

Battle of Actium: decisive naval battle that effectively ends the Roman Republic. Octavian's forces defeat those under Mark Antony and Cleopatra off the western coast of Greece



Sultan Saladin and King Richard the Lionheart of England sign treaty over Jerusalem, at end of the Third Crusade

Great Fire of London begins at 2am in Pudding Lane, 80% of London is destroyed

V-J Day, formal Surrender of Japan aboard USS Missouri marks the end of World War II (Japanese date, 1st September in US)

Attacked from Ukraine says



The drones used to attack the 'Kresty' air base in Pskov were launched from Russia. Four Russian IL-76 military transport planes were hit as a result of the attack. Two were destroyed and two were seriously damaged

UKRAINE'S INTELLIGENCE CHIEF KYRYLO BUDANOV

ripped holes in commercial buildings and even struck the Kremlin but officials have dismissed the increase in attacks.

The reports of bomb threats in Ukraine's capital coincided with the start of the country's academic year, as the education ministry said nearly four million students were returning to school, both online and in person.

Ukrainian officials said Russian attacks since the beginning of the invasion in February 2022 had damaged or destroyed thousands of schools.

Andriy Sadovy, the mayor of the western city of Lviv, said pupils will be learning to fly drones, releasing a picture of students behind computers.

"This is our new reality," he wrote on social media alongside images of children holding controllers and sitting in front of monitors simulating drone flights.

Putin meanwhile congratulated Russian students on the beginning of the new school year, telling them it was impossible to defeat Russia as Moscow's offensive in Ukraine grinds through its nineteenth month.

its west and Belarus to its south.

'Calm' urged after bomb scare

Budanov's comments came hours after Russian air defences destroyed a drone approaching Moscow, the city's mayor said, a day after a similar attack on the capital.

Russian media reported that air traffic at Moscow's Domodedovo and Vnukovo airports had been temporarily halted.

An uptick in aerial assaults have hit the capital's financial district,

Putin, Erdogan to meet Monday amid grain deal hopes



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (L) meets Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) in Astana (file photo)

AFP | Moscow

Russian President Vladimir Putin will host his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday, the Kremlin said, amid hopes the two can restore a deal ensuring safe passage for grain shipments.

Russia pulled out from the UN-backed grain agreement that Turkey helped broker in July, effectively revoking safe navigation for civilian ships sailing through the Black Sea.

"Negotiations will indeed take place in Sochi on Monday," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters yesterday.

Moscow's announcement came shortly after Ukraine said two more ships were sailing through a temporary corridor Kyiv had set up to ensure safe navigation.

"Two vessels are sailing through a temporary corridor from

Ukraine's Black Sea ports to the Bosphorus," Infrastructure Minister Oleksandr Kubrakov said on social media.

Kyiv announced the new maritime corridor in August after Moscow warned ships leaving Ukraine's ports could be considered military targets.

Turkey's foreign minister Hakan Fidan said on a visit to Moscow on Thursday that reviving the deal to ship Ukrainian grain across the Black Sea was "critical" for food security.

Turkey wants the warring sides to return to the agreement and use it as a basis for broader peace talks.

Moscow says the previous agreement imposed indirect restrictions on its grain and fertiliser exports by limiting Russia's access to global payment systems and insurance.

It has repeatedly said it could return to the deal if its demands are met.

Israeli forces kill Palestinian in West Bank raid: ministry

AFP | Jerusalem

Israeli forces yesterday killed a Palestinian in the West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said, as a surge of deadly violence in the occupied territory shows no signs of abating.

The ministry said Abdul Rahim Fayez Ghannam, 36, was "shot by live occupation (Israeli) fire in the head" in the village of Al-Aqaba in the northern West Bank.

An AFP photographer saw black smoke billowing from a building during the military raid.

The Israeli army said in a statement a firefight broke out between militants and soldiers and "a hit was identified on one of the gunmen."

Troops also "used shoulder-fired missiles and grenades" in the violence, and subsequently found improvised explosive devices and other weapons in the building, the statement said.

After Israeli forces withdrew, Palestinian residents inspected bullet marks and a gaping hole



Palestinians inspect the damage following an Israel military raid in the occupied West Bank village of Al-Aqaba

left in the wall of a house.

Mourners gathered for the funeral of Ghannam, whose head was wrapped in a keffiyeh while his body was shrouded in a Palestinian flag.

The number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces in the West Bank and Israel this year is the highest since 2005, according to the United Nations' humanitarian agency OCHA.

The soaring violence has also involved a rise in Palestinian attacks on Israelis.

On Thursday, a Palestinian

man rammed into Israeli soldiers near a West Bank checkpoint, killing one, before being shot dead.

A day earlier, Israeli forces killed a 14-year-old Palestinian boy in Jerusalem after he stabbed a passenger on a tram.

So far this year, at least 225 Palestinians, 32 Israelis, a Ukrainian and an Italian have been killed in violence linked to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, according to an AFP tally based on official sources on both sides.

Singapore ex-deputy PM Shanmugaratnam elected president: official results

AFP | London

Former Singapore deputy prime minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam was elected president yesterday, according to official results, in the city-state's first contested vote for the largely ceremonial position in more than a decade.

The Elections Department declared the 66-year-old economist as the winner over two rival candidates after securing 70.4 percent of ballots cast.

"I declare Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam as the candidate duly elected as the president of Singapore," said election returning officer Tan Meng Dui.

Shanmugaratnam replaces incumbent Halimah Yacob who ran unopposed for her six-year term in 2017.

"I believe that it's a vote of confidence in Singapore. It's a



Tharman Shanmugaratnam

vote of optimism for a future in which we can progress together," Shanmugaratnam said in a speech before the results were announced.

There are stringent requirements for the position, which formally oversees the city's accumulated financial reserves and holds the power to veto certain measures and approve anti-graft probes.

Observers said Shanmugaratnam's win is a boost for the ruling People's Action Party (PAP), which is widely perceived to favour his candidacy.



I believe that it's a vote of confidence in Singapore. It's a vote of optimism for a future in which we can progress together

THARMAN SHANMUGARATNAM

The party that has ruled Singapore continuously since 1959 has been hurt by a rare spate of political scandals ahead of the presidential vote.

Shanmugaratnam, also a former finance minister, was a long-time PAP stalwart before he resigned to run for the non-partisan position of president.

His independence had been questioned during the campaign because of his previous ties with the government.

Proud Boys leader jailed for 17 years over US Capitol attack

AFP | London

Two senior members of the Proud Boys militia were handed hefty prison sentences Thursday for their role in the 2021 assault on the US Capitol by supporters of Donald Trump.

Joe Biggs, the Florida leader of the self-styled paramilitary group, was sentenced to 17 years in prison for seditious conspiracy and other charges, one year shy of the longest sentence given a participant in the January 6, 2021 riot.

Zachary Rehl, leader of the Philadelphia Proud Boys arm, got 15 years in prison on the same charges.

Prosecutors called them key figures in the attack by thousands seeking to forcibly overturn Joe Biden's November 2020 election victory, after Trump repeatedly claimed without any basis that there was massive fraud in the vote.



Trump supporters clash with police and security forces as they storm the US Capitol in Washington, DC

The attack, which followed a rally at the White House in which Trump urged supporters to march to the Capitol to protest against certification of the election, "broke our tradition of the peaceful transfer of power, which is one of the most precious things that we had as Americans," Judge Timothy

Kelly said Thursday.

Kelly rejected prosecutors' call for up to 33 years in prison, saying the attack was hardly a terrorist-like mass casualty event, and neither Biggs nor Rehl killed anybody.

Nevertheless, Kelly said, "There is a need for deterrence."



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TWEETS

01



Thanks to #Greece's Health Ministry, @OKANA_GR and the City of Athens for their efforts to fight the opioid crisis. @WHO will continue to support.

@DrTedros

02



I'm proud of the support I put in place as Chancellor during Covid. From the furlough scheme to the Culture Recovery Fund, we protected millions of jobs and got the economy growing again. Now, we need to halve inflation and stick to our plan.

@RishiSunak

03



It was a pleasure meeting with China Vice Premier He Lifeng. We exchanged views on the outlook for the world economy and China. Great to hear the plans for securing high-quality growth in China today and in the future.

@KGeorgieva

04



Today, as we mark 1 year of @IAEAORG presence at #Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine, I personally thanked our staff. Their expertise, commitment & resilience in the face of an extremely challenging situation are key in our mission. Our work to protect the NPP continues.

@rafaelgrossi

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