

Summary of Today's News

SKY

Philip Hammond reveals he will quit as chancellor if Boris Johnson becomes PM

Philip Hammond has revealed he will resign as chancellor if Boris Johnson wins the Conservative leadership contest.

"It's very important that the prime minister is able to have a chancellor who is closely aligned with him in terms of policy and I therefore intend to resign to Theresa May before she goes to the Palace to tender her own resignation on Wednesday." Mr Hammond, who has been chancellor since 2016, had been widely expected to leave his role when Mrs May steps down. Brexit Secretary Stephen Barclay told Sky News that if "the text isn't changed in any way it is difficult to envisage how that will go through the House of Commons". "I think the EU recognise it is in both sides interests to get to that outcome." Both candidates are both opposed to the backstop - an insurance policy designed to avoid the return of a hard border on the island of Ireland - and want to get rid of it.

'Alter your course': Audio of moment Iranians warn UK-flagged tanker Stena Impero before seizure

New audio has been released of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard and the Royal Navy both giving instructions to a UK-flagged tanker before it was "illegally" seized by Tehran.

"Please confirm you are conducting transit passage in a recognised international strait." The Royal Navy later ask the Iranians to "please confirm that you are not intending to violate international law by unlawfully attempting to board the MV Stena." The Iranians then repeat their request for the tanker to turn around. Iran's ambassador to the UK waded into the row on Sunday morning, saying that Iran "is firm and ready for different scenarios." Hamid Baeidinejad tweeted: "UK government should contain those domestic political forces who want to escalate existing tension between Iran and the UK well beyond the issue of ships. Iranian state media earlier released footage showing the moment the Stena Impero was seized.

'Horrific scene': Woman 'decapitates mother' as four-year-old boy looks on

A woman has been charged with murder after allegedly decapitating her mother as a four-year-old relative looked on.

The daughter was arrested outside the home of a neighbour and the four-year-old boy was taken to hospital with what police said was a minor head injury. "I am not able to specify what kind of knives they were at this stage." The daughter, named in Australian media as Jessica Camilleri, 25, has appeared in court and been referred for a medical assessment.

Boy, 15, seriously injured after motorbike gunman opens fire

A teenager has suffered potentially life-changing injuries after he was shot in Coventry's city centre.

Detective Inspector Harjit Ubhi said: "This was an appalling and reckless attack in a part of the city centre which was busy with people enjoying nights out. "We know in November a 16-year-old was stabbed to death here in Coventry and his sister at the time said it was all about postcodes.

Pakistan: Nine people killed in complex attack involving female suicide bomber

At least nine people have been killed and 30 others were injured in Pakistan after a complex attack involving a suicide bomber, believed to be a woman wearing a burqa.

Mr Khan said many of the wounded were in a critical condition. Pakistan's military has carried out several major operations in recent years against the Pakistan Taliban and other militants in areas along the border with Afghanistan.

New Zealanders hand back 10,000 weapons in amnesty after mosque attacks

New Zealanders have handed in more than 10,000 guns, weapons and accessories during the first week of an amnesty buy-back scheme.

Laws passed in April banned most semi-automatic weapons, parts that convert guns into semi-automatic weapons, and magazines over a certain capacity. New Zealand police said they were pleased with the turnout of those handing back weapons on Sunday, after 684 people surrendered nearly 5,000 weapons and parts at events across the country.

Puppies taken in violent Manchester burglary may not survive without injured mother

Police have launched an urgent appeal after seven newborn puppies were stolen in a burglary and may not survive without their mother who was hit with a machete.

They then searched the property for any valuables to steal and after grabbing cash, keys and a phone, they came across a litter of five-week-old Staffordshire cross puppies and their mother, Zena. One is believed to be around 6ft 3in to 6ft 4in and was wearing a grey and black camouflage face covering.

Nine injured as 1,000 firefighters battle wildfires in Portugal

About 1,000 firefighters are tackling wildfires spreading in east Portugal, which have injured at least nine people.

A statement on the presidential website said: "Aware of adverse weather conditions, the President of the Republic conveys all solidarity to the men and women who fight them, as well as to the most directly affected populations, accompanied by all the Portuguese." Strong winds have made it more difficult for firefighters to tackle the blaze, but authorities said they hoped to have them under control soon. This is the first major wildfire in Portugal this year.

The way Iran seized British-registered oil tanker speaks volumes

The way Iran seized the Stena Impero speaks volumes. Boarded using a helicopter and military speedboats, then ordered into port.

That is exactly what happened to the Grace 1 Iranian supertanker seized by Gibraltar forces just over a week ago. The Iranians have even released footage of their operation which seems a carbon copy of the Royal Marines' seizure of the Grace 1 earliest this month, including special forces fast-roping from a helicopter onto the deck of the tanker. Iran is sending two messages: The latter signal is as much to Washington as to London. The Trump administration hopes that by abandoning the Iranian nuclear deal and applying massive sanctions to Iran it will come back to negotiate a deal on Washington's terms.

Has Jeremy Hunt taken his eye off the ball on Iran in race for Downing Street?

Could the government have done more to protect UK vessels from Iranian aggression?

He said reassurances were now needed that the foreign secretary and the probable incoming prime minister, Boris Johnson, were focused on the task at hand. The former head of the Royal Navy, Lord West, said he was "amazed" that Britain hadn't brought in measures for UK ships to be given military escorts through such a dangerous waterway. Now Labour says questions need to be answered about whether preparations for a backlash from Tehran were adequate. Coming to the foreign secretary's defence, cabinet colleague James Brokenshire (someone who is actually backing Boris Johnson) said he does not accept that Mr Hunt has been distracted.

Global 'economic catastrophe' likely if US attacks Iran

Tensions continue to escalate between Tehran and Western countries as a UK-registered oil tanker is captured by Iranian forces.

The crisis intensified when President Donald Trump said US forces shot down an Iranian drone after warnings for it to back off were ignored.

While US national security adviser John Bolton and US secretary of state Mike Pompeo push the region towards maximum tension and Donald Trump makes despicable threats to obliterate Iran, the US military has announced its intention to create and lead an anti-Iranian naval coalition in the Persian Gulf. Regional regimes such as the UAE and Saudi Arabia that facilitate aggression in any way or form should expect the swift destruction of their oil assets and critical infrastructure.

Iran does not welcome confrontation nor does it desire war and its massive and extensive military deterrence is designed to prevent such circumstances. Professor Marandi is an expert on US-Iranian relations and a conservative analyst. Mr Marandi's analysis that Iran has massively increased its military capabilities in the Gulf are in line with similar claims by the Iranian government. Iran will know President Donald Trump would be fighting a war at the same time as a re-election campaign.

'This photo shows how I was bullied in the army'

Mark Holder, 37, is an Iraq veteran. He was forced to leave the armed forces because of bullying by members of his own unit who pointed loaded guns at his head.

I joined the RLC as a chef and I had no problems, I passed all my training. The last straw was when I suggested we take a picture after we had come off the firing range. I'm a carer now, working with people who have learning difficulties, but I have lost so much money because I would have been in the army for the rest of my career, it's all I ever wanted to do. I'm 37 now, by this point I would have finished 22 years in the army, but I've been robbed of it all because of these bullies.

We can't save our past comrades, but we can help their veteran descendants

Andrew Webster, retired captain of The Green Howards, is among veterans uncovering key sites from the Battle of Waterloo.

I served with The Green Howards (now The Yorkshire Regiment) in the 1980s and 1990s, undertaking numerous tours of Northern Ireland, including a three-year tour of Londonderry/Derry at a time of intense IRA activity in the city. During my service I was badly injured in rioting in the city and this, along with other trauma events before - during and after my time in the army - led to a severe long-term mental health condition and a diagnosis of complex PTSD. I am currently working in a team excavating the disused cesspit in the courtyard of the Mont Saint Jean farmhouse. We can't reach out into the past and save our historic comrades, but it seems to me that through this remarkable project they can help save their veteran descendants.

Autogenerated by Harris Vince on 2019-07-21 in 0.00901s. Reading this saved you 31:57min.