

8 dead after car runs into crowd in Texas

AFP, Brownsville

At least eight people were killed and several others injured on Sunday when an SUV ran a red light and plowed into a group waiting at a bus stop outside a migrant aid centre in the US state of Texas.

Law enforcement said they were treating the incident as an accident for now, although a witness told AFP the driver had yelled insults at the group before accelerating.

The gray sport utility vehicle “went through a red light and ran over several people” at around 8:30 am in Brownsville, police spokesman Martin Sandoval said.

Witness Luis Herrera, whose arm was hurt, said, “The killer came (through) in the car, gesturing at us, insulting us,” the 36-year-old Venezuelan said. Herrera then described the driver as accelerating the car with full force. The motorist was detained by witnesses until police arrived.



French President Emmanuel Macron lights the flame on the tomb of the unknown soldier at the Arc de Triomphe on Place de l'Etoile during the ceremonies marking the 78th anniversary of the victory against the Nazis and the end of the World War II in Europe, in Paris yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

China seeks ‘new fields’ of co-op with Pak military

REUTERS, Beijing

China's defence minister yesterday told Pakistan's navy chief that their militaries including their navies should “expand into new fields of cooperation” to bolster the capability of the two neighbours in safeguarding security in the region.

Ties between the two militaries stretch back years, with their navies and air forces holding bilateral exercises in each other's territory.

For China, Pakistan and its access to the Arabian Sea is key in the event of a maritime blockade in the Strait of Malacca.

But Chinese interest in the region has stirred concern, especially in neighbouring India after China opened its first overseas military base in Djibouti on the northwestern fringe of the Indian Ocean in 2017.

China's Defence Minister Li Shangfu told Pakistan's Chief of Naval Staff Amjad Khan Niazi, who was visiting Beijing, that the two countries' military relationship was a key part of bilateral ties.

“The two militaries should expand into new areas of exchanges, create new high points of cooperation to continuously enhance their ability to deal with all sorts of risks and challenges, and jointly maintain the security interests of the two countries and of the region,” said Li, according to a statement on China's Ministry of National Defense website.

Niazi's visit comes after Zhang Youxia, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, said in late April that the Chinese military was willing to deepen and expand cooperation with Pakistan's military.

So far, China has not disclosed if it had sought military access to Pakistan's Chinese-funded, deepwater port of Gwadar.

The Pentagon previously identified Pakistan as a possible location for a future Chinese military base, with Gwadar seen as the likely location.

In 2022, New Delhi expressed concern over a Chinese survey ship's visit to a strategic port in Sri Lanka. In 2014, Sri Lanka angered India when a Chinese submarine and a warship were allowed to dock in Colombo.

Russia rains missiles across Ukraine

Air defences shot down all 35 drones; Kyiv says Moscow effectively stopped Black Sea grain deal

AGENCIES

Russia carried out drone, missile and air strikes on Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities through Sunday night, escalating attacks in the run-up to its cherished Victory Day holiday that celebrates the defeat of Nazi Germany.

Ukraine said its air defences destroyed all 35 Iranian-made Shahed drones Russia had launched. Kyiv's mayor said at least five people were wounded in the capital amid damage to a fuel depot, cars, buildings and infrastructure. A food warehouse was set ablaze by a missile in the Black Sea city of Odesa, where officials reported three people wounded.

It was one of the biggest volleys of missiles and drones yet in a renewed Russian air campaign unleashed 10 days ago after a lull since early March.

Kyiv said Moscow was also making a final push to try to capture the ruined eastern city of Bakhmut, to deliver President Vladimir Putin what would be his only prize for a costly Russian winter offensive, in time for the holiday.

The military said 16 rockets had hit the Kharkiv, Kherson, Mykolaiv and Odesa regions in the last 24 hours, in addition to 61 strikes and 52 rocket salvos on Ukrainian positions and populated areas.

“Unfortunately, there are dead

and wounded civilians, high-rise buildings, private homes and other civilian infrastructure were damaged,” the military said.

Ukraine's reconstruction ministry said yesterday that Russia has effectively stopped the Black Sea grain deal by refusing to register incoming vessels.

“The Russian Federation once again effectively stopped the Grain Initiative by refusing to register incoming vessels and carry out



their inspections. This approach contradicts the terms of the current agreement,” the ministry said in a statement.

It said that 90 ships, including 62 vessels for loading, were waiting in Turkey's territorial waters for approval to go to Ukrainian ports.

The deal expires on May 18. Moscow has threatened to quit the agreement intended to help ease a global food crisis. Turkey and the United Nations are working to extend the deal.

Meanwhile, Moscow is preparing

for today's Victory Day parade, the most important day in the calendar for Russia under Putin, who uses the 1945 Soviet triumph over Nazi Germany to justify his invasion of Ukraine.

Ukraine, which as part of the then-Soviet Union endured higher per capita casualties than Russia in battling the Nazis, and as ground zero of the Holocaust, proclaimed May 8 to be Victory Day, rather than May 9 - a clear bid to separate its observance of the day from that of Russia.

“Recalling the heroism of millions of Ukrainians in that war against Nazism, we see the same heroism in the actions of our soldiers today,” President Volodymyr Zelensky said in a statement.

In Brussels, the EU has proposed to member states an 11th round of sanctions over Russia's war on Ukraine aimed at cutting down on evasion, a spokesman said yesterday.

“This package will be focusing on the implementation of sanctions, their effectiveness and how we avoid the evasion of sanctions,” European Commission spokesman Eric Mamer said.

As part of the package the EU's executive has recommended halting exports of sensitive technologies to eight Chinese companies over suspicions they were selling them on to Russia.

STRIFE-TORN SUDAN

Truce talks yield no progress

AFP, Khartoum

Air strikes again shook Sudan's capital yesterday while the latest truce talks in Jeddah have yielded no progress, with a Saudi diplomat saying both sides consider themselves “capable of winning the battle”.

Sudan was thrown into deadly chaos when fighting broke out on April 15 between the forces of army chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and his deputy turned rival Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, who heads the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

The battles have since killed hundreds, wounded thousands and left millions barricaded inside their homes amid dire shortages of water, food and basic supplies.

The feuding generals have sent representatives to Saudi Arabia for talks on establishing a humanitarian truce in an effort also backed by the United States, but to no avail so far.

By yesterday, the talks had yielded “no major progress”, a Saudi diplomat told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity. “A permanent ceasefire isn't on the table... Every side believes it is capable of winning the battle,” the diplomat added.

In Khartoum, terrified residents reported more combat, now in its fourth week, as they hid out in their homes amid power outages and sweltering heat. A southern Khartoum resident told AFP the family could hear “the sound of airstrikes which appeared to come from near a market in central Khartoum”.

The fighting has sparked a mass exodus of foreigners and of Sudanese, in both air and sea evacuations and arduous overland journeys to Egypt, Chad, South Sudan and other neighbouring countries.

POST-COUP MYANMAR

Convoy carrying Asean diplomats ‘attacked’

AFP, Yangon

A convoy of diplomats travelling in Myanmar came under fire from an unknown armed group, a military official and a diplomat said yesterday. Myanmar has been in turmoil since a military coup deposed Aung San Suu Kyi's administration in February 2021. On Sunday a convoy of several vehicles travelling in Taunggyi township in Shan State was attacked by an unknown armed group, a foreign diplomat based in Yangon told AFP. “A convoy with some diplomats was attacked yesterday morning,” the source said.

22 dead after India boat capsizes

AFP, Malappuram



At least 22 people died when a tourist boat capsized in India, officials said yesterday, with many of those on board thought to be children. It was not clear why the double-decker boat carrying at least 30 people tipped over in the southern state of Kerala's Malappuram district late Sunday. Dozens of people searched for survivors

in and around the stricken vessel all night, which was partially submerged, and the search continued into yesterday. Some used ropes to stabilise the boat while others were in the water, desperately looking inside the vessel's windows for any survivors.



People wait with their luggage at a bus stop in southern Khartoum yesterday as fighting continues between Sudan's army and the paramilitary forces. *Inset*, smoke billows in Khartoum amid ongoing fighting between the forces of two rival generals. The United Nations has warned of a widening humanitarian crisis after fighting has already displaced 335,000 people and created 117,000 refugees.

PHOTO: AFP

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh				
Office of the Divisional Forest Officer				
Mymensingh Forest Division, Kanchijuli, Mymensingh				
Invitation for Tenders				
01	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.		
02	Agency	Forest Department, Bangladesh, Dhaka.		
03	Procuring entity name	Divisional Forest Officer, Mymensingh Forest Division.		
04	Invitation for	Supply of Manpower through outsourcing		
05	Invitation Ref. No.	MFD/Revenue-01 of 2022-2023		
06	Date	08/05/2023		
KEY INFORMATION				
07	Procurement method	Opening Tender Method (OTM) : National Competitive Tender (NCT)		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
08	Budget and source of funds	GoB Budget, Government of Bangladesh		
09	Development partners	Not applicable		
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
10	Project/programme name	Divisional Forest Officer, Mymensingh Forest Division.		
11	Tender Package No.	MFD/Revenue-01 of 2022-2023		
12	Tender package name	Supply of manpower through outsourcing		
13	Tender publication date	08/05/2023		
14	Tender last selling date	22/05/2023 up to 4.00pm		
		Date	Time	
15	Tender closing date and time	23/05/2023	2.00pm	
16	Tender opening date and time	23/05/2023	3.00pm	
	Name & address of the office(s)	Address		
17	Selling, receiving & opening tender document	Address: Divisional Forest Officer, Mymensingh Forest Division Kanchijuli, Mymensingh.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
18	Eligibility of tenderer	a. Tenderers will be the firms having required experience of manpower supply through outsourcing. b. Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the Contract under the Applicable Law. c. Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organizations registered in Bangladesh d. Tenderers shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of rules and regulations of Bangladesh. e. Others eligibility are mentioned in Tender document.		
19	Brief description of services	Supply of manpower for the (a) Category-04 (Watcher-02), (b) Category-05 (Mail-03 & Cleaning Staff-1) Total = 6 Nos.		
20	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tk. 1000 (one thousand) only (non-refundable).		
21	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)
	1	Supply of manpower through outsourcing	Mymensingh Forest Division	Tk. 30,000.00
22	Name of official inviting tender	A.N.M. Abdul Wadud		
23	Designation of official inviting tender	Divisional Forest Officer.		
24	Address of official inviting tender	Divisional Forest Officer, Mymensingh Forest Division, Kanchijuli, Mymensingh.		
25	Contact details of official inviting tender	Phone: 029966-64380, E-mail: dfo@mymn@gmail.com		
26	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.			
27	Work Order is subject to be issued upon releasing of fund.			
GD-801		A.N.M. Abdul Wadud Divisional Forest Officer Mymensingh Forest Division		