

Abraham Lincoln says "A house divided against itself cannot stand" accepting Illinois Republican Party's nomination for the Senate



Bloomsday (date of events in James Joyce's Ulysses)

Israel complies with UN Security Council Resolution 425 after 22 years, which calls on Israel to completely withdraw from Lebanon. Israel withdraws from all of Lebanon, except the disputed Sheba Farms

## Levels normal around Taishan reactor



part of the Taishan Nuclear Power Plant, or Power (CGN), is seen under construction 7, 2013.

"So far China's nuclear power plants have maintained a good operating record, with no incidents affecting the environment and public health," Zhao said.

EDF said on Monday that the problem at the plant could have been caused by fuel rods supplied by Framatome.

"Under normal operating conditions it is true some gases like krypton and xenon will escape and be detected but in this case the concentrations are much higher, so something is happening," said Tatsujiro Suzuki, a former vice-chairman of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission.



The Taishan project, completed in 2019, consists of two French-designed reactors, and is located around 200 km (124 miles) from Hong Kong.

"Once radioactive gas is leaking to the environment it is a serious issue. It could get worse. I think there could be problems with the fuel. It is unusual."

Earlier, Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam told reporters that the Hong Kong Observatory and the Water Supplies Department have been monitoring radiation levels and have so far not detected anything abnormal.

Li Ning, a Chinese nuclear scientist based in the United States, said the dangers at Taishan have been exaggerated.

"Because nuclear power plants, once built and in operation, are under very strict control and local areas are excluded from further development, background radiation levels around them can often be lower than historical levels," he said.

## Code up for auction as NFT



Berners-Lee poses for a speech at the Mozilla

ed in Europe in

theurem block- (NFT), a one-of- records owner- source code, an letter written by

Berners-Lee and a digital poster of the full code from the original files.

NFTs have exploded in popularity in recent months, including at auction. A digital-only artwork by American artist Mike Winkelmann, known as Beeple, sold for nearly \$70 million at Christie's in March.

"Why an NFT? Well, it's a natural thing to do ... when you're a computer scientist and when you write code and have been for many years," Berners-Lee said in a statement. "It feels right to digitally sign my autograph on a completely digital artefact."

The files contain 9,555 lines of code including implementations of the three languages and protocols invented by Berners-Lee: HTML (Hypertext Markup Language), HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol), and URIs (Uniform Resource Identifiers).

Also included are original HTML documents that instructed early web users on how to use the application.

Bids for the NFT, a way of asserting ownership of a digital asset, start at \$1,000 in a standalone online auction titled "This

Changed Everything" running from June 23-30.

While working at Europe's physics research centre CERN in 1989, Berners-Lee laid out his vision for what he initially called "Mesh".

His boss at the time wrote "vague but exciting" on the cover of Berners-Lee's 1989 paper "Information Management: A Proposal".

Berners-Lee in 1990 was building an application he called "WorldWideWeb". It was originally developed in Objective C programming language on a NeXT computer, founded by Apple founder Steve Jobs after his ouster from Apple.

"Sir Tim's invention created a new world, democratizing the sharing of information, creating new ways of thinking and interacting, and staying connected to one another," said Cassandra Hatton, global head of science and popular culture at Sotheby's.

"Over the past several centuries humankind has seen a succession of paradigm shifts that have brought us forward into the modern era ... but none has had the seismic impact on our daily lives as the creation of the World Wide Web."

## US to take steps against white supremacists and militia groups

Reuters

Five months after the attack on the US Capitol, the Biden administration will unveil steps for federal and local officials and social media companies to battle national security threats posed by white supremacists and militia groups.

US Attorney General Merrick Garland will release a plan for increased information sharing, additional resources to identify and prosecute threats, and new deterrents to prevent Americans from joining dangerous groups.

The administration conducted a sweeping assessment earlier this year of domestic terrorism that labeled white supremacists and militia groups as top national security threats. The issue took on new urgency after the Jan. 6 assault on the Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump



US President Joe Biden

who were trying to overturn Joe Biden's election victory.

The strategy stopped short of calling for new laws to fight domestic threats.

"We concluded that we didn't have the evidentiary basis, yet, to decide whether we wanted to pro-

ceed in that direction or whether we have sufficient authority as it currently exists at the federal level," said a senior administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in advance of the announcement.

In his budget proposal released last month, Biden, who succeeded Trump on Jan. 20, is seeking \$100 million in additional funding to train and hire analysts and prosecutors to disrupt and deter terrorist activity.

"The threat is elevated," the administration official said. "Tackling it means ensuring that we do have the resources and personnel to address that elevated threat."

The administration is also toughening the federal government's screening methods to better identify employees who may pose insider threats. They are looking to share those techniques with private companies.

## India's top court ends proceedings against Italian marines



Italian sailors Salvatore Girone (R) and Massimiliano Latorre leave the police commissioner office in the southern Indian city of Kochi

Reuters

India's top court said on Tuesday it has closed all proceedings against two Italian marines over the shooting of two fishermen off the southern Indian coast in 2012, after Rome paid \$1.36 million in compensation.

Salvatore Girone and Massimiliano Latorre were arrested in February 2012 over the shooting. They said the killings were accidental, as they mistook the fishermen for pirates and fired warning shots while on duty on the Italian oil tanker "Enrica Lexie".

The case caused friction between the two countries for years. "Compensation paid by the Italian government, over and above payments already made is adequate," said Justice M R Shah, one of the judges hearing the case in India's Su-

preme Court, closing the case against the two men in India.

Italy has paid 100 million Indian rupees (\$1.36 million) in compensation, split between the families of the victims and the boat's owner, Shah said.

European Union commissioner Paolo Gentiloni said in a tweet on Tuesday the verdict is "a success of Italian diplomacy."

A spokesman for Italy's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment on whether the men will be prosecuted in Italy.

But Italian foreign minister Luigi Di Maio said in a tweet that all legal proceedings were now closed.

"Thanks to those who worked on the case with perseverance, thanks to our tireless diplomatic corps," he said. "This long affair has finally come to an end."

Reuters

Twitter yesterday introduced an "Arabic (feminine)" language setting enabling the social media site to speak to users using feminine grammar, part of what it said was an inclusion and diversity drive.

"We want our service to reflect the voices that shape the conversations that take place on our service," said Rasha Fawakhiri, Twitter's communications head for the Middle East and North Africa.

In Arabic, verbs agree with the gender of their subject. Masculine forms are used to address mixed or unknown audiences and are the default in most texts.

Twitter did not introduce a non-binary gender language option in Arabic, but Fawakhiri said the company has other gender neutral projects in the works for the site. It has plans to add a designated gender pronoun field to Twitter profiles so people can display how they prefer to be addressed.

Until now, the instruction for the user to Tweet in Arabic had appeared only in the masculine form "gharrid". With a change of settings, this command can now appear on Twitter as "gharridi", the feminine form.

Twitter says it is the first social media site to introduce an "Arabic (feminine)" language option. Dubai-based global logistics company Aramex in April added a similar language option to its corporate website.

"We want to provide people with the option of how they prefer to be addressed," Fawakhiri said.

Twitter started with Arabic and the initiative could be expanded to other languages, Fawakhiri said.

Last year the company amended some of the language used by its engineers in their processes to be more inclusive. This included "they/them/their" pronouns and replacing "man hours" with "person or engineer hours", and "master/slave" with "leader/follower".



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Once the adults have been overwhelmingly vaccinated, which is what we can achieve in a short space of time, we will be in a far stronger position to keep hospitalisations down, to live with this disease & to complete our cautious but irreversible roadmap to freedom. 4/4

@BorisJohnson

02



Democracy thrives when the infrastructure of democracy is strong; when people have the right to vote freely, fairly, and conveniently; when a free and independent press pursues the truth; when the law applies equally to everyone, regardless of who they are or what they look like.

@JoeBiden

03



The #COVID19 virus is moving faster than the global distribution of vaccines. To end the pandemic, our shared goal must be to vaccinate at least 70% of the world's population by the time the @G7 meets again next year. To do that, we need 11 billion doses.

@DrTedros

04



Congratulations and best wishes to all the athletes selected for the @RefugeesOlympic Team! Your perseverance and determination are an inspiration to us all.

@antonioguterres

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