

Israeli military intercepts missile fired from Yemen

Iran-backed Houthis target Ben Gurion Int'l Airport

Yemen's Houthi rebels launched two attacks targeting Israel's main airport, the latest yesterday, with the Israeli army intercepting both, a day after striking the rebel-held Yemeni port of Hodeida.

Israel has repeatedly struck Houthi-held parts of Yemen after the Iran-backed rebels began targeting the country with missile and drone attacks, claiming solidarity with Palestinians over the Gaza war.

The Houthis targeted Ben Gurion International Airport "using a 'Palestine 2' hypersonic ballistic missile", according to military spokesman Yarya Saree, who had hours earlier claimed a similar attack on the airport.

On Monday, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said "Yemen's fate will be the same as Tehran's" after hitting Houthi targets in Hodeida port in an attack aimed to prevent any attempt to restore infrastructure previously hit.

A Houthi security official, requesting anonymity to discuss sensitive matters, told AFP that "the bombing destroyed the port's dock, which had been rebuilt following previous strikes."

The Houthis recently resumed deadly attacks in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, targeting ships they accuse of having links to Israel, to put pressure on Israel to end the Gaza war.



Mourners react next to the body of a Palestinian child killed in an Israeli strike, according to medics, at Shifa Hospital in Gaza City yesterday. The UN reports that more than 1,000 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces while attempting to access food in Gaza since the launch of the US- and Israel-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.

PHOTO: REUTERS

EPSTEIN STORY

White House restricts WSJ access to Trump

The White House on Monday barred The Wall Street Journal from traveling with US President Donald Trump during his upcoming visit to Scotland, after the newspaper reported that he wrote a bawdy birthday message to his former friend, alleged sex trafficker Jeffrey Epstein.

The move comes after Trump on Friday sued the WSJ and its media magnate owner Rupert Murdoch for at least \$10 billion over the allegation in the article, which Trump denies.

The Trump administration's handling of the Epstein case has threatened to split the Republican's far-right Make America Great Again (MAGA) base, with some of his supporters calling for a full release of the so-called "Epstein Files."

The punishment of the Wall Street Journal marks at least the second time the Trump administration has moved to exclude a major news outlet from the press pool over its reporting, having barred Associated Press journalists from multiple key events since February.

"As the appeals court confirmed, The Wall Street Journal or any other news outlet are not guaranteed special access to cover President Trump in the Oval Office, aboard Air Force One, and in his private workspaces," said Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt.

"Due to The Wall Street Journal's fake and defamatory conduct, they will not be one of the thirteen outlets on board (Air Force One)."

Trump departs this weekend for Scotland, where he owns two golf resorts and will meet with UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

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People ride a makeshift raft in a village in Cainta town, east of Manila, Philippines, yesterday, following monsoon rains. Floodwaters driven by torrential downpours brought life in the Philippine capital to a standstill, with tens of thousands evacuated and at least two people reported missing.

PHOTO: AFP

TRUMP-PAKISTAN SHIFT

India recalibrates its relations with China

US President Donald Trump's lunch meeting with Pakistan's military chief prompted a private diplomatic protest from India in a warning to Washington about risks to their bilateral ties while New Delhi is recalibrating relations with China as a hedge, officials and analysts said.

The meeting and other tensions in the US-India relationship, after decades of flourishing ties, have cast a shadow in trade negotiations, they said, as Trump's administration weighs tariffs against one of its major partners in the Indo-Pacific.

India blames Pakistan, especially its military establishment, for supporting what it calls cross-border terrorism and has told the US it is sending the wrong signals by wooing Field Marshal Asim Munir, three senior Indian government officials directly aware of the matter told Reuters.

It has created a sore spot that will hamper relations going forward, they said. Pakistan denies accusations that it supports militants who attack Indian targets and that New Delhi has provided no evidence that it is involved.

US-India ties have strengthened in the past two decades despite minor hiccups, at least partly because both countries seek to counter China. The current problems are different, said Michael Kugelman, a Washington-based senior fellow at the Asia Pacific Foundation think tank.

"The frequency and intensity with which the US is engaging with Pakistan, and seemingly not taking Indian concerns into account, especially after India's recent conflict with Pakistan, has contributed to a bit of a bilateral malaise."

"The concern this time around is that one of the triggers for broader tensions, that being Trump's unpredictability, is extending into the trade realm with his approach to tariffs," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's office and India's foreign ministry did not respond to a request for comment. The foreign ministry has previously said that it had "taken note" of the Trump-Munir meeting.

India, like other nations, is trying to

figure out a way to deal with Trump and is recalibrating ties with China as a hedge, said Harsh Pant, foreign policy head at India's Observer Research Foundation think tank.

"Certainly there is an outreach to China," he said. "And I think it is mutual...China is also reaching out". Last week, India's Jaishankar made his first visit to Beijing since a deadly 2020 border clash between Indian and Chinese troops.

India is also making moves to ease restrictions on investments from China that were imposed following the 2020 clash.

The thaw comes despite India's prickly relations with China and Beijing's close ties and military support to Pakistan.



But New Delhi's concern about Trump's own engagement with China, which has ranged from conciliatory to confrontational, appears to have contributed to its shift in stance on Beijing.

"With an unpredictable dealmaker in the White House, New Delhi cannot rule out Sino-US rapprochement," said Christopher Clary, an associate professor of political science at the University at Albany, New York.

"India is troubled by Chinese help to Pakistan and growing Chinese influence elsewhere in India's near abroad, such as Bangladesh. Yet New Delhi has largely concluded that it should respond to creeping Chinese influence by focusing its pressures on its nearest neighbours and not on China."

MIGRANT WORKER

US hotels boost background checks

US hotel hiring managers ordered more background checks in the first half of 2025 compared with the same period in 2024 amid growing scrutiny of foreign-born workers in the hospitality industry, according to a leading human resources and recruitment management company.

In June, the United States Department of Homeland Security said it was reversing guidance issued that Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents were not to conduct immigration raids at farms, hotels and restaurants.

UK sanctions 135 tankers in Russia's shadow fleet

Britain on Monday slapped sanctions on 135 oil tankers in Russia's shadow fleet, in a bid to disrupt the flow of money helping Moscow fund the war in Ukraine.

A shipping services company and an oil trading firm were also sanctioned as part of the crackdown on a fleet "responsible for illicitly carrying \$24 billion worth of cargo since the start of 2024," the foreign ministry said in a statement.

Security analysts say the fleet of ageing vessels is used by Russia to circumvent international sanctions that ban it from selling oil.

Hundreds of vessels have now been sanctioned by the European Union and the UK since Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

"New sanctions will further dismantle Putin's shadow fleet and drain Russia's war chest of its critical oil revenues," foreign minister David Lammy said Monday.

BOEING 787, 737 AIRCRAFT

No issues found in fuel control switches: Air India

Air India said yesterday it has completed precautionary inspections of the fuel control switch locking mechanism on all its Boeing 787 and 737 aircraft, with no issues detected.

The probe into the Air India crash that killed 241 of the 242 people on board and 19 on the ground is focused on the fuel control switches of the Boeing 787 jetliner, with a final report from India's Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) expected within a year of the incident.

The switches control fuel flow to aircraft engines, allowing pilots to start or shut them down on the ground, or manually intervene during in-flight engine failures.

Air India began voluntary inspections of the switches on July 12. India's aviation regulator soon ordered all domestic carriers to conduct similar checks, prompting some foreign airlines and regulators to follow suit.

A preliminary report from the AAIB earlier this month found the switches had almost simultaneously flipped from 'run' to 'cutoff' shortly after takeoff, causing the engines to lose power.

The report cited a 2018 FAA advisory that urged operators of several Boeing models, including the 787, to inspect the locking mechanism on fuel cutoff switches to prevent unintentional movement.

The FAA and Boeing have privately issued notifications that the fuel switch locks on Boeing planes are safe, Reuters had reported.



বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌপরিবহন কর্তৃপক্ষ		
১৪১-১৪৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০।		
ঘাট-পয়েন্টের ইজারা/লাইসেন্সের টেন্ডার বিজ্ঞপ্তি		
বাংলাদেশ অভ্যন্তরীণ নৌপরিবহন কর্তৃপক্ষ (বিআইডব্লিউটিএ)-এর ঢাকা ও ভোলা নদী বন্দরের নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন নিম্নেবর্ণিত ০৪(চার)টি ঘাট/পয়েন্ট ২০২৫-২০২৬ অর্থ বছরের অবশিষ্ট সময়ের (৩১-০৭-২০২৫ ইং তারিখ হতে ৩০-০৬-২০২৬ তারিখ পর্যন্ত=৩৩৫ দিনের) জন্য ইজারা প্রদানের লক্ষ্যে আগামী ২৭-০৭-২০২৫ তারিখ ১ম দফা টেন্ডার অনুষ্ঠিত হবে:		
ক্রঃ নং	নদী বন্দরের নাম	ঘাট/পয়েন্টের নাম
১.	ঢাকা	কুচিয়ামোড়া ঘাট শুষ্ক আদায় ও লেবার হ্যাভলিং ঘাট/পয়েন্ট
২.	ভোলা	আলহাজ্ব চৌধুরী কামাল উদ্দিন লঞ্চঘাট
৩.	ভোলা	কলাতলীর চর লঞ্চঘাট
৪.	ভোলা	ভেদুরিয়া ফেরীঘাট লঞ্চঘাট
২। টেন্ডার সংক্রান্ত যাবতীয় তথ্যাদি/নিয়মাবলী টেন্ডার সিডিউলে উল্লেখ আছে। তাছাড়া বিআইডব্লিউটিএ'র বন্দর ও পরিবহন বিভাগ, ঢাকা দপ্তর এবং ঢাকা ও ভোলা নদী বন্দরের বন্দর নিয়ন্ত্রণ কর্মকর্তাগণের দপ্তর হতেও তথ্যাদি জানা যাবে।		
পরিচালক বন্দর ও পরিবহন বিভাগ ফোন নং-০২-২২৩৩৮২৬৭৩ port.biwta@gmail.com		
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