

# BBC NEWS

July 18, 2026

BBC News with Lynda Hardy.

President Trump has blamed Canada for smoke pollution spreading to the U.S. from wildfires there. He said he would be calling the Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney to find out what his plans were for dealing with them. Daniel Bush reports from Washington.

Smoke has drifted toward Detroit, Chicago, Washington and New York, leading to a political row between the U.S. and Canada. President Trump said the U.S. was being invaded by filthy polluted air. He accused Canada of "willful negligence" because of what he said was a failure to engage in basic forest management. Trump threatened to increase tariffs on Canada to cover the cost of the damage. But it's unclear if he has the authority to do so.

The premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, responded by saying that Canada had helped the U.S. manage wildfires in America in the past and he suggested the Trump administration could assist the Canadian response this time.

The U.S. military says it's carrying out further strikes on Iran for the seventh night in a row. Iranian state media have reported explosions in several locations including the cities of Ahvaz, Yazd and Bandar Abbas and islands in the Strait of Hormuz. Nick Johnson reports.

In the latest violence, Iran's state media reported there'd been a number of explosions in the central Iranian city of Yazd. Its elite Revolutionary Guard Corps also said that two oil tankers had caught fire after passing through a mined route near the Strait of Hormuz.

Earlier Tehran accused Washington of targeting its civilian infrastructure including bridges, a railway station and an airport. But a White House spokesperson told the BBC the U.S. had only attacked military targets.

Thousands of people have been out on the streets of Kyiv protesting for a second night against the sacking of Ukraine's defense minister. Mykhailo Fedorov was removed after falling out with the commander of the armed forces as Paul Moss explains.

It's not a great look. Ukraine in the midst of a horrific war but now with only a standard defense minister and the country apparently divided. Protesters angry over the sacking of his predecessor.

Mykhailo Fedorov had been an unlikely choice, a former marketing executive who'd never served in the military. But his enthusiasm for the very latest drone technology was credited for Ukraine's successful attacks on Russian infrastructure and his continuing popularity is now proving a headache for Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

The U.S. Federal Aviation Authority says it'll allow Boeing to start issuing airworthiness certificates for its 737 MAX aircraft. The FAA revoked Boeing's right to approve individual MAX jets in 2019

after two fatal crashes caused by faulty flight control systems had killed nearly 350 people.

This is the world news from the BBC.

The authorities in Venezuela say more than 5,000 people are now known to have died in the twin earthquakes that struck the country last month. The speaker of the National Assembly, Jorge Rodríguez, said the number of injured remains unchanged at nearly 17,000. About 20,000 people were made homeless by the quakes.

The Brazilian Supreme Court Justice Alexandre de Moraes has banned the former President Jair Bolsonaro, who's under house arrest, from receiving visits. The decision is valid for 30 days. Visits by doctors and his lawyers are exempt.

Mr. Bolsonaro is serving a 27-year sentence for plotting a coup to overturn the 2022 election.

The new leader of Britain's Labour Party, Andy Burnham, says he wants to give hope back to the country. He said a generation of politicians had failed to challenge a political culture and economic model that did not work well enough for what he called "ordinary people."

Mr. Burnham said he would announce who'd be in his cabinet when he becomes prime minister on Monday.

Tributes have been pouring in for Sir Garfield Sobers, one of the greatest cricketers of all time, following his death at the age of 89.

In a televised address, the prime minister of Sobers' native Barbados, Mia Mottley, declared a day of national mourning and said the cricketer had carried Barbados, the West Indies and the Caribbean as a whole with distinction. "It is with profound sadness that I now advise the people of Barbados, the region and the wider cricketing world of the passing of The Right Excellent Sir Garfield St. Aubrun Sobers, our beloved Sir Gary. Across Barbados and across the world, we hold him with gratitude, with reverence and with a tender sorrow that comes when a people have to say farewell to one of their greatest sons."

In 1968, he became the first cricketer to hit six sixes in an over.

BBC World News.