed off, Graser said, as officers search for clues and interview eyewitnesses.

An AFP journalist saw armed officers deployed at the scene,



Police officers secure the area near the site of a shooting in Aarau, northern Switzerland

the railway station and on the highway up to 30 kilometres (18 miles) away.

With the German border just a few dozen kilometres away, the investigation is being carried out in cooperation with Freiburg police, the DPA agency reported.

Several shots'

Media reports said an army helicopter was deployed in the cantonal capital, Aargau, as well as numerous police officers, rescue workers and medical teams.

Swiss news agency ATS-Keystone reported that police were alerted about gunshots during the night while police spokesperson Vanessa Rumpold told the Blick newspaper that "several shots" were fired at a large group of people.

Witnesses told Blick that shots were fired at about 2:30 am while the rave was still taking place. Initially, they were believed to be fireworks but one witness reported "shots fired in bursts".

Many people sheltered in a nearby gymnasium for safety.

Swiss DJ Tekibo, who performed at the rave, wrote on Instagram that he was physically unharmed but deeply affected by the tragedy, in which he said

he had lost a friend.

"Techno and raves are supposed to be spaces of freedom and safety, never places where something like this happens," he said, calling the events "absolutely heartbreaking".

"I'm still trying to process what happened because I lost an important friend and I don't have the right words for it."

A local resident in Aarau posted a video on social media showing deserted streets and what sounded like several gunshots in the background.

YOU
KNOW WHAT

According to the Geneva-based research centre Small Arms Survey, civilians had more than 2.3 million firearms in 2017 -- nearly three for every 10 inhabitants. That made Switzerland the 16th country in the world in terms of weapons per capita.

Russia says preparing 'massive strikes' on Ukraine's energy sector



A burned car and a damaged residential building following a Russian air attack in the Kyiv region

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russia's defence ministry yesterday said it was gearing up for large-scale attacks on Ukraine's energy infrastructure in a tit-for-tat response to strikes by Kyiv.

"Russian forces have begun preparations for massive strikes against facilities in Ukraine's energy sector in response to the ongoing attacks by the Kyiv regime on civilian infrastructure and on Russia's oil and energy complex," it said on Telegram.

Last winter, Moscow repeatedly hit Ukrainian power plants, devastating the country's energy sector and plunging millions of people into cold and darkness in sub-zero temperatures.

Both sides have for several months escalated long-range strikes, targeting infrastructure such as warehouses, businesses, oil and port facilities, as well as ships, increasing civilian casualties.

On Sunday, the Russian army claimed to have struck a plant in Kyiv producing asbestos and cement whose warehouses, it said, were used to store explosives, as well as a manufacturer of drones and munitions.

On Saturday, a Russian strike on an ammunition depot in the suburbs of the Ukrainian capital triggered a huge explosion and killed at least 37 people.

Ukraine for its part attacked an oil refinery with drones in northwestern Russia, causing a fire, according to the local authorities.

Ecuador declares emergency over El Nino

AFP | Quito, Ecuador

Ecuador became the latest Latin American country to declare an emergency over the El Nino climate phenomenon on Saturday, which could be strongest on record, officials said.

This year's El Nino is already wreaking havoc in Central America, which is in the throes of a severe drought, and in Indonesia, where it is exacerbating wildfires.

Scientists predict the current occurrence will reach its peak by the end of the year and cause record global heat in 2027. Ecuador's Ministry of Risk Management "declared a



red alert throughout the country in response to the El Nino episode." The alert activates emergency committees tasked with coordinating preventive evacuations and other measures.

El Nino causes surface temperatures in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean to rise, altering wind patterns, pressure, and precipitation, and disrupting fishing and bird migrations.

Niger junta says it is back in control after soldiers' mutiny

AFP | Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Niger's ruling junta said it was back in control after mutinous soldiers set off armed clashes in Niger's capital Saturday, moving on the presidential palace and disrupting the state broadcaster.

Niger has been ruled for three years by a military junta led by General Abdourahmane Tiani that has struggled to contain jihadist violence flaring in the west African country for around a decade.

After hours of heavy exchanges around some of Niamey's most sensitive sites, the junta declared in a statement read on state television that



it was gradually taking back control after hours of clashes.

When fighting broke out shortly after midnight, soldiers blocked access to the presidential palace and the national television station, Tele Sahel, which went off the air for just over an hour, before being restored around 10:00 am (0900 GMT).

Turkish, Saudi, Pakistani ministers to hold first defence pact meeting

● The agreement unites NATO's second-largest army, Turkey, with the Islamic world's only nuclear-armed state, Pakistan, and the leading Gulf power in Saudi Arabia.

AFP | Istanbul, Turkey

Turkey will host Saudi Arabia and Pakistan for the first ministerial meeting of their new regional defence grouping today, Turkish sources said yesterday.

The Mecca Joint Defence



Agreement signed earlier this month commits the three countries to mutual defence in the event of any of them being attacked.

The pact came against a backdrop of war between the United States and Iran and attacks in the region from Tehran-backed Houthi rebels.

The meeting in Istanbul will set up a "political and defence strategic committee" involving foreign and defence ministers and military chiefs, Turkish for-

eign ministry sources said.

The agreement unites NATO's second-largest army, Turkey, with the Islamic world's only nuclear-armed state, Pakistan, and the leading Gulf power in Saudi Arabia.

Today's meeting will be chaired by the Turkish foreign and defence ministers as well as the chief of the general staff.

Pakistan is sending Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, along with the defence minister and the commander of the defence forces.

Saudi Arabia will be represented by its foreign minister, the defence minister and the chief of the general staff, Turkish sources said.