

"Pentateuch" the Jewish Bible is 1st printed as a book in Bologna, Italy

Lisbon hit by Earthquake; about 30,000 die



Captain Arthur Phillip and British colonists hoist the Union Flag at Sydney Cove, New South Wales, now celebrated as Australia Day.

President Bill Clinton says "I want to say one thing to the American people; I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky"

THE DAILY **tribune**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

QUOTE
OF THE
DAY

**ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE
UNIQUE. JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE**
MARGARET MEAD

News in brief

◆ British Prime Minister

Rishi Sunak called on the Iranian government to provide answers about the death and burial of British-Iranian dual national Alireza Akbari who was executed by Iran earlier this month. "The regime is prolonging the suffering of the family and it is sadly typical of that disregard for basic human dignity," Sunak told parliament. "Iran must now provide answers about the circumstances of his death and his burial." On Jan. 14, Tehran defied calls from the UK and the U.S. and executed Akbari, who once served as Iran's deputy defence minister. That prompted London to impose a fresh round of sanctions on Iranian officials earlier this week. Labour lawmaker Andy Slaughter said he was due to meet a British foreign office minister on Thursday along with the family of Akbari, who had lived in Slaughter's constituency, to seek the government's help at "this time of greatest suffering."



**UK PM Sunak says
Iran must give answers
on British-Iranian
national Akbari**

◆ Marooned for a decade

by engine failure, Palestinian fisherman Falah Abu Reyala will finally be able to return to sea with a new outboard motor

**Gaza fisherman gets
new outboard engine
after a decade's wait, as
Israel relaxes curbs**



for his boat after Israel eased curbs on the supply of parts to Gaza it feared could be used to make weapons. In November, Israel

allowed in enough fiberglass for the repair of 10 fishing boats and, last week, permitted the import of 12 outboard engines, said the United Nations. All the goods are paid for by the fisherman. Israel had previously barred their entry based on concern they could prove "dual use" - helping Hamas fighters with their military build-up. COGAT, an Israeli coordination unit, confirmed it had allowed the first entry in 15 years of dual-use materials such as epoxy glue, polyester, fiberglass and boat engines.

◆ Authorities in the North Korean capital

Pyeongyang have ordered a five-day lockdown due to rising cases of an unspecified respiratory illness, the Russian embassy and Seoul-based NK News reported on Wednesday, citing a government notice. The notice, shared by the embassy on its Facebook page, said that a "special anti-epidemic period has been established" and it called on foreign delegations to keep employees inside. The order also called for individuals to measure their temperatures four times a day and report the results to a hospital by phone. The notice made no mention of COVID-19 though cited an "increase in winter cases of recurrent flu and other respiratory diseases".

**North
Korea locks
down capital
city over
'respiratory
illness'**

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

'Doomsday Clock' moves to 90 seconds to midnight as nuclear threat rises

Reuters | Washington

Atomic scientists set the "Doomsday Clock" closer to midnight than ever before on Tuesday, saying threats of nuclear war, disease, and climate volatility have been exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, putting humanity at greater risk of annihilation.



The clock with the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists

The "Doomsday Clock," created by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists to illustrate how close humanity has come to the end of the world, moved its "time" in 2023 to 90 seconds to midnight, 10 seconds closer than it has been for the past three years.

Midnight on this clock marks the theoretical point of annihilation. The clock's hands are moved closer to or further away from midnight based on scientists' reading of existential threats at a particular time.

The new time reflects a world in which Russia's invasion of Ukraine has revived fears of nuclear war.

"Russia's thinly veiled threats to use nuclear weapons remind the world that escalation of the conflict by accident,

intention or miscalculation is a terrible risk. The possibilities that the conflict could spin out of anyone's control remains high," Rachel Bronson, the bulletin's president and CEO told a news conference in Washington on Tuesday.

The bulletin's announcement will for the first time be translated from English into Ukrainian and Russian to garner relevant attention, Bronson said.

A Chicago-based non-profit organization, the bulletin updates the clock's time annually based on information regarding catastrophic risks to the planet and humanity.

Germany's Leopards to boost Ukraine firepower

● Ukraine says tanks will be a 'punching fist' for democracy

● Russian envoy says tank shipments would be "blatant provocation"

● Russian-backed leader says Wagner force advancing on Bakhmut



Germany delivers its first Leopard tanks to Slovakia as part of a deal after Slovakia donated fighting vehicles to Ukraine, in Bratislava, Slovakia

Reuters | Berlin/Kyiv

Germany cleared the way yesterday for Europe to send scores of battle tanks to Ukraine, and Washington was poised make a similar announcement - moves hailed by Kyiv as a potential turning point in the war and condemned by Moscow as escalation.

Kyiv has been calling for months for Western main battle tanks that would give its forces greater firepower, protection and mobility to break through Russian defensive lines and potentially reclaim territory occupied by the invaders.

Andriy Yermak, the head of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's administration, reminded Kyiv's allies that it wanted tanks in the hundreds, adding on Telegram: "This is what is going to become a real punching fist of democracy."

Germany, previously the West's holdout, said it would send an initial company of 14 of its Leopard 2 tanks from its own stocks, and also approve shipments by other European countries.

The overall aim would be to supply Ukraine with two battalions of Leopards, typically comprising three or four companies, each with around 14 tanks. Berlin said the first would arrive within three or four months, and that it would also provide training, ammunition and maintenance.

"This decision follows our well-known line of supporting Ukraine to the best of our ability. We are acting in a closely coordinated manner internationally," Chancellor Olaf Scholz said in a statement.

Germany's decision im-

mediately paves the way for pledges from other countries that also use the same tanks.

Spain and the Netherlands said they too could send Leopards and Norway was reported to be considering the matter. Poland and Finland had already pledged to send some as soon as Berlin approved. Britain has offered a company of 14 of its comparable Challengers and France is considering sending its Leclercs. Finland said it would send them, as did Poland, which has already sought Berlin's approval. Spain and the Netherlands said they were considering it, and Norway was reported to be discussing it. Britain has offered a company of 14 of its comparable Challengers and France is considering sending its Leclercs.



Last week, allies pledged billions of dollars' worth of new military aid including hundreds of armored fighting vehicles and troop carriers - seen as more effective for attacking when used alongside tanks to burst through enemy lines.



Russia defence ministry says frigate tests strike capabilities in Atlantic

Reuters | Moscow

The Russian Defence Ministry said on Wednesday the frigate Admiral Gorshkov tested its strike capabilities in the western Atlantic Ocean.

In a statement, the ministry said the frigate had run a computer simulation on hypersonic Zircon missiles.

Zircon missiles have a range of 900 km (560 miles), and can travel at several times the speed of sound, making it difficult to defend against them. The statement did not say the frigate had launched a missile.

Tensions between the West and Russia have reached the



A still image from video released by the Russian Defence Ministry shows what it said to be frigate 'Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union Gorshkov' during an exercise in the Atlantic Ocean

highest point in years due to the conflict in Ukraine.

Russian officials have on several occasions suggested Russia

might use its nuclear arsenal, the world's largest, if it feels threatened by Western support for Ukraine.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



President @AlsisiOf-ficial and I discussed ways to augment cooperation in healthcare, environment and global supply chains. We also talked about issues pertaining to security and the need to end cross-border terrorism.
@narendramodi

02



German main battle tanks, further broadening of defense support & training missions, green light for partners to supply similar weapons. Just heard about these important & timely decisions in a call with @OlafScholz. Sincerely grateful to the Chancellor and all our friends in .
@ZelenskyyUa

03



Two years ago this week, 18 million people were out of work needing unemployment benefits. Today, that number is under 1.6 million - the lowest in decades.
@JoeBiden

04



A safe place for all, secure and open, peaceful and democratic, which respects human rights. That's what the Internet must be and remain, especially for our children. It's one of our battles. Artists, join us, and speak out! Thank you @Pharrell for your commitment.
@EmmanuelMacron

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