VOA NEWS

July 25, 2018

VOA news.

President Trump on Tuesday said he is worried that Russia will try to meddle in November's midterm elections.

Associated Press Washington correspondent Sagar Meghani reports.

The president says he is worried Russia will fight very hard to impact the election for Democrats, tweeting "They definitely don't want Trump!"

But Vladimir Putin said just last week through an interpreter he did want Trump to win in 2016.

Because he talked about bringing the U.S.-Russia relationship back to normal.

The intelligence community says Russia meddled in that race to help Trump win.

The president today tweeted based on the fact that no president has been tougher on Russia than him. They will be pushing very hard for the Democrats.

Sagar Meghani, Washington.

President Trump threatened Tuesday to place tariffs on countries that don't negotiate with the United States in good faith. He suggested tariffs are the solution to global trade issues.

On Twitter, he wrote "Tariffs are the greatest! Either a country which has treated the United States unfairly on Trade negotiates a great deal, or it gets hit with Tariffs. It's as simple as that - and everybody's talking! Remember, we are the 'piggy bank' that's being robbed. All will be Great!"

The Trump administration is set to announce billions of dollars in emergency aid to farmers who've been hurt by trade disputes with China, the European Union and other trade partners.

And Trump is scheduled to meet in Washington Wednesday with European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker, who hopes to prevent a full-blown trade war by convincing Trump to hold off imposing punitive tariffs on European cars.

The collapse of a dam under construction in Laos has left hundreds missing and thousands homeless. At least several people are feared dead.

The Laotian state news agency says more than 6,000 people have been displaced.

This is VOA news.

Reports say North Korea may have begun to dismantle facilities at its main satellite launch site.

It could be a step toward fulfilling a commitment made by the dictator, Kim Jong Un, at his summit with President Trump in June.

Associated Press correspondent Charles De Ledesma reports.

The North Korea-focused 38 North website says recent commercial satellite images indicate Pyongyang has begun dismantling key facilities at the Sohae launch site. The facilities include a rocket engine test stand used to develop liquid-fuel engines for ballistic missiles and space-launch vehicles and a rail-mounted processing building where space launch vehicles were assembled before being moved to the launch pad.

I'm Charles De Ledesma.

On Tuesday, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told reporters the North Koreans' activities are "entirely consistent with the commitment" made by Kim at the Singapore summit.

Wildfires sweeping through a Greek resort town killed at least 74 people, including families with children found clasped in a last embrace.

Reuters correspondent Julian Satterthwaite reports.

The youngest victim, a six-month-old baby.

Families found with children clasped in a last embrace as they tried to flee the flames.

Emergency crews discovered one group of 26 victims lying close together. It seems they'd been trying to find an escape route, but couldn't make it out in time.

The fire broke out in the small community of Mati just to the east of Athens.

Coastguard vessels and other boats rescued almost 700 people who managed to get to the shoreline.

Reuters correspondent Julian Satterthwaite.

Greece has asked the European Union for aerial and ground support to help fight the fires.

The World Health Organization says the rapid, aggressive and coordinated health response to the Democratic Republic of Congo's latest Ebola outbreak is largely responsible for quickly containing the deadly virus.

Correspondent Lisa Schlein reports for VOA from WHO headquarters in Geneva.

Michael Ryan is WHO's assistant director-general of emergency preparedness and response. He was part of the large team of health specialists working on the strategic response plan in DRC.

Ryan says it is too early to suggest the vaccine used in the operation has played a significant role in stopping the epidemic. He believes the rapid identification of cases and contacts, as well as contact tracing and follow-up, were probably the major factors in containing the disease.

Lisa Schlein, for VOA news, Geneva.

China's President Xi Jinping has arrived in South Africa. He'll be meeting with President Cyril Ramaphosa and attend the 10th summit of major emerging economies known as BRICS.

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