

331 BC

Alexander the Great defeats Darius III of Persia in the Battle of Gaugamela



1688

Prince Willem III of Orange accepts invitation of take up the British crown

1908

Henry Ford introduces the Model T car (costs \$825)

1918

World War I: Combined Arab and British force under the Lawrence of Arabia, T. E. Lawrence captures Damascus from the Turks

Hurricane Ian looms off Carolinas

Death toll rises to 21 as South Carolina prepares for landfall



Boats lie scattered amidst mobile homes after the passage of Hurricane Ian, on San Carlos Island, in Fort Myers Beach

hundreds of miles of coastline, stretching from Georgia to North Carolina, were under a hurricane warning.

Officials in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina urged residents to prepare for dangerous conditions.

By mid-morning yesterday in Charleston and Charleston County, South Carolina, everyone was ordered off the roads and the Charleston International Airport was closed because of high winds.

Kelsey Barlow, a spokeswoman for Charleston County, home to more than 400,000 residents, said that the county has two shelters open and a third on standby.

"But it's too late for people to come to the shelters. The storm is here. Everyone needs to shelter in place, stay off the roads,"

Barlow said.

Barlow said a storm surge of more than seven feet was expected, on top of the noon high tide that could bring another six feet of water, causing massive flooding.

With the eye of the storm still hours away, torrential rain had already arrived in Charleston. Video clips on social media showed several inches of water in some streets in the historic port city, which is especially prone to flooding.

Charleston is particularly at risk. A city-commissioned report released in November 2020 found that about 90% of all residential properties were vulnerable to storm surge flooding. Parts of northeast South Carolina, near

YOU KNOW WHAT

About 1.99 million homes and businesses remained without power yesterday, according to tracking service poweroutage.com. Ian has affected more than 3.3 million customers since it hit on Wednesday



Holly Nugyn walks out of her flooded neighbourhood after Hurricane Ian passed by the area

Gov. Ron DeSantis said at the briefing.

"The response was very, very quick," he said. "I do think that response made a difference."

Some 10,000 people were unaccounted for, Guthrie said, but many of them were likely in shelters or without power, making it impossible to check in with loved ones or local officials. He said he expected the number to "organically" shrink in the coming days.

Fort Myers, a city close to where the eye of the storm first came ashore, absorbed a major blow, with numerous houses destroyed by 150 mph winds and a powerful storm surge. Offshore, Sanibel Island, a popular destination for vacationers and retirees, was cut off when a causeway was rendered impassable.

Hundreds of beleaguered Fort Myers residents lined up at a Home Depot that opened early yesterday on the east side of the city, hoping to purchase gas cans, generators, bottled water and anything else needed to survive. The line stretched for 100 yards.

Many said they felt the city and state governments were doing everything possible to help people but said the lack of communication and uncertainty about how they would go on living in the area weighed heavily on them.

Sarah Sodre-Crot and Marco Martins, a married couple and both 22, immigrated from Brazil with their families five years ago, seeking a better life than they had back home. They rode out the storm in their home in east Fort Myers.

At least 19, mostly girls, at education centre



Relatives and medical staff shift a wounded girl from an ambulance outside a hospital in Kabul

Students were preparing for an exam when a suicide bomber struck at this educational centre. Unfortunately, 19 people have been martyred and 27 others wounded

KABUL POLICE SPOKESMAN KHALID ZADRAN

responding." At least one hospital, the Taliban forced families of victims to leave the site, fearing that there could be a follow-up attack on the crowd.

Videos posted online and photos published by local media showed bloodied victims being carried away from the scene.

"Security teams have reached the site, the nature of the attack

YOU KNOW WHAT

Around 300 recent high school graduates had come to take practice exams at the centre which helps students prepare and study for the entrance exams

and the details of the casualties will be released later," Abdul Nafy Takor, the interior ministry's spokesman, earlier tweeted.

"Attacking civilian targets proves the enemy's inhuman cruelty and lack of moral standards."

US forces seize nearly \$100 million in heroin, hashish in Middle East

STARS AND STRIPES | Manama

The US Navy seized nearly \$100 million in illicit drugs this week from fishing vessels in the Gulf of Oman as part of a multinational effort in the Middle East to stem the tide of trafficking on the seas, officials said.

On Tuesday, the Coast Guard fast response cutter Charles Moulthroppe seized 5,313 pounds of heroin worth an estimated \$85 million from a fishing vessel in international waters in the Gulf of Oman, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command said in a statement the same day.

On Wednesday, the destroyer USS Delbert D. Black confiscated 15,873 pounds of hashish worth an estimated \$10 million from another fishing vessel, also in the Gulf of Oman, the Navy said in a separate statement Thursday.

Delbert D. Black has been patrolling waters in the Middle East since August in support of 5th Fleet, which is headquartered in Manama, Bahrain, the Navy said.

Homeported at Naval Station Mayport in Florida, the ship deployed in August as part of the USS George H.W. Bush Carrier Strike Group, which is operating in the Mediterranean



US Coast Guard personnel seize bags of illegal drugs from a fishing vessel

YOU KNOW WHAT

USS Delbert D. Black has been patrolling waters in the Middle East since August in support of 5th Fleet, which is headquartered in Manama, Bahrain

Sea in the US 6th Fleet area of responsibility.

This is the first deployment

for Delbert D. Black, which has a crew of more than 300 and a detachment from Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 48, the Navy said.

The Coast Guard's Charles Moulthroppe was operating in support of the Saudi Arabia-led Combined Task Force 150, one of four task forces under Combined Maritime Forces.

Homeported in Bahrain, the ship has a crew of nearly 30 and has been operating in the Middle East since May 2021.

The multinational partnership has made 13 drug interdictions so far this year, resulting in the seizure of nearly \$300 million in heroin, methamphetamine, amphetamine pills and hashish, the Navy said.

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

Travelled on board the Vande Bharat Express! It was a delight to meet women start-up entrepreneurs, talented youth, those associated with the Railways team and those involved in building the Vande Bharat train. It was a memorable journey.

@narendramodi

02

I'm saddened and outraged by repeated violent attacks on civilians in #Afghanistan. @WHO condemns such acts. We are ready to provide immediate support to the health care system to treat the injured.

@DrTedros

03

Vladimir Putin is once again violating international law with his threats to annex more of Ukraine. We will not hesitate to take further action, including imposing more sanctions to cripple Putin's war machine. We will ensure he loses this illegal war.

@trussliz

04

The illegal annexation proclaimed by Putin won't change anything. All territories illegally occupied by Russian invaders are Ukrainian land and will always be part of this sovereign nation.

@vonderleyen

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