



WASHINGTON 'Assassin' knew of 'failure'

Ryan Routh, the 58-year-old man arrested near Donald Trump's golf course for allegedly assassinating the former president, had written a note months earlier saying he intended to kill the Republican candidate. A court filing said: "This was an assassination attempt on Donald Trump." Prosecutors included a surprise note where Routh had anticipated that he would fail in his attempt. In the letter, addressed to "The World" and sent to an unnamed witness months before the Sept 15 incident had said: "I tried my best and gave it all the gumption I could muster," the letter reads. Legal experts said that this is the first time that a would-be assassin anticipated his failure. In his letter, Routh said he would pay a cash reward to anyone "who can complete the job". But he had earlier told a judge during his first court appearance last week that he had no funds and no savings. A box containing the letter - as well as ammunition, building material, tools and four phones - were dropped off at the home of the witness before the incident, according to the court documents filed by prosecutors.

SINGAPORE PIO ex-min to be sentenced

The sentencing of Singapore's Indian-origin former transport minister S Iswaran, who was convicted of lesser charges of obtaining valuable things as a public servant and obstruction of justice on Tuesday, has been adjourned to October 3, a media report said. The bail of the 62-year-old former transport minister has been extended following Tuesday's trial related to corruption charges, Channel News Asia reported. The prosecution sought a jail term of six to seven months for the minister who pleaded guilty on the first day of trial after saying for months that he would contest the case to clear his name. In closing the hearing, Justice Vincent Hoong thanked the defence and prosecution for their submissions and said he would need time to consider Iswaran's sentence. Iswaran admitted to four charges under Section 165 of the Penal Code, which forbids all public servants from obtaining any valuable thing from someone involved with them in an official capacity, and one charge of obstruction of justice, according to local media reports. Another 30 charges were to be taken into consideration for sentencing.

MOSCOW User data disclosure

Telegram can disclose users' data upon reasonable requests from authorities, the encrypted messaging service's co-founder Pavel Durov said on his Telegram channel. "We've made it clear that the IP addresses and phone numbers of those who violate our rules can be disclosed to relevant authorities in response to valid legal requests," Durov said on Monday, specifying that the messenger has updated its terms of service and privacy policy, bringing them to uniformity across the world. Xinhua news agency reported. Such changes were introduced to "further deter criminals from abusing Telegram Search," he noted.

INTENSE FIGHTING | Israel hits Hezbollah targets, militants strike at military-industrial infra in Kiryat Shmon

After fresh attacks, Lebanon toll rises to 580

BEIRUT JERUSALEM

Israeli strikes on Lebanon killed at least 580 people, including more than 90 women and 50 children, Lebanese authorities said, in the deadliest barrage since the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war. Thousands of Lebanese fled the south, and the main highway out of the southern port city of Sidon was jammed with cars heading toward Beirut in the biggest exodus since 2006.



A residential building whose top two floors were hit by an Israeli strike in the Ghoberi area of Beirut's southern suburbs. -AFP

Israel and Hezbollah have been trading fire since the Israel-Hamas war began in the Gaza Strip. Israel's military said early Tuesday that its air force was continuing to strike Hezbollah targets in Lebanon, after hundreds of people were killed the previous day in the deadliest barrage of Israeli attacks there in nearly two decades. The strikes have unnerved the Middle East, sparking fears of an all-out war between Israel and Hezbollah as the fighting in Gaza continues with no clear prospect of a truce. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told Israelis that they were headed into "complicated days." Hezbollah said it had targeted a series of military-industrial targets in northern Israel in the early hours of Tuesday morning, including an explosives factory nearly 40

miles from the border and a military airfield. The group also said it had fired a barrage of rockets at the northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shmona, which has largely been evacuated amid the conflict. Later, Israel's military said that at least 110 rockets had been fired into Israeli territory from Lebanon since Tuesday morning. Israel's military said 10 more rockets from Lebanon were fired into Israeli territory on Tuesday afternoon, injuring a reservist and raining shrapnel onto a road in northern Israel. The rockets came in two volleys, the first targeting the Upper Galilee area and the second an area south of Haifa known as Eliakim. Rocket fragments from a rocket that was intercepted

injured the Israeli soldier, the military said. Hezbollah said it had fired middle-range rockets at an Israeli army position in Eliakim. After almost a year of war against Hamas in Gaza on its southern border, Israel is shifting its focus to the northern frontier, where Hezbollah has been firing rockets into Israel in support of Hamas, which is also backed by Iran.

With the region increasingly on the edge, over 30 international flights to and from Beirut on Tuesday were cancelled, according to the Rafic Hariri International Airport's website. Airlines affected included Qatar Airways, Turkish Airways and various airlines from the United Arab Emirates. Lebanese caretaker prime minister Najib Mikati's office said he would fly to New York, where the United Nations General Assembly is taking place, "for further contacts" following the escalated wave of Israeli strikes on Lebanon on Monday. The fighting has raised fears that the United States, Israel's close ally, and regional power Iran, which has proxies across the Middle East -- Hezbollah, Yemen's Houthis and armed groups in Iraq -- will be sucked into a wider war. The strikes have piled pressure on Hezbollah, which last week suffered heavy losses when thousands of paggers and walkie-talkies used by its members exploded in the worst security breach in its history.

'Israeli strikes risk to stability'

Agencies MOSCOW

The Kremlin warned on Tuesday that Israeli strikes on Lebanon had the potential to completely destabilise the Middle East and widen the conflict there.

Israel struck Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon and the Iran-backed group attacked military facilities in northern Israel on Tuesday, increasing fears of a full-blown conflict after Lebanon suffered its deadliest day in decades.

When asked about the Israeli strikes, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on a conference call: "This is an event that is potentially extremely dangerous when it comes to the expansion of the conflict, to the complete destabilisation of the region. Of course, this is of extreme concern to us."

Russia has deepened ties with Hezbollah patron Iran since the start of its war in Ukraine, something it calls a special military operation, and questioned the proportionality of Israel's bombing of Gaza and the number of civilians killed, straining ties with Israel.



US to rush more troops to Middle East

Agencies WASHINGTON

Maj. Gen. Patrick S. Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, declined to say exactly how many troops were deploying, citing operational security. Israel has carried out a series of attacks on Hezbollah targets in recent days, raising concern in the Biden administration that retaliatory strikes by the group or Iran could endanger U.S. troops in the region.

The Pentagon is sending additional U.S. troops to the Middle East as tensions continue to rise after Israeli airstrikes against Hezbollah killed at least 350 people in Lebanon. Defense Department officials said on Monday. This has raised concern in the Biden administration that retaliatory strikes by the group or Iran could endanger US troops in the region. Maj. Gen. Patrick S. Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, declined to say exactly how many troops were deploying, citing operational security. The troops will number in the dozens, one official said, and will head to the region to help protect the thousands of Americans who are stationed there.

"In light of increased tension in the Middle East and out of an abundance of caution, we are sending a small number of additional U.S. military personnel forward to augment our forces that are already in the region," Ryder said. The deployment comes a

day after Defense Secretary Lloyd J. Austin III called his Israeli counterpart, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant. Austin "stressed the importance of finding a path to a diplomatic solution that will allow residents on both sides of the border to return to their homes as quickly and safely as possible, as well as reaching a Gaza cease-fire deal that will bring all the hostages home," the Pentagon said in a statement on Monday.

"The secretary made it clear that the United States remains postured to protect US forces and personnel and determined to deter any regional actors from exploiting the situation or expanding the conflict," the statement said. About 40,000 American troops are stationed in the region on bases in Iraq, in Syria and in the Persian Gulf countries. The 'U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln' is in the Gulf of Oman, and a second aircraft carrier, the 'U.S.S. Harry S. Truman', left Norfolk, Va., on Monday for the Mediterranean as part of a regularly scheduled deployment. Tensions have significantly escalated this week between Israel and Hezbollah, the Lebanese militia supported by Iran. Back-and-forth attacks have brought the two sides to the brink of their first full-scale war since 2006, when they fought a 34-day conflict that involved an Israeli ground invasion and the deaths of over 1,000 Lebanese and 150 Israelis.

Bangla army chief backs Yunus govt 'come what may'

Agencies DHAKA

Bangladesh's army chief vowed to back the country's interim government "come what may" to help it complete key reforms after the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, so that elections could be held within the next 18 months. General Waker-uz-Zaman and his troops stood aside in early August amid raging student-led protests against Hasina, sealing the fate of the veteran politician who resigned after 15 years in power and fled to neighbouring India. In a rare media interview, Zaman told Reuters at his office in the capital Dhaka on Monday that the interim administration led by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus had his full support and outlined a pathway to rid the military of political influence.



"I will stand beside him. Come what may. So that he can accomplish his mission," Zaman, bespectacled and dressed in military fatigues, said of Yunus. The pioneer of the global micro-credit movement, Yunus has promised to carry out essential reforms to the judiciary, police and financial institutions, paving the way to hold a free and fair election in the country of 170 million people. Following the reforms, Zaman - who took over as the army chief only weeks before Hasina's ouster - said a transition to democracy should be made between a year and a year-and-a-half, but underlined the need for patience. "If you ask me, then I will say that should be the time frame by which we should enter into a democratic process," he said. Bangladesh's main two political parties, Hasina's Awami League and its bitter rival Bangladesh Nationalist Party, had both previously called for elections to be held within three months of the interim government taking office in August.

Hasina accused of murder

Agencies DHAKA

Former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and 163 others were sued on Tuesday in connection with the murder of Shaon Talukder, 21, during mass movement in Dhaka's Jatrabari area on August 5. The victim's cousin Abdul Halim filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Shahin Reza. The magistrate recorded the statement of the complainant and asked the officer-in-charge of Jatrabari Police Station to sub-



mit within seven working days a report whether any other case was filed in this regard. Former Awami League General Secretary Obaidul, former home minister Asaduzzaman Khan, former inspector general of police Chowdhury Abdullah Al-

4 rape teen in front of family in Pakistan

IANS LAHORE

In a gory reminder of horrendous Lahore motorway incident of 2020, a teenage girl was gang-raped allegedly by robbers in front of her family members near the famous Pakpattan city of Punjab province, local media reported on Tuesday. The incident took place near village Malik Rahmoo in the Pakpattan district - a city known for its historic Sufi Islamic shrines, including that of Sufi Baba Fariduddin Ganj Shakar, known popularly as Baba Farid.

Pakistan remains one of the most dangerous countries for women with the provinces of Punjab and Sindh witnessing a harrowing surge in violence against women over the last few years

According to a report in leading Pakistani daily, Dawn, a resident of Bahawalnagar was on a visit to family friends in Pakpattan along with his wife, a son and a

minor daughter, a sister and a 17-year-old niece when the incident happened. Returning home post midnight, their car was intercepted by four armed suspects who first robbed them and then, off-loaded women. The teenage girl was then taken to the roadside maize fields and gang-raped with the family held hostage. The entire incident, the newspaper reported, lasted for 50 minutes and nobody came forward to help the family even though they desperately cried for help. After the accused fled

the crime scene, the family somehow managed to reach a nearby farmhouse and contacted the local police authorities. In September 2020, massive protests broke out across Pakistan after a similar incident took place on the Lahore motorway where a woman, in her 30s and a resident of France, was gang-raped by two men in front of her children. Then Lahore police chief Umar Sheikh faced a huge public backlash for blaming the victim for driving late at night and without a male companion.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK E-AUCTION NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISIO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002. The undersigned as authorised officer of Jana Small Finance Bank Limited has taken possession of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction) of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on 'AS IS WHERE IS BASIS' and 'AS IS WHAT IS BASIS' on the date as prescribed as here under.

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