

UK knife attack suspect was known to security services

A man held on suspicion of stabbing three people to death in a British park at the weekend was known to the security services, media reported yesterday. The 25-year-old, widely identified as Khairi Saadallah, a Libyan refugee, was held on suspicion of murder on Saturday night, soon after the rampage in Reading, west of London. British media said Saadallah fled the civil war in Libya and had been released from prison earlier this month, after serving time for a series of non-terror offences. He briefly came to the attention of the domestic intelligence agency MI5 last year and was said to have planned to travel abroad, reportedly to Syria. His mental health is understood to be a factor for investigating officers.

'Kim laughing at Trump'

Former US national security advisor John Bolton said Sunday he thinks North Korean leader Kim Jong Un "gets a huge laugh" over US counterpart Donald Trump's perception of their relationship. Bolton spoke to ABC News for his first interview ahead of the Tuesday release of his tell-all book, "The Room Where it Happened", which contains many damning allegations against Trump. When journalist Martha Raddatz asked if Trump "really believes Kim Jong Un loves him", Bolton said "I think Kim Jong Un gets a huge laugh out of this. These letters that the president has shown to the press... are written by some functionary in the North Korean Workers Party agitprop office. And yet, the president has looked at them as evidence of this deep friendship," he said, adding that friendship does not amount to international diplomacy.

NYC to remove Roosevelt statue over racism concerns



New York City announced Sunday it would remove a statue of former US President Theodore Roosevelt long criticized as a racist and colonialist symbol, but the move drew criticism from Donald Trump. The bronze sculpture of Roosevelt, which has been at the entrance of the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) for 80 years, depicts the former leader on horseback towering over a black man and a Native American man - who are both on foot. Theodore Roosevelt IV, aged 77, a great-grandson of the 26th American president, released a statement approving the removal saying "the world does not need statues." But President Donald Trump criticized the decision to remove the statue, tweeting: "Ridiculous, don't do it!"

SOURCE: REUTERS, AFP



South Korean soldiers take part in a live fire exercise near the demilitarized zone separating the two Koreas in Paju, South Korea, yesterday. The drill comes amid new tensions in the Korean peninsula after North Korea blew up a liaison office on its side of the border that symbolised inter-Korean rapprochement.

PHOTO: REUTERS

INDIA-CHINA BORDER STAND-OFF

Commanders meet amid calls for boycott of Chinese goods

AGENCIES

Indian and Chinese military commanders met to try to ease tensions at their disputed Himalayan border as the public mood hardened in India for a military and economic riposte following the worst clash in more than five decades.

Major Indian traders called for a boycott of Chinese goods and the state of Maharashtra, home to India's financial capital of Mumbai, put three initial investment proposals from Chinese companies worth 50 billion rupees (\$658 million) on hold, just days after signing the agreements.

India said 20 of its soldiers were killed in a clash last Monday with Chinese troops in a major escalation of a weeks-long standoff between the nuclear-armed Asian giants. China has not disclosed how many casualties it suffered.

An Indian government source said commanders met in Moldo, on the Chinese side of the Line of Actual Control, the de facto border dividing India's Ladakh region from the Chinese held Aksai Chin. The meeting lasted several hours, with the

Indian side pushing China to withdraw its troops back to where they were in April, a second Indian government source said. China, in previous rounds of talks, had asked India to stop all construction work in what it says is Chinese territory.

Meanwhile, the war of words between India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and main opposition Congress over the military standoff escalated yesterday, reported our New Delhi correspondent.

In his first remarks, former PM Manmohan Singh yesterday said PM Narendra Modi "must be mindful of the implications of his words and cannot allow China to use them as a vindication of its position."

Congress has been attacking the government on Modi's remarks at an all-party meeting that no one has entered Indian territory or captured any military post while referring to the eastern Ladakh standoff.

In a sharp push-back at Singh, BJP President J P Nadda alleged Singh, as PM, "abjectly surrendered" hundreds of square kilometres of India's land to China and presided over 600 incursions made by the neighbouring country between 2010 and 2013.

NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL TALKS

Little hope of a deal as US, Russia meet

AGENCIES

The United States and Russia yesterday met in Vienna for talks on their last major nuclear weapons agreement against a backdrop of growing tensions and differences over whether they see any value in arms control at all.

US President Donald Trump insists that China should be involved in the talks on New START, the treaty that caps US and Russian nuclear warheads to a maximum of 1,550. China has shown no sign of being interested.

US ambassador Marshall Billingslea and Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov are nonetheless to discuss the future of the New START treaty, which was agreed in 2010 and expires in February 2021.

That leaves very little time to renew a complex deal, let alone negotiate a new treaty involving China, especially with a November presidential election looming.

The deadlock over New START and the demise of other nuclear arms control treaties "suggest that the era of bilateral nuclear arms control agreements between Russia and the USA might be coming to an end," said Shannon Kile of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

According to the institute's latest research, Russia has 6,375 nuclear warheads, including those that are not deployed, and the United States has 5,800. China comes a distant third with 320 warheads.

Meanwhile, China yesterday said it will join a global pact to regulate arms sales that has been rejected by the United States. The Communist Party leadership's top legislative body voted Saturday to adopt a decision on joining the UN Arms Trade Treaty that is designed to control the flow of weapons into conflict zones.

With no flights, Argentine sails across Atlantic to see parents

AFP, Mar del Plata

"Mission accomplished!" That joyful declaration came from Juan Manuel Balletero, an Argentine sailor who, unable to fly home from Portugal due to the pandemic, crossed the ocean alone in his modest sailboat to see his aging parents.

"I did it! I did it! I did it!" Balletero exclaimed at dockside last week when he reached his hometown of Mar del Plata.

The 47-year-old had completed an exhausting 85-day odyssey in his small boat, the nine-meter (30-foot) "Skua."

After testing negative for COVID-19 on arrival, Balletero was cleared to set foot on dry land to see his mother 82-year-old Nilda and father Carlos, aged 90.

"I've achieved what I've been fighting for these last three months," he told AFP. "It came down to this: to be with the family. That's why I came."

He had hoped to arrive in Argentina by May 15, for his father's 90th birthday.



He missed that date, but instead was able to celebrate Father's Day with his family.

Balletero, who works in Spain, hatched his ambitious plan for a single-handed sea passage after flights back to Argentina were canceled because of the pandemic. The younger Balletero's first stop on the 12,000-kilometer trip was at Victoria, Brazil; the last one before arrival was in La Paloma, Uruguay.

The Skua now sits docked at the Mar del Plata nautical club, and probably won't be leaving soon. Balletero has no immediate travel plans.



A demonstrator kneels as Los Angeles police prepare to fire pepper balls, flash-bangs and rubber bullets in a protest against the death of 18-year-old Andres Guardado and racial injustice, in Compton, California, US, on Sunday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

SECOND COVID-19 WAVE FEARS

Europe eyes 'army' of medics

REUTERS, Brussels

Europeans are enjoying the gradual easing of coronavirus lockdown measures, but in hospitals they are already preparing for the next wave of infections.

Some intensive care specialists are trying to hire more permanent staff. Others want to create a reservist "army" of medical professionals ready to be deployed wherever needed to work in wards with seriously ill patients.

European countries have been giving medics crash courses in how to deal with COVID-19 patients, and are now looking at ways to retrain staff to avoid shortages of key workers if there is a second wave of the novel coronavirus.

"We need a healthcare army," said Maurizio Cecconi, president-elect of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine, which brings together medics from around the world who work in wards with extremely ill patients.

Cecconi, who heads the intensive care department at the Humanitas hospital in Milan, says medical staff need to be more flexible in the work they do, and more mobile.

Many countries were caught unprepared by the COVID-19 pandemic in March and April, and hastily retrained medics to work with patients with severe cases of the disease, to ramp up numbers and replace those who fell sick.

Some sent medical students and retired

doctors to help out in intensive care wards as hospital staff were overwhelmed. Those worst-hit by the pandemic had to provide more beds and essential equipment for acute care units, and some built new hospitals.

But problems and shortages persist. Italy, for example, may need to boost by 50% the number of anaesthetists, resuscitation experts and care, according to the Italian society of intensive care SIAARTI.

Across Europe, hospitals have been re-training surgeons, cardiologists, internal medicine physicians and nurses from other departments, and have moved them to intensive care units when needed.

Many have attended crash courses on how to handle COVID-19 patients, said Jozef Kesecioglu, president of ESICM and head of intensive care at the University Medical Center of Utrecht, in the Netherlands.

"We gave them jobs with less responsibility, such as washing patients, turning patients around, checking the lungs or looking at scans," he told Reuters.

Intensive care specialists had continued to do the most delicate work, such as handling tubes in patients' throats or adjusting mechanical ventilation, Kesecioglu said.

The European Commission, the European Union's executive, funded cross-border transfers of medical staff to the most affected countries at the height of the coronavirus crisis.

NEWS IN brief

Pak shelling kills 1 Indian soldier

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

An Indian soldier was killed as Pakistani troops opened fire and lobbed mortar shells on forward areas along the Line of Control, the de facto border between the two countries, in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri, Kathua and Poonch districts yesterday, officials said. He is the fourth army man to be killed in Pakistani firing along the LoC in Rajouri and Poonch this month.

Taliban killed 291 forces in a week

AFP, Kabul

The Taliban killed at least 291 Afghan security personnel over the past week, a top government official said yesterday, accusing the insurgents of unleashing a wave of violence ahead of potential talks. The Taliban carried out 422 attacks in 32 provinces in the past week, killing 291 security force personnel and wounding 550 others, he said on Twitter terming the past week as the "deadliest" in the country's 19 years of conflict.

Sisi threat declaration of war: Libya GNA

AFP, Tripoli

Libya's UN-recognised Government of National Accord (GNA) yesterday denounced Egypt's warning of military intervention in Libya, labelling it a "declaration of war". On Saturday, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi warned that if pro-GNA forces advanced on the strategic city of Sirte -- some 450 kilometres (280 miles) east of Tripoli -- it could provoke a "direct" intervention by Cairo.

Dhaka Power Distribution Co. Ltd.
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 (An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)
 বিন্দু বন (৩য় তলা), ১ আবুল গণি রোড, ঢাকা-১০০০।
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e-Tender Notice

e-Tenders are invited through the national e-GP portal for the following procurement of works/goods.

e-Tender ID	Name of Works	Closing & Opening Date & Time	Procuring Entity/ Contact Persons
466756	Civil repairing works of outside and staircase of building-B including internal repair and maintenance of 02 flats ((ground floor(west) & 3rd floor (east)) at Kafirul Staffs Quarters under DPDC.	05-Jul-2020 12:00:00	Md. Mehedur Rahman Superintending Engineer Civil Works, DPDC, Dhaka House No-47 Road No.-135 Gulshan Circle-1 Dhaka-1212. Phone # 9892660 Fax # 9892170 Email # secw@dpdc.org.bd
471378	Repair of Toilet of Ansars, Construction of septic tank, shooq pit and guard room at Kamrangirchar 132/33/11 kV Grid Sub-Station under DPDC.	05-Jul-2020 12:15:00	
471380	Supply and Installation of Air cooler at Biddut Bhaban and various important offices under DPDC.	05-Jul-2020 12:30:00	
471381	Renovation of bath room and boundary wall, painting of inside and outside of office building including related civil, electrical and sanitary repair and maintenance works at NOCS (North) and NOCS Jhegatola under DPDC.	05-Jul-2020 12:45:00	
471382	Repair and maintenance of civil, electrical and sanitary systems of flat no.-ground floor(west) of building no.-04 at Paribag Officers Quarters under DPDC.	05-Jul-2020 13:00:00	
471405	Installation of Tiles at kitchen and bathroom including related civil, electrical and sanitary maintenance works of 02 flats (ground floor-north & south) of building-01(800 sqf) and 02 flats (3rd floor-north & south) of building-02(600 sqf) at Khanpur Staffs quarters under DPDC.	06-Jul-2020 12:30:00	
471407	Installation of Tiles at kitchen and bathroom including related civil, electrical and sanitary repair and maintenance works of 06 flats (ground floor, 1st floor & 2nd floor-(north & south)) of building-02(600 sqf) at Khanpur Staffs quarters under DPDC.	06-Jul-2020 12:45:00	
471384	Installation of tiles at floor, bathroom and kitchen including related civil, electrical and sanitary repair and maintenance works of flat no.-ground floor(west), 2nd floor (east), 3rd floor (east & west) of Dolonchapa (600 sqf) building at Hasnabad residential quarter under DPDC.	06-Jul-2020 12:00:00	
471386	Repair and maintenance of civil, electrical and sanitary systems of flat no.-B-1, 1st floor(west) at Begunbari Officers Quarters under DPDC.	06-Jul-2020 12:15:00	
472390	Dismentling Carrying and Shifting of old unserviceable 33kv 11kv switchgears and other equipments from Demra old abandoned 33/11 kv sub-station building and dismentling of old 33 kv towers and cleaning and removal of debris from the yard for shifting of Shiddhirgoj control to Demra old sub-station bldg under DPDC.	07-Jul-2020 15:00:00	

The interested persons/firm/may visit website (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) to get the details.

DGM (HR) Public Relations, DPDC