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GLOBAL WEATHER table with columns for location, temperature, and weather conditions.

Gazans flee as fresh fighting breaks out in north, central areas

Over 1,000 Hamas fighters taking treatment in Turkish hospitals, says President Erdogan

GAZA CITY

ISRAEL battled Hamas in Gaza on Monday, including in far-southern Rafah, despite US warnings against a full-scale invasion of the crowded city and of the threat of post-war 'anarchy' across the Palestinian territory.

Clashes also raged in northern and central Gaza as Israel marked a sombre Memorial Day, which is followed by Independence Day from Monday night, more than seven months into the war sparked by Hamas's October 7 attack.

Israelis marked a moment's silence and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed that 'our war of independence is not over yet. It continues even today... We are determined to win this struggle.'

Thousands fled northern Gaza on Monday as renewed shelling pounded areas where Israel says Hamas militants have regrouped, despite having announced they cleared months ago.



Palestinians carry their belongings as they flee Gaza Strip on May 13 | AFP

They also announced they cleared months ago.

'The army dropped leaflets and sent a message on mobile phones warning everyone to leave Jabalia,' said Umm Odai Nassar, after reaching Gaza City from nearby Jabalia refugee camp in the far north of the Gaza Strip.

She is one among many Palestinians who had remained in northern Gaza despite the vast devastation to civilian infrastructure inflicted during the early months of Israel's military

campaign against Hamas in the territory.

In Ankara, Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said that 'more than 1,000 members' of Hamas were being treated in Turkish hospitals. 'So many Hamas members have been killed. The whole of the West is attack-

ing them with all sorts of arms and munitions,' he said. 'Calling Hamas ... a terrorist organisation would be cruel,' he said.

Israel said on Saturday it was operating again in the Jabalia camp to counter Hamas attempts to reestablish its military capabilities in the area. The United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA, said its latest estimate showed about 250,000 people living in north Gaza.

'This is not the first time we have been displaced. Every time we try to return and settle, there is an invasion operation, and the army with its airplanes and tanks bombards the houses and kills people,' Nassar said.

The return to intense fighting in the north comes at the same time as Israel presses its military campaign in the south, in the eastern section of Rafah city. Mahmud al-Barsh, a 33-year-old from Jabalia, said he feels the lives of Gazans 'have become like that of cat and mouse.'



TOLL SO FAR 36,728

Israel marks memorial day

Israel commemorated Memorial Day on Monday, a usually somber holiday that this year was almost entirely absorbed by the ongoing war in Gaza. At 11 am, sirens announced two minutes of silence, four fighter planes flew over

Hezbollah strike injures 4 Israelis

Israel's military said that four of its troops were injured in missile fire from southern Lebanon, as cross-border exchanges of fire with Hezbollah militants continue. Hezbollah acknowledged the strike, saying its forces struck and destroyed an Israeli tank in the Yiftah area, northern Israel, around a km from the Lebanese border.

Ukraine locked in fierce battles in 2 areas: Zelenskyy



People sit in a bus after evacuation from Vovchansk, Ukraine | AP

KYIV

UKRAINIAN troops are locked in intense battles with the advancing Russian army in two border areas, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, while the death toll from a Russian apartment building collapse blamed on Ukrainian shelling rose to 15.

Zelenskyy said 'fierce battles' are taking place near the border in eastern and northeastern Ukraine as outgunned and outnumbered Ukrainian soldiers try to push back a significant Russian ground offensive.

'Defensive battles are ongoing, fierce battles, on a large part of our border area,' Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address on Sunday.

The Kremlin's forces are aiming to exploit Ukrainian weaknesses before a big batch of new military aid for Kyiv from the US and European partners arrives on the battlefield in the coming weeks and months, analysts said. That makes this period a window of opportunity for Moscow and one of the most dangerous for Kyiv in the two-year war, they said.

The new Russian push in the northeastern Kharkiv region, along with the ongoing drive into the eastern Donetsk region, come after months when the about 1,000-km frontline barely budged.

In the meantime, both sides have used long-range strikes in what largely became a war of attrition. The Kharkiv incursion may be an attempt to create a 'buffer zone' to protect Belgorod, an adjacent Russian border region battered by Ukrainian attacks.

Russian emergency services on Monday finished clearing the rubble in the region's capital city of Belgorod, where a section of a residential building collapsed following what authorities said was Ukrainian shelling. Fifteen bodies were pulled from the rubble, Belgorod regional Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said, and 27 other people were wounded.

Another three people in the city of Belgorod were killed by shelling late Sunday, he said. Zelenskyy said fighting in the Donetsk area is 'no less intense' than in Kharkiv. He described the area around Pokrovsk, as 'the most difficult'.

Belousov new Russian def min as Putin sacks Shoigu

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has replaced Sergei Shoigu as defence minister in a Cabinet shakeup that comes as he begins his fifth term in office. In line with Russian law, the entire Russian Cabinet resigned on Tuesday following Putin's glittering inauguration in the Kremlin, and most members have been widely expected to keep their jobs, while Shoigu's fate had appeared uncertain. Putin signed a decree on Sunday appointing Shoigu as secretary of Russia's Security Council, the Kremlin said.



Andrei Belousov

The appointment was announced shortly after Putin proposed Andrei

Belousov to become the country's defence minister in place of Shoigu.

Belousov's candidacy will need to be approved by Russia's upper house in parliament, the Federation Council. It reported Sunday that Putin introduced proposals for other Cabinet positions as well but Shoigu is the only minister on that list who is being replaced.

Several other new candidates for federal ministers were proposed Saturday by Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, reappointed by Putin on Friday.

Belousov, 65, held leading positions in the finances and economic department of the prime minister's office and the Ministry of Economic Development.

Melinda resigns as Gates Foundation co-chair

Melinda French Gates will step down as co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the nonprofit she and her ex-husband Bill Gates founded and built into one of the world's largest philanthropic organisations over the past 20 years.

Iranian director flees to Europe after sentencing

Iranian director Md Rasoulof said he fled to Europe shortly ahead of the Cannes Film Festival premiere of his latest film. 'I arrived in Europe a few days ago after a long and complicated journey,' Rasoulof said in a statement.

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