

1789

Bastille Day - the French Revolution begins with the storming of the Bastille Prison in Paris (now celebrated as France's national day)

1850

1st public demonstration of ice made by refrigeration by Florida physician John Gorrie

1933

All non-Nazi parties are banned in Germany



386BSD is released by Lynne Jolitz and William Jolitz, starting the open source operating system revolution. Linus Torvalds release "Linux" soon afterwards

1992

# in South Africa



Zuma, 79, was sentenced last month for defying a constitutional court order to give evidence at an inquiry investigating high-level corruption during his nine years in office until 2018. The violence worsened as Zuma challenged his 15-month jail term in South Africa's top court on Monday. Judgment was reserved until an unspecified date

Unrest linked to jailing of former

were patrolling as shop owners assessed the damage.

Cele said 757 people had been arrested so far. He said the government would act to prevent it from spreading further and warned that people would not be allowed "to make a mockery of our democratic state".

Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, speaking at the same news conference, said she did not think a state of emergency should be imposed yet.

Security officials said the government was working to halt the spread of the violence and looting, which has so far spread from Zuma's home in KwaZulu-Natal province to Gauteng province surrounding the country's biggest city Johannesburg. They deployed soldiers onto the streets to try to contain it, but stopped short of declaring a state of emergency.

"No amount of unhappiness or personal circumstances from our people gives the right to anyone to loot, vandalise and do as they please and break the law," Police

Minister Bheki Cele told a news conference, echoing sentiments expressed by President Cyril Ramaphosa overnight.

The bodies of 10 people were found on Monday evening after a stampede at a Soweto shopping mall, premier David Makhura said.

Hundreds of looters raided warehouses and supermarkets in Durban, one of the busiest shipping terminals on the African continent and a major import-export hub.

Outside a Durban warehouse of retailer Game, Reuters filmed looters stuffing cars with electronic goods and clothes. Inside, the floor was a wreckage of discarded packaging as the crowd systematically emptied the shelves.

Aerial footage from local channel eNCA showed black smoke rising from several warehouses, while debris lay strewn.

Troops were moving into flash-points on Tuesday as outnumbered police seemed helpless to stop the unrest. Columns of armoured personnel carriers rolled down highways.

The rand, which had been one of the best performing emerging market currencies during the pandemic, dropped to a three-month low on Tuesday, and local and hard currency bonds suffered.

## n to lift lockdown for festival



People in Sreenagar, Bangladesh walk to board a ferry to their hometowns

ally head back to their villages families. to mark Eid al-Adha with their Bangladesh imposed its strict-

est-ever lockdown at the start of the month as new Covid-19 cases and deaths climbed to pandemic highs.

Under the lockdown, people were only allowed to leave home for emergencies and to buy essentials, with public transport, shops and offices shut.

But infections have continued to climb, with nearly 14,000 people testing positive on Monday -- a new daily record -- to take the total number of cases to just over one million.

The death toll has risen above 16,600. But experts say the real figures could be much higher amid fears of underreporting.

## in battle for the bulge after body fat rule dropped



Rules introduced at the start of the pandemic made it compulsory for officers to work out daily and submit monthly body mass index readings

for the 220,000 members of the force to work out daily and submit monthly body mass index (BMI) readings.

Officers seeking to rise up the ranks were blocked if they failed to meet BMI targets, said person-

nel head Major General Rolando Hinanay.

In a memo to his recently appointed boss, the reed-thin police chief General Guillermo Eleazar, Hinanay called for the rule to be suspended.

He argued Covid-19 restrictions had made it difficult for officers to work out and lose weight.

"As a result, many personnel were disqualified for promotion," Hinanay said.

Eleazar confirmed to reporters Tuesday he had approved the request.

Officers are supposed to have a BMI of between 18.5 and 27, depending on their age, to qualify for service. Generally a BMI of between 18.5 and 24.9 is considered a "healthy weight".

A petition filed by disgruntled officers had argued the policy was "detrimental" and "a form of discrimination to personnel who are above normal BMI".

## Iran says it is holding talks on prisoner exchanges with US

Reuters | Dubai

Iran said yesterday it was holding talks on prisoner exchanges with the United States aimed at securing the release of Iranians held in US jails and other countries over violations of US sanctions.

"Negotiations are under way on the exchange of prisoners between Iran and America, and we will issue more information if Iranian prisoners are released and the country's interests are secured and the talks reach a conclusion," government spokesman Ali Rabiee said.

"Because of its humanitarian aims, Iran is ready to exchange all American political prisoners in exchange for the release of all Iranian prisoners who have been detained around the world at the behest of America," he told a news conference carried on a government website.

There was no immediate US comment on his remarks.

US State Department spokesman Ned Price said on Monday that Washington would not impose a deadline on a seventh round of talks, and only Tehran could determine when talks would resume.

## Pope Francis to leave hospital as soon as possible, says Vatican



Pope Francis speaks with a health worker at the Gemelli hospital, as he recovers following scheduled surgery on his colon, in Rome, Italy

Reuters | Vatican City

Pope Francis is continuing his planned treatment and rehabilitation after intestinal surgery 10 days ago and will leave hospital as soon as possible, the Vatican said yesterday.

The Vatican's daily medical bulletin on the 84-year-old pope, who had part of his colon removed on July 4, also said he had met many patients during his stay at the Gemelli hospital but felt particularly close to "those who are bedridden and cannot return home".

It gave no further details on the pope's condition. The Vatican had said on Monday that he would stay in hospital a few days longer than the

seven originally expected to "optimise his medical and rehabilitative therapy".

On Sunday he made his first public appearance since the surgery, standing for about 10 minutes while speaking from the balcony of his suite.

He has no commitments for the rest of the month apart from his Sunday blessing, though the Vatican is proceeding with plans for a papal trip to Slovakia and the Hungarian capital of Budapest in mid-September.

Scotland's bishops on Monday announced that the pope will attend the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in November, health permitting.

## Philippines to probe report of Chinese sewage-dumping at sea

Reuters | Manila

The Philippines' defence minister on Tuesday ordered the military to investigate a report by a US-based tech firm that hundreds of Chinese vessels were dumping sewage into contested areas of the South China Sea.

China maintains a constant presence of coastguard and fishing boats in the South China Sea to assert its claim of sovereignty, including hundreds in the Spratly islands, where the Philippines, Brunei, Taiwan, Vietnam and Malaysia also have claims.

Similarity, an AI-based satellite image analysis firm, on Monday made public satellite



images over a five-year period that it said showed damage caused by untreated human waste from Chinese vessels. At a forum on Monday, Liz Derr, Similarity co-founder and CEO, said the waste could threaten fish stocks.

"It is so intense you can see it from space," Derr said.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



I wish @Malala a very happy birthday! Thank you for your work and commitment to girls' education worldwide, and your ongoing support for the @UN as our youngest Messenger of Peace!

@antoniogetterres

02



It's #WorldMaskWeek. A properly fitted mask reduces your risk of #COVID19. #Thanks-ForMasking & helping to stop the virus spreading further. But to stay safe, Avoid crowds, Physically distance, Open windows, Clean your hands and Get vaccinated when it's your turn

@DrTedros

03



"Approvals for companies to drill for oil and gas on U.S. public lands are on pace this year to reach their highest level since George W. Bush was president." We're not only subsidising the climate and ecological crisis - we're speeding it up.

@GretaThunberg

04



I cannot say this powerfully or emphatically enough - this pandemic is not over. It is only thanks to the vaccine programme that we are able to take these cautious steps now. But to take these steps we must be cautious and we must be vaccinated. Please get that jab.

@BorisJohnson

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