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Trump says US should take over Gaza Strip, turn it into a 'freedom zone'

May 15, 2025 jpost.com reported: "US President Donald Trump suggested that the US take Gaza, deal with Hamas, and turn it into a freedom zone during a business roundtable in Qatar on Thursday.

'If it's necessary, I think I'd be proud to have the United States have it, take it, make it a freedom zone. Let some good things happen, put people in homes where they can be safe, and Hamas is going to have to be dealt with,' Trump told Qatari officials, according to international news reports.

'They've never solved the Gaza problem, and if you look at it, I have aerial shots, I mean, there's practically no building standing, there's no building,' Trump continued.

'People are living under the rubble of buildings that collapsed, which is not acceptable; it's a tremendous death. And I want to see that be a freedom zone.' This is the first time Trump has made such statements to Arab leaders in a formal setting, notably while in a country that has played a primary role in mediating the Gaza hostage, ceasefire deal..."

White House halts agency work on upcoming G20 in South Africa

May 14, 2025 thehill.com reported: "The White House has directed federal agencies to stop work with the upcoming Group of 20 (G20) conference slated to be held later this year in South Africa amid outcry from President Trump over the treatment of white South African farmers.

A White House official pointed to Trump's comments earlier in the week when he indicated the U.S. could skip the G20, which is scheduled for November in Johannesburg.

"We're supposed to have a, I guess a G20 meeting there ... I don't know how we can go unless that situation is taken care of," Trump said. "But it's a genocide that's taking place that you people don't want to write about. But it's a terrible thing that's taking place. And farmers are being killed. They happen to be white."

Trump said he expected to speak next week with leaders from South Africa. The Washington Post first reported on the decision to suspend agency and department work on the summit. The annual G20 brings together leaders from the world's largest economies to discuss global issues on the financial system, climate change and other topics.

Trump has fixated on South Africa in recent months over claims that Afrikaners, a white ethnic minority, have been unfairly targeted. The president signed an executive order in February pausing foreign assistance to South Africa over claims that the government there "radically disfavored landowners..."

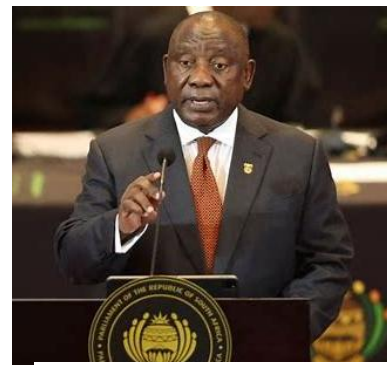
White South Africans going to US are cowards, Ramaphosa says

May 14, 2025 bbc.com reported: "President Cyril Ramaphosa has called a group of 59 white South Africans who have moved to the US to resettle "cowards", saying "they'll be back soon".

The group of Afrikaners arrived in the US on Monday after President Donald Trump granted them refugee status, saying they faced racial discrimination.

But Ramaphosa said those who wanted to leave were not happy with efforts to address the inequities of the apartheid past, terming their relocation a "sad moment for them".

"As South Africans, we are resilient. We don't run away from our problems. We must stay here and solve our problems. When you run away you are a coward, and that's a real cowardly act," he added..."



*Cyril Ramaphosa
South Africa President*

Missile from Yemen intercepted over Israel, sirens sound across Jerusalem region

May 14, 2025 israelnationalnews.com reported: "Sirens sounded Wednesday morning across central Israel, Jerusalem, and the Dead Sea region following a ballistic missile launch from Yemen.

The missile was intercepted outside Israeli territory by Israel's Arrow system and the American THAAD system.

Following the interception, the IDF confirmed: 'Following the sirens that sounded a short while ago in several areas in Israel, a missile launched from Yemen was intercepted. Sirens were sounded in accordance with protocol.'

Magen David Adom reported no casualties aside from a woman who fell on her way to a shelter.

This marks the third Houthi missile launch toward Israel in the past 24 hours...”

Iran warns Europeans of possible ‘irreversible consequences’ from reimposing sanctions

May 13, 2025 timesofisrael.com reported: “Iran’s foreign minister warned Britain, France and Germany Monday that a decision to trigger a UN mechanism reimposing sanctions on Tehran could lead to an irreversible escalation of tensions.

Under the terms of a UN resolution ratifying a 2015 nuclear pact, the three European powers could reimpose United Nations sanctions against Tehran before October 18, known in diplomatic circles as the ‘snapback mechanism.’

They were said to be mulling the option as a form of diplomatic leverage, as the US seeks to ramp up pressure on Iran amid ongoing nuclear talks between the two countries.

‘Iran has made its position clear. We have officially warned all JCPOA [nuclear pact] signatories that abuse of the snapback mechanism will lead to consequences — not only the end of Europe’s role in the agreement, but also an escalation of tensions that could become irreversible,’ Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi wrote in a column in French weekly magazine *Le Point*.

US President Donald Trump exited Tehran’s 2015 nuclear accord with six world powers in 2018 during his first term and reimposed tough sanctions that devastated Iran’s economy...”

Report: Young People Are Leading Christianity’s Comeback Across U.S.

May 12, 2025 breitbart.com reported: “More and more young people across the United States and other western countries are reportedly embracing Christianity.

The group driving the comeback is Gen Z. Those young men are apparently more likely to attend weekly religious services than millennials and some Gen X-ers, Axios reported on Saturday while citing Ryan Burge who is a political scientist with Eastern Illinois University.

‘Within older generations, there’s a consistent gender gap among Christians, with women more likely to be religious than men. Within Gen Z, the gap has closed, as young men join the church and young women leave it. If the current trajectory sticks, the gender gap will flip,’ the Axios report said...”

India warns Pakistan attacks will get ‘firm response’ after trading fire for another day

May 9, 2025 spacewar.com reported: “India warned Thursday any Pakistan military action would be met with ‘a very, very firm response’, a day after New Delhi launched missile strikes in retaliation for an attack it blames on Islamabad.

‘Our response was targeted and measured. It (is) not our intention to escalate the situation,’ Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said in a speech to his visiting Iranian counterpart.

‘However, if there are military attacks on us, there should be no doubt that it will be met with a very, very firm response.’

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has vowed to retaliate after India launched deadly missile strikes on Wednesday morning, with days of gunfire along their border in Kashmir escalating into artillery shelling. At least 45 deaths have been reported from both sides of the border following Wednesday’s violence, including children...”

IRGC chief threatens to ‘open gates of hell’ on Israel, US

May 9, 2025 israelnationalnews.com reported: “Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps commander Hossein Salami warned on Thursday that Iran would retaliate against Israel and the US should the two countries strike Iran. ‘I’m issuing a serious warning: if you make one wrong move, we will open up the gates of hell on you,’ said Salami, as quoted by *Iran International*.

‘Sit down and stay in your place ... we have made extensive preparations. These are serious warnings to Zionist officials, to US officials. The criminal Prime Minister of the Zionist regime talks a lot these days, threatens Iran,’ he added.

‘If you make a mistake, we’ll act on you in a way that you forget the True Promise 1 and 2,’ he said, in reference to Iran’s attacks on Israel last year.

‘Don’t count on THAAD. Every time you fire a projectile, we will fire more than you,’ Salami threatened...”



*Hossein Salami
IRGC Commander*