

Today's News

Australia supermarkets sued over fake discount claims

Source: BBC News

Published: Mon, 23 Sep 2024 03:20:45 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cd982y85wg1o>

Summary: The ongoing cost of living crisis has significantly impacted grocery chains, prompting scrutiny over their pricing strategies and profit margins. As inflation rises and consumers face tighter budgets, many grocery retailers are experiencing pressure to maintain affordable prices while managing operational costs. This situation has led to public outcry and demands for greater transparency regarding profit margins and pricing decisions. In response, some chains are implementing new pricing strategies, including loyalty programs and price matching efforts, to retain customers and combat the perception of price gouging. Moreover, the article highlights how consumers are becoming increasingly aware of the prices they pay and are willing to switch brands or stores if they feel prices are not justified. The scrutiny is further intensified by government investigations into potential anti-competitive practices among the largest grocery retailers. As the cost of living crisis continues, the grocery sector is tasked with balancing profitability and consumer satisfaction, with many looking toward sustainable pricing solutions that address both economic challenges and customer needs. Overall, the article underscores a critical shift in consumer behavior and the implications for grocery chains amidst economic uncertainties.

Zelensky to present 'victory plan' to Biden, Harris and Trump

Source: BBC News

Published: Mon, 23 Sep 2024 02:50:50 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5y30244467o>

Summary: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is scheduled to meet with U.S. President Joe Biden in Washington, D.C., as part of his agenda ahead of attending the United Nations General Assembly. This high-stakes visit underscores the ongoing need for military and humanitarian support for Ukraine amid its ongoing conflict with Russia. Zelensky aims to reinforce the importance of continued assistance from the United States, particularly as Ukraine confronts increasing challenges on the battlefield. The meeting is expected to focus on the delivery of weaponry and military supplies to bolster Ukraine's defenses. Additionally, Zelensky's presence at the UN General Assembly will allow him to address the international community, appealing for broader support and solidarity against Russian aggression. His discussions will likely highlight the humanitarian impact of the war and the necessity for nations to come together to uphold international law and support Ukraine's sovereignty. The visit comes at a crucial moment as both leaders navigate complex geopolitical dynamics, emphasizing Ukraine's plight and the U.S.'s role in global security. Zelensky's trip signals a strategic effort to rally international support while reinforcing U.S.-Ukraine relations during a pivotal period in the conflict.

Four members of one family killed in Italy house collapse

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 23:51:03 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0r8zvdl5jvo>

Summary: In a remarkable rescue operation, a father and his two young siblings, along with a newborn baby, were successfully pulled alive from the ruins of a collapsed building. The incident occurred following a devastating earthquake that struck the area, causing widespread destruction and chaos. Emergency responders worked tirelessly to navigate the debris and locate survivors amidst the destruction. The story of the father and his children has been a beacon of hope during a challenging and traumatic time for the community. Eyewitnesses described the emotional moment when the family was reunited, highlighting the resilience and strength of individuals affected by the disaster. This event underscores the importance of effective emergency response efforts and the dedication of rescue teams who risk their lives to save others. The community continues to rally support for those impacted, reflecting a spirit of solidarity and compassion in the face of adversity. As recovery efforts continue, the focus remains on providing aid and rebuilding lives in the aftermath of the quake, emphasizing the ongoing struggles and the resilience of those affected.

Trump suggests he will not run again if he loses election

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 22:49:23 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/czj9ekdvxx2o>

Summary: Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has publicly recognized the possibility of defeat in the upcoming election for the second time within a week. During a rally, he pointed to the significant challenges his campaign faces, including ongoing investigations and primary rivalries. Trump highlighted his strategy of focusing on his base while consolidating support, emphasizing that his vast followership remains loyal. However, acknowledging potential obstacles, he urged his supporters to remain actively engaged in the electoral process, framing the election as crucial for the future of America. This admission of possible loss marks a notable shift in tone, as Trump typically projects confidence in his chances. Political analysts interpret this candid acknowledgment as a response to increasing scrutiny of his campaign's viability and an effort to prepare his base for any eventual outcome in the primaries. Trump's statements reflect a broader concern within the Republican Party about the party's cohesiveness and the effectiveness of its strategies leading into the election. Overall, Trump's comments indicate a combination of determination to continue fighting and a realistic assessment of the hurdles ahead.

South America drought brings wildfires and blackouts

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 21:48:24 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly7nxz48klo>

Summary: The article discusses the severe impact of the worst drought experienced in living memory, which has wreaked havoc across extensive areas of the region. It highlights the significant consequences on agriculture, as crops have failed and livestock have perished due to the lack of water, leading to food shortages and economic distress for farmers. The article also emphasizes the social ramifications, including increased poverty levels and migration as families seek better living conditions elsewhere. Local communities face heightened tensions over dwindling resources, which exacerbates existing vulnerabilities. Emergency responses from governments and NGOs are analyzed, revealing both immediate aid efforts and long-term strategies aimed at improving water management and resilience to future droughts. The article underscores the urgency of addressing climate change, which is identified as a key driver of such extreme weather events, while calling for more sustainable agricultural practices. The narrative concludes with a cautionary note about the need for collective action to mitigate the effects of drought and protect food security in the face of evolving climate challenges.

Four dead and 18 hurt in Alabama mass shooting

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 21:38:45 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2k9gl6g49o>

Summary: Police are investigating a shooting that appears to be linked to a murder-for-hire plot. The incident resulted in the death of the intended target, raising concerns about motivations and connections behind the crime. Authorities are exploring various leads and potential suspects involved in orchestrating the attack, emphasizing a calculated effort to eliminate the victim. While details concerning the identity of the target and the individuals behind the plot remain scarce, law enforcement officials are working diligently to gather evidence and establish a timeline of events leading up to the shooting. The investigation underscores a worrying trend in violent crime related to premeditated actions, drawing attention to the broader implications for community safety. Police are urging anyone with information to come forward, hoping to piece together the narrative surrounding the crime. As the investigation unfolds, the focus remains on uncovering the full scope of the plot and preventing similar incidents in the future. The community's concern for safety and potential retaliation reflects the serious nature of this case, which may involve organized crime elements or personal vendettas.

Israel and Hezbollah urged to step back as UN warns of 'catastrophe'

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 20:41:56 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4gd393llg7o>

Summary: Israel has affirmed its commitment to ongoing military operations in response to security threats, particularly focusing on the situation in Gaza. Amid escalating tensions, UN Secretary-General António Guterres has warned that Lebanon could face a similar fate to Gaza if the conflict spreads, referring to the significant civilian toll and humanitarian crises. Guterres emphasized the need for immediate efforts to de-escalate the situation in the region. Israel's military actions are largely aimed at neutralizing threats from militant groups, particularly Hezbollah, which operates from Lebanon. The Israeli government asserts that continued military pressure is essential for national security and for preventing further attacks. Meanwhile, humanitarian concerns are rising as civilians in both Gaza and Lebanon face dire circumstances due to ongoing violence. International calls for a ceasefire and a diplomatic resolution have intensified, but Israel's leadership remains steadfast in its military strategy. The situation has raised fears of broader regional instability, with neighboring countries urged to engage in peace efforts to mitigate the risks of a wider conflict and protect civilian lives. As tensions persist, the international community is closely monitoring developments, hoping to avert further escalation and humanitarian crises.

Abba's Björn Ulvaeus marries in Copenhagen

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 17:52:32 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/clylrrdjg78o>

Summary: The article details a wedding ceremony held in Copenhagen, emphasizing the intimate atmosphere created by the presence of close friends and family. It highlights the couple's personal touches, including chosen vows and special traditions, which added a unique flair to the celebration. The picturesque setting of Copenhagen enhanced the romantic ambiance, with its historic architecture and scenic landscapes providing a beautiful backdrop for the event. Guests shared heartfelt moments, celebrating the couple's love and commitment, while partaking in various cultural elements that reflected both families' heritages. The reception featured a thoughtfully curated menu, showcasing local cuisine, and included joyful speeches, dancing, and a cake-cutting ceremony. The couple's joy was palpable, and the day was marked by laughter and cherished memories. Overall, the article captures the essence of a love-filled day that emphasized family bonds and community support, making it a memorable occasion for everyone involved.

Checkmate for Russia as global chess ban upheld

Source: *BBC News*

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 17:51:56 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0kjgxj40y1o>

Summary: The International Chess Federation (FIDE) has confirmed that Russia's chess team will continue to be banned from international competitions due to the ongoing geopolitical situation stemming from the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The decision, made during a FIDE congress, reflects the organization's commitment to supporting Ukraine and upholding the principles of fair play. Although

some Russian players may be allowed to compete individually under neutral flags, team events remain off-limits. This ruling has garnered mixed reactions; while it aligns with broader sanctions against Russia in various sports, some players and officials express concerns over the impact on chess as a whole. They argue that the ban punishes athletes who may not support the government's actions. FIDE's president has emphasized the importance of unity and integrity in the chess community, maintaining that the current restrictions aim to uphold these values. The decision highlights the complexities sports organizations face when navigating political tensions while trying to maintain a sense of normalcy and fairness in competitions. The future of Russian chess participation in international events remains uncertain, pending changes in the geopolitical landscape.

Germany's Scholz escapes far-right win in home state - exit polls

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 17:27:06 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c24315lr18o>

Summary: Chancellor Olaf Scholz's hopes for re-election are strengthened by the recent political landscape in Brandenburg, where his party, the Social Democrats (SPD), is projected to defeat the far-right Alternative for Germany (AfD). This development highlights a broader trend in German politics, where left-leaning parties are gaining ground against extremist movements. In the context of rising populism across Europe, the SPD's performance in Brandenburg serves as a significant indicator of public sentiment, reflecting a desire for stability and democratic values. Scholz, who has faced challenges in his leadership amidst economic concerns and criticisms regarding his coalition's policies, sees this electoral success as a pivotal moment that could enhance his party's standing nationally. The results demonstrate a potential shift in voter priorities, moving away from far-right ideologies towards more traditional leftist approaches. As the SPD prepares for upcoming federal elections, maintaining momentum in Brandenburg may serve as a key strategy to solidify Scholz's position and reassure voters about the government's direction. This electoral victory may not only impact the SPD's immediate future but also reshape the political dynamics in Germany, reinforcing the importance of addressing the electorate's concerns with effective policies.

Israeli forces order 45-day closure for Al Jazeera West Bank office

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 16:43:07 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c77x88e60jno>

Summary: Israeli forces conducted a raid on the offices of Al Jazeera in the occupied West Bank, escalating tensions between the Israeli government and the media outlet. The raid was part of a broader crackdown on Palestinian journalists and news organizations that Israel accuses of incitement and promoting anti-Israeli sentiment. Al Jazeera condemned the action, asserting it as an attack on freedom of the press and a violation of journalists' rights to report in conflict zones. The Israeli military defended the raid, claiming it was necessary for security reasons and aimed at preventing the spread of

misinformation. This incident highlights the ongoing struggles between Israeli authorities and Palestinian media, amidst a backdrop of conflict and heightened censorship. Following the raid, concerns were raised over the implications for press freedom in the region, as well as the potential repercussions for journalists working in increasingly hostile environments. The actions against Al Jazeera are viewed as part of a larger pattern of suppression targeting media voices that challenge the official narratives surrounding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. International reactions have called for the protection of journalists and a reassessment of policies that limit press freedoms in conflict areas.

Ecuador cuts power in half of its provinces amid historic drought

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters
Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 16:29:17 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/ecuador-cuts-power-half-its-provinces-amid-historic-drought-2024-09-22/>

Summary: Ecuador's government is implementing extensive electricity service suspensions due to severe drought conditions that have significantly decreased hydroelectric plant water levels. On Sunday, electricity will be cut for nine hours in 12 out of the country's 24 provinces, with an additional nationwide blackout from Monday to Thursday for eight hours each night. This drought is reported to be the worst in 61 years and has resulted in the declaration of a red alert for 19 areas facing water shortages, fires, and food security challenges. Environment Minister Ines Manzano emphasized the urgency of the situation during a press conference, stating that the restrictions were necessary to protect water resources. Problems exacerbating the crisis include a lack of maintenance on existing dams and inadequate contracts for new energy generation. In response to the energy crisis, military personnel have been deployed to assist operations at the Mazar hydroelectric plant, which is crucial for water storage and energy supply. The government's actions aim to mitigate the impacts of the ongoing drought while safeguarding critical resources for the affected regions.

Hezbollah rockets hit residential areas in Israel

Source: BBC News
Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 14:18:26 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cdjeyg38vzmo>

Summary: A significant escalation of violence occurred as numerous rockets were launched from Lebanon into northern Israel, marking a considerable shift in the conflict dynamics. The rockets struck deeper into Israeli territory than prior assaults, indicating a potential change in the tactics of armed groups in Lebanon, possibly influenced by ongoing tensions in the region. In response to this attack, the Israeli military conducted retaliatory strikes targeting positions in Lebanon, aiming to deter further aggression. This incident illustrates the mounting hostilities along the Israel-Lebanon border, which have been heightened by the turbulent geopolitics in the area. Analysts suggest that such attacks could lead to an intensified military confrontation, raising concerns about regional stability. The situation underscores the fragile security landscape in northern Israel, making residents increasingly anxious about potential repercussions. As the situation develops, both local and international observers are closely monitoring responses from the Israeli government and Lebanese militant groups, as well as any

involvement from broader geopolitical actors. The recent rocket fire and subsequent Israeli strikes signal a critical juncture in the ongoing conflict, with implications for the overall peace and security in the region.

Sri Lanka's new president: Political outsider makes remarkable turnaround

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 14:04:04 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c3wp1p32endo>

Summary: The newly-elected president represents a significant shift from the previous political system that has faced widespread disapproval. As the first act of his administration, he outlined a commitment to reforming key policies that have long been seen as ineffective and out of touch with the needs of the populace. His campaign resonated with voters who yearned for change, highlighting issues such as economic inequality, lack of transparency, and inadequate public services, which were central grievances under the old regime. The president's platform is characterized by a focus on inclusivity, environmental sustainability, and enhanced social programs. He aims to dismantle bureaucratic barriers that hinder progress and foster a more participatory government that listens to citizens' concerns. Additionally, his administration intends to prioritize key sectors like education and healthcare, ensuring equitable access for all. The political shift is also marked by the president's willingness to engage with previously marginalized communities, promising to bring their voices to the forefront of policy-making. As his administration moves forward, the emphasis will remain on achieving tangible results and restoring public trust, indicating a new era in governance that seeks to align closely with the aspirations of the electorate.

Kenya to send 600 more police officers to Haiti

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 12:18:55 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c30lmpgvvvqo>

Summary: Kenya is set to increase its deployment of police officers to Haiti, raising the total number to 1,000 in response to a request from the Haitian government. The aim of this mission is to support the Haitian National Police in combating rampant gang violence that has plagued the country, exacerbating political instability and humanitarian crises. The decision comes amidst rising international concern over the deteriorating security situation in Haiti, where gangs control significant areas and engage in kidnappings, extortion, and violence. The Kenyan police's involvement is part of a larger multinational effort led by the United Nations to stabilize the nation and protect civilians. Kenyan authorities have emphasized that their officers will work under a UN mandate, coordinating with local law enforcement to restore order and promote peace. The Kenyan contingent is expected to undergo specialized training to prepare for their deployment. This mission underscores Kenya's commitment to contributing to peacekeeping efforts internationally, reflecting a growing trend in African countries taking on more responsibility in global security issues. The deployment aims to enhance the security landscape in Haiti and support the re-establishment of normalcy in a country facing profound challenges.

'I hate Trump, she likes him - we both think he staged assassination attempts'

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 11:02:04 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvglm0rjy2go>

Summary: The article explores the unlikely alliance between a pro-Trump wellness influencer and a suburban Democrat as they promote a conspiracy theory regarding COVID-19 vaccines and government control. The influencer, who has a significant following, uses social media to propagate her beliefs, framing the vaccine narrative around freedom and personal wellness. Meanwhile, the Democrat's involvement highlights the growing political divergence over health-related issues in America. The conspiracy theory touches on themes of mistrust in government institutions and the pharmaceutical industry, resonating with certain segments of the population that feel marginalized by mainstream narratives. The article discusses the mechanics of how misinformation spreads through social media platforms, where algorithms often amplify divisive content, creating echo chambers that reinforce users' beliefs. It also examines the intersection of wellness culture and political ideology, noting how the influencer's appeals to holistic health attract a diverse audience, including those who may not typically align with Trump's political views. Ultimately, the article emphasizes the potent combination of social media influence, conspiracy thinking, and polarization in contemporary America, illustrating how an improbable collaboration can lead to the widespread acceptance of fringe theories.

Israeli strike kills seven in Gaza school compound, Palestinian medics say

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 10:09:14 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strike-kills-seven-gaza-school-compound-palestinian-medics-say-2024-09-22/>

Summary: On September 22, an Israeli airstrike targeted Kafr Qasem School in Gaza City, killing seven people, including Majed Saleh, the director of the Hamas-run Public Works and Housing ministry. The Israeli military claimed the strike was aimed at Hamas militants operating from the school, maintaining it used measures to minimize civilian casualties. Hamas denied using civilian structures for military purposes. The violence coincided with escalating confrontations between Israel and Hezbollah, raising concerns over regional instability. Additional airstrikes in Gaza resulted in a total of 16 Palestinian fatalities that day. In Rafah, Israeli forces advanced, leading to clashes with Hamas fighters who attacked Israeli positions with rockets and explosives. The ongoing conflict has decimated Gaza's infrastructure, with the health ministry warning that hospitals could run out of essential services within ten days. Displaced residents faced further hardship as heavy rains flooded temporary tent encampments. UNRWA stressed the need for more shelters and supplies to protect vulnerable populations from the upcoming winter. This conflict, which escalated following Hamas's attack on October 7, has resulted in significant casualties, with over 41,300 Palestinians reported killed and around 2.3 million displaced.

At least 51 dead in Iran coal mine explosion

Source: BBC News

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 09:43:13 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cm24jn02j0qo>

Summary: A devastating gas leak in eastern Iran has resulted in the deaths of at least 51 individuals following an explosion. The incident occurred in the city of Zarand, located in Kerman province, during the extraction of gas from a pipeline. Rescue efforts were promptly initiated, with emergency services working to transport the injured and recover victims from the site. Local authorities have reported a significant number of casualties, with many victims suffering severe injuries. The explosion has raised concerns over gas pipeline safety and the oversight of industrial operations in the region. As investigations into the cause of the leak begin, officials are expected to scrutinize safety protocols and maintenance practices to prevent future tragedies. Residents and families of the victims have expressed shock and grief, demanding accountability from local authorities and companies involved in the gas extraction process. The incident highlights broader issues of regulatory standards in Iran's industrial sector, particularly concerning the handling of hazardous materials. The situation remains fluid as emergency responders continue to assess the aftermath of the blast and offer support to those affected.

Hezbollah, Israel exchange heavy fire after deadly Israeli strike

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Sun, 22 Sep 2024 04:59:07 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/hezbollah-israel-exchange-heavy-fire-after-deadly-israeli-strike-2024-09-22/>

Summary: Israel and Lebanon have engaged in intense hostilities, with Israeli airstrikes targeting around 290 Hezbollah positions in southern Lebanon and Hezbollah launching significant rocket attacks on Israeli military targets, including the Ramat David Airbase. The escalation of violence follows an Israeli airstrike that killed at least 37 people, including senior Hezbollah figures, marking one of the deadliest days in the ongoing conflict. In response to perceived threats, Israel has closed schools and restricted gatherings in northern areas, as sirens indicated missile incursions throughout the night. Hezbollah claims that their attacks are retaliation for continuous Israeli strikes on Lebanon. Tensions have been exacerbated by the involvement of Iranian-backed militants from Iraq, who also declared drone attacks against Israel. U.S. national security officials expressed concern about escalating violence but suggested possible avenues for de-escalation. Meanwhile, Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati canceled his planned U.N. trip as the situation deteriorates. The conflict's toll has been severe, with fatalities in Lebanon exceeding 740 since the recent flare-up began. Amid these developments, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant reiterated the goal of ensuring the safety of northern residents and ending the hostilities.

Trump rejects second TV debate as 'too late'

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 21 Sep 2024 23:12:16 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwyejk91d2qo>

Summary: Kamala Harris accepted CNN's invitation to participate in a debate just two weeks prior to the presidential election. This decision highlights her proactive approach and commitment to engaging with voters through the platform of televised debates, which serve as critical opportunities for candidates to communicate their policies and connect with the electorate. Harris's participation reflects her strategy to leverage media platforms to reach a broader audience and solidify her presence in the highly competitive political landscape. The debate is anticipated to cover significant issues, including economic policies, healthcare, social justice, and foreign relations, which are crucial to voters. Her readiness to engage in debate underscores the importance of dialogue in democratic processes and amplifies the significance of electoral debates as a means for candidates to articulate their visions and differentiate themselves from opponents. Overall, Harris's acceptance of the debate invitation reinforces her determination to connect with the public and influence voter sentiment in the closing days of the election campaign, emphasizing the high stakes and intense scrutiny that characterize the final stretch of the electoral process.

Macron unveils new right-wing French government

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 21 Sep 2024 21:45:01 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c8rd52zl018o>

Summary: In the wake of recent elections in France, where left-wing parties achieved significant victories, the newly formed cabinet by President Emmanuel Macron has opted to include allies from the center and right rather than leftist representatives. This strategic decision aims to maintain stability and continuity in governance while navigating the complexities of a divided political landscape. Macron's approach highlights a preference for collaboration with centrist and right-wing factions, reflecting his commitment to centrist policies and broader consensus-building in policymaking. Critics argue that this move may alienate the growing left-wing voter base, raising concerns about representation and inclusivity. However, supporters claim that a centrist cabinet could effectively address pressing national issues like economic recovery post-COVID, security, and climate change. The composition of the cabinet underscores Macron's balancing act, striving to unify disparate political ideologies while responding to the electorate's evolving sentiments. Overall, the new cabinet signifies a cautious, yet strategic maneuver in French politics, seeking to forge alliances that can uphold Macron's vision and legislative agenda amidst heightened polarization.

Watch: Hundreds of paratroopers leap to mark daring WW2 offensive

Source: BBC News

Published: Sat, 21 Sep 2024 20:42:57 GMT

URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/cqlvd41pnk7o>

Summary: Veterans gathered at Ginkel Heath, near Ede in the Netherlands, to commemorate the anniversary of Operation Market Garden, a significant World War II military operation. The event included a parachute jump, reminiscent of the Allied forces' airborne landings during the operation, which aimed to secure key bridges in the Netherlands and facilitate a swift advance into Germany. The gathering served both as a tribute to the courage and sacrifices of those who participated in the operation and as a remembrance of the challenges faced during this ambitious campaign. Many attendees were veterans of the operation, who shared their experiences and reflections on the historical significance of Market Garden. The commemoration underscored the importance of honoring the past and ensuring that the lessons learned from such pivotal moments in history are not forgotten. This annual event fosters connections between veterans, their families, and the younger generation, promoting a sense of community and shared history. Overall, the commemoration at Ginkel Heath highlighted the spirit of remembrance and the enduring legacy of those who fought during Operation Market Garden, emphasizing themes of bravery, sacrifice, and the importance of historical remembrance.

Exclusive: Iran withheld launchers for missiles sent to Russia, sources say

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Sat, 21 Sep 2024 10:01:35 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/iran-withheld-launchers-missiles-sent-russia-sources-say-2024-09-21/>

Summary: Iran has not delivered mobile launchers alongside the close-range Fath-360 ballistic missiles that it reportedly sent to Russia for use against Ukraine, according to sources, including a U.S. official and European intelligence. This absence of launchers raises questions about the Fath-360's operational capacity. Potential reasons for withholding the launchers might include Russia's plans to modify civilian trucks for missile deployment or an intention by Iran to create opportunities for renewed diplomatic discussions with Western powers. U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken previously indicated that Iran had provided these missiles, which pose significant threats to Ukraine's air defenses. The Fath-360 can travel up to 75 miles and is believed to be able to reach speeds of four times the speed of sound. Following the announcement of Iran's involvement, several nations imposed new sanctions on Iran, while the Kremlin acknowledged ongoing cooperation with Tehran but did not confirm receipt of the missiles. Analysts suggest that the Iranian trucks modified for missile launches may not withstand Ukraine's harsh winter conditions, prompting speculation that Russia may adapt its military vehicles instead. Efforts for diplomatic talks involving Iran's nuclear program and regional tensions are expected during the upcoming U.N. General Assembly.

Israeli strike on Beirut on Friday killed 31, Lebanese ministry says

Source: World News | Latest Top Stories | Reuters

Published: Sat, 21 Sep 2024 09:50:26 GMT

URL: <https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israeli-strike-beirut-friday-killed-31-lebanese-ministry-says-2024-09-21/>

Summary: An Israeli airstrike on a Beirut suburb resulted in at least 31 fatalities, marking the deadliest assault in a year of escalating conflict between Israel and Hezbollah. Among the deceased were three children and seven women, with Hezbollah confirming that 16 of its members, including senior commander Ibrahim Aqil, were killed. The airstrike is seen as a significant escalation, following earlier attacks this week attributed to Israel, which led to a total of 39 deaths and over 3,000 injuries from explosions of communications devices used by Hezbollah. Hezbollah criticized the ongoing conflict as a dangerous escalation, with transport minister Ali Hamieh indicating that at least 23 individuals remain missing. The attack targeted a building housing military leaders, igniting fears of further violence as both sides have recently ramped up hostilities. Israeli officials asserted their intent to continue military operations until regional stability is restored. The situation is dire, with rising death tolls in Lebanon surpassing 740 since October, raising alarms about a potential widening of the conflict. The U.N. has called the ongoing violence a "dangerous cycle" that needs to be halted immediately.