



300 families

evacuated after massive amounts of ash billowed from Philippines's Mayon volcano over weekend

Weather table with columns for location, temperature, and weather conditions. Includes cities like Beijing, Colombo, Dhaka, Dubai, Houston, Istanbul, London, Los Angeles, Melbourne, Moscow, New York, Singapore, Toronto, and Washington.



Ex-NY mayor Rudy Giuliani hospitalised in critical state

WASHINGTON

FORMER New York mayor Rudy Giuliani is hospitalized in "critical but stable condition," his spokesman said on Sunday, without disclosing what ails the 81-year-old former politician.

"Mayor Giuliani is a fighter who has faced every challenge in his life with unwavering strength, and he's fighting with that same level of strength as we speak," spokesman Ted Goodman said in an X post.

Goodman did not say whether Giuliani was receiving care or how long he had been there, but he asked "that you join us in prayer for America's Mayor Rudy Giuliani."

The New York Times reported that Giuliani was hospitalised in Florida.

Giuliani earned the moniker of "America's mayor" for leading New York City through the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center buildings.

Earlier in his career, he gained fame as the fearless Mafia-busting prosecutor whose aggressive use of racketeering laws brought down New York's organized crime families.

But Giuliani experienced a stunning fall from grace in recent years, including in 2023 when a federal jury ordered him to pay \$148 million to two election workers after defaming them by falsely tying them to alleged fraud in the 2020 presidential election.

Giuliani, a Republican, became a fierce defender of President Donald Trump, joining his personal legal team in Trump's first White House term.

He came under scrutiny by the Manhattan US attorney's office in 2019 over his activities connected with investigations about Ukraine and apparent efforts to dig up dirt on Democratic Joe Biden.

EXPRESS READ

GameStop makes \$56 bn bid to take over eBay

Washington: US video game retailer GameStop made a takeover bid on Sunday to buy eBay for about \$55.5 billion in an attempt to turn the online marketplace into a competitor to e-commerce giant Amazon.

Iran hits UAE, Oman after US warships enter Hormuz

Missiles, drones fired at UAE as US says it opened passage in Strait of Hormuz, 3 Indians injured

DUBAI/WASHINGTON

A drone strike caused a fire at an energy installation in the emirate of Fujairah, UAE on Monday, and left three Indian workers injured hours after President Donald Trump said US guided-missile destroyers crossed the Strait of Hormuz.

"Three Indian nationals sustained moderate injuries and have been transferred to the hospital to receive necessary treatment," the Fujairah media office said in a post on social media. The UAE's defence ministry and state news agency said a fresh Iranian barrage had targeted the country.

"Four cruise missiles launched from Iran were detected toward various areas across the country. Three were successfully engaged over the country's territorial waters, while one fell in the sea," the defence ministry said.

In Oman, two people were injured when a residential building was targeted in Bukha



A container ship sits at anchor as a small motorboat passes in the foreground in the Strait of Hormuz off Bandar Abbas, Iran on Monday | AFP

along the coastline of the Strait of Hormuz, state media reported.

The US military said it has opened a passage through the Strait of Hormuz and reached out to dozens of shipping companies to encourage navigation through the waterway.

Admiral Brad Cooper, commander of US Central Command, told reporters during a phone news conference that US military helicopters have sunk six Iranian small boats that were targeting civilian vessels in the Strait of Hormuz. It is the latest test of the ceasefire

between Iran and the US.

Earlier, the US military said two American-flagged merchant ships had successfully transited the strait. The military's Central Command said the two American-flagged merchant ships were "safely headed on their journey" after transiting the Strait of Hormuz. It said Navy guided-missile destroyers in the Persian Gulf were helping to restore traffic.

Its statement on X said that US destroyers had also transited the strait. It did not say when the Navy ships arrived or when the merchant vessels departed. In response to Trump's announcement, a senior Iranian official warned on Monday that Tehran would consider any US attempt to interfere in the Strait of Hormuz a breach of the ongoing ceasefire.

WAR WATCH

Agencies

Hezbollah says fighters clashed with Israel forces

BEIRUT

HEZBOLLAH said its forces clashed with Israeli soldiers on Monday in south Lebanon near the border where the troops are still operating, despite a ceasefire since April 17.

Hezbollah said in a statement that after Israeli troops attempted to advance near the town of Deir Seryan—which is inside the Israeli-declared "yellow line" where Lebanese residents have been told not to return—their fighters "opened fire on the enemy force and engaged in heavy clashes with them."

The Israeli military confirmed there were clashes with Hezbollah fighters in south Lebanon. "Earlier today, two IDF soldiers were moderately injured as a result of a close-quarters encounter with Hezbollah terrorists in southern Lebanon," the military said in

a statement. "The soldiers were evacuated to receive medical treatment at a hospital."

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun on Monday said a security deal and an end to Israeli attacks were needed before any meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, sought by Washington.

Aoun's office said in a statement that the president "reiterated his view that the timing is not appropriate now for a meeting" with Netanyahu. The statement quoted Aoun as saying: "We must first reach a security agreement and stop the Israeli attacks on us before we raise the issue of a meeting between us." Israeli and Lebanese representatives last met twice in Washington—the first such in decades, which came after Iran-backed Hezbollah drew Lebanon into the Middle East war on March 2. AFP

3 die on Atlantic cruise ship from suspected hantavirus infection

PRAIA

THREE people have died on a cruise ship in the Atlantic, the WHO said Sunday, one a confirmed case of hantavirus—an illness usually transmitted to humans from rodents.

The outbreak occurred on the MV Hondius, travelling from Argentina to Cape Verde.

"To date, one case of hantavirus infection has been laboratory confirmed, and there are five additional suspected cases," the World Health Organization told AFP. "Of the six affected individuals, three have died and one is currently in intensive care in South Africa."

Earlier Sunday, South Africa's health ministry told AFP there had been an outbreak of a "severe acute respiratory illness", which had killed at least two people, with a third in intensive care in Johannesburg.

The patient treated in Johannesburg tested positive for a hantavirus, a family of viruses that can cause hemorrhagic fever, South African spokesperson Foster Mohale said.

In its statement, the WHO said hantavirus infections "are typically linked to environmental exposure (exposure to infected rodents' urine or faeces). "While rare, hantavirus may spread between people, and can lead to severe respiratory illness and requires careful patient monitoring, support and response."

The first person on the cruise to develop symptoms was a 70-year-old passenger. He died on board the

AN INFECTION WITH NO SPECIFIC CURE

There are no vaccines or specific medications to combat hantaviruses, meaning treatment consists solely of attempting to relieve the symptoms

HOW IT IS TRANSMITTED

Hantaviruses are transmitted to humans through infected wild rodents, such as mice or rats, which shed the virus in their saliva, urine, and droppings

A bite, contact with these rodents or their droppings, or breathing in contaminated dust can cause infection

The French National Public Health Agency says human infection generally occurs through the inhalation of dust and aerosols contaminated by the excretions of animals

2 LAKH CASES WORLDWIDE

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HPS symptoms usually start to show one to eight weeks after contact. The first clinical symptoms generally present like flu: fever, headache, and muscle aches.

The Public Health Agency of Canada said between 1,50,000 and 2,00,000 HFRS cases occur each year worldwide, most of which are in China, where the average case fatality rate is from one to 12%

NAMED AFTER RIVER IN SOUTH KOREA

The virus is named after the Hantan River in South Korea, where more than 3,000 troops fell seriously ill after becoming infected with it during the 1950-1953 Korean War, the FOPH says.

ship and his body was currently on the island of Saint Helena, a British territory in the South Atlantic, Mohale the South African spokesman said. His 69-year-old wife also fell ill on board and was evacuated to South Africa, where she died in a Johannesburg hospital, he said, adding that they were not yet able to confirm the victims' nationalities. The third case, a 69-year-old Briton, was also evacuated to Jo-

hannesburg, where he was being treated in intensive care. WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a post on X that the agency was working with the ship's operators and member states affected. Earlier Sunday, a source close to the case speaking on condition of anonymity had said a Dutch couple were among the dead. The third fatality was still on board the ship.

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