

VOA NEWS

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This is VOA News. I'm Joe Ramsey.

The Israeli military said it's attacking Hamas terrorists in Gaza's Khan Younis, expanding evacuation orders on Sunday, but Palestinian and U.N. officials say there are no safe areas in the enclave. Reuters correspondent David Doyle has more.

The evacuation order covered districts in the center, east and west. That makes it one of the largest such orders in the 10-month old conflict and comes just two days after tanks returned to the east of the city.

The evacuation order also follows the killing of at least 90 people, according to Gaza's civil defense service, in an Israeli airstrike on a school where displaced Palestinians were sheltering.

That incident on Saturday prompted international outcry. The Israeli military said it had struck a Hamas and Islamic Jihad command post, killing 19. The two groups rejected that claim, which they said was being used as a pretext.

Reuters correspondent David Doyle.

Moscow's forces on Sunday were in their sixth day of intense battle against Kyiv's largest incursion into Russian territory since the start of the war which left southwestern parts of Russia vulnerable before reinforcements started arriving.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Sunday Russia had launched nearly 2,000 cross-border strikes from its western Kursk region at Ukraine's Sumy region over the summer, something he said it deserved a "fair" Ukrainian response.

Serbia's president on Sunday accused demonstrators who oppose a lithium mining project in the Balkan country of being part of a Western-backed "hybrid" warfare against his government and vowed to take strong legal action against those protesters who have blocked [railw...] railway and road traffic in the capital a day earlier.

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Hundreds of firefighters are battling a fast moving wildfire just outside Athens and clouds of smoke could be seen on Sunday over the Greek capital, with flames fueled by hot and windy weather. Reuters correspondent Olivia Zollino reports.

Several other regions across Greece are on high alert for fire risk. Authorities have called for emergency measures involving the Army, police and volunteers to deal with forest fires until August 15.

Hundreds of wildfires have broken out across Greece since May. Scientists attribute their frequency and intensity to the increasingly hot and dry weather conditions linked to climate change.

After its warmest winter on record and long periods of little or no rainfall, Greece also registered its hottest June and July. It is expected to record its hottest ever summer this year.

Reuters correspondent Olivia Zollino.

At least 18 people were killed after a landfill collapsed in the Ugandan capital, according to the Red Cross. Fourteen others were injured when the landfill, which serves as a waste disposal site for much of Kampala, collapsed late on Friday. At least two of the dead were children, Kampala Capital City Authority said in a statement.

The landfills collapse is believed to have been triggered by heavy rainfall.

The Uganda Red Cross says the toll reached 18 after more bodies were retrieved from the scene on Sunday, adding rainfall was slowing rescue efforts.

The sunset on the Olympic Games in Paris on Sunday. Reuters correspondent Chris Dignam reports.

The Closing Ceremony included performances by Billie Eilish, Red Hot Chili Peppers and Snoop Dogg, all music icons from California in a nod to the next Summer Games' host city of Los Angeles.

Hollywood was also represented with Tom Cruise performing a stunt worthy of Mission Impossible.

L.A. Mayor Karen Bass became the first Black woman mayor to receive the Olympic flag. She acknowledged Paris had set the bar high but expressed confidence that her city would prove itself a worthy successor.

Reuters correspondent Chris Dignam.

Hundreds of hotel guests in a popular Australian tourist town were evacuated after a helicopter crashed into the roof of the hotel, authorities said on Monday.

Emergency crews were called at about 2:00 a.m. on Monday after the crash at Hilton's Double Tree hotel in the northern city of Cairns considered the gateway to Australia's Great Barrier Reef, media reported.

Police did not specify the condition of the pilot or whether any passengers were on board. But a video posted on social media showed a fire on the roof of the hotel. Two of the helicopter's propellers came off and one landed in the hotel pool, according to Australian media reports.

I'm Joe Ramsey.