

Femtosecond IN THE NEWS

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 10

JULY 13, 2025

World News

The war between Russia and Ukraine continues. On June 23-24, Russian attacks in Dnipro and Kyiv killed dozens of citizens [1]. This comes as Russia is increasing its Ukraine attacks [2,3,4]. Additionally, one estimate places the number of North Korean troops going to support Russia will reach 30,000 [5]. Moreover, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has offered Russia unconditional support for its war with Ukraine [6].

By one estimate, China spends the same on its defense as does the US [7]. In a new complication, a Chinese official asserted his country would not accept Russia losing the war [8]. In Asia, two Chinese ships entered the Japanese territorial waters around the disputed Senkaku Islands [9].

Meanwhile, there are indications China is supporting Iran's military. This includes materials for making ballistic missiles [10]. China may have provided Iran with advanced J-10C fighters and is open to supplying air defense systems [11].

1. Kottasová, Ivana, et. al., CNN, *Russian attacks kill dozens of Ukrainians as Kyiv's allies gather for a key NATO summit*, June 24, 2025.
2. Butenko, Victoria, et. al., CNN, *Russia launches record number of drones at Ukraine after latest Trump-Putin phone call*, July 4, 2025.
3. Novikov, Illia, AP, *Russia fires a record 728 drones and 13 missiles at Ukraine, Ukrainian air force says*, July 9, 2025.

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Middle-East War

On June 23, Iran fired missiles at a US military base located in Qatar [1]. President Trump indicated 14 missiles were fired, 13 intercepted, and one allowed to travel in a non-threatening direction [2].

Israel officials indicated they struck the Evin Prison in Tehran and roads leading to the Fordo uranium enrichment plant previously struck by US B-2 bombers [3]. Shortly thereafter, President Trump announced a peace agreement that ended the 12-day conflict [4].

Meanwhile, other peace efforts continue. On July 2, Israel agreed to a 60-day Gaza ceasefire negotiated by President Trump [5]. There is also a report that there are negotiations between Israel and Syria [6].

However, the Houthis in Yemen have resumed targeting commercial ships in the Red Sea. For example, two ships were sunk within one week [7].

1. Ravid, Barak, Axios, *No casualties reported after Iran missile attack on U.S. base in Qatar*, June 23, 2025.

2. Hagstrom, Anders, et. al., Fox News, *Iranian missiles fired at Al-Udeid US base, intercepted over Qatar*, June 23, 2025.
3. Gritten, David, BBC News, *Israel says it struck Tehran's Evin prison and Fordo access routes*, June 23, 2025.
4. Price, Stepheny, & Yingst, Trey, Fox News, *Trump announces historic Iran and Israel ceasefire agreement to end '12 Day War'*, June 23, 2025.

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Special points of interest:

- First Quarter GDP Falls at 0.5% Rate
- Stock Indexes Record Highs
 - Nasdaq
 - S&P 500

Middle-East War

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5. Holmes, Kristen, et. al., CNN, *Israeli official says country has accepted 60-day Gaza ceasefire deal detailed by Trump*, July 2, 2025.
6. Berman, Lazar, The Times of Israel, *Israel in 'advanced talks' for deal to end hostilities with Syria, says senior official*, June 30, 2025.
7. Salem, Mostafa, CNN, *10 rescued, 3 killed and others 'kidnapped' after Houthis sink ship in second Red Sea attack in a week*, July 10, 2025.

What I learned in the military is that gossip starts early and it stays forever.—

Wesley Clark

World News

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4. Shalvey, Kevin, ABC News, *2 dead as Russia attacks Ukraine overnight with almost 600 drones, Kyiv says*, July 12, 2025.
5. Walsh, Nick Paton, et. al., CNN, *North Korea to send as many as 30,000 troops to bolster Russia's forces, Ukrainian officials say*, July 2, 2025.
6. Lau, Stuart, BBC, *North Korea reaffirms support for Russia's war in Ukraine*, July 12, 2025.
7. Gertz, Bill, The Washington Times, *Air Force leaders reveal new details of growing military threat from China*, June 27, 2025.
8. Walsh, Nick Paton, CNN, *China tells EU it can't accept Russia losing its war against Ukraine, official says*, July 4, 2025.
9. McCartney, Micah, Newsweek, *US Ally Says Chinese Ships Detected in Territorial Waters*, July 11, 2025.
10. The Times of Israel, *Iran orders materials from China that can make some 800 ballistic missiles – report*, June 6, 2025.
11. The Times of India, *After Missiles, China To Send J-10C Fighter Jets To Iran?*

Beijing 'Open To Arming' Allies, July 10, 2025.

Terrorism

In Syria, a suicide bomber attacked a Christian church, killing at least 20 people [1]. On June 28, a suicide bomber struck a Pakistani military convoy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's North Waziristan district, killing at least 13 soldiers [2].

The US is experiencing domestic terrorism directed against Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel. For example, in McAllen, Texas, a gunman ambushed US Border Patrol agents and was killed during the exchange [3]. Elsewhere, 10 people were arrested for an armed attack on the ICE Prerieland Detention Center outside of the Dallas-Fort Worth [4]. In Portland, Oregon, rioters attacked an ICE facility using knives and explosives [5]. In Camarillo, California, ICE agents were fired

upon during a Marijuana farm raid [6].

1. Kourdi, Eyad, & Nicholls, Catherine, CNN, *Suicide bomber attack on church in Syria kills at least 20 people*, June 22, 2025.
2. NDTV, *Pakistan Blames India For Suicide Car Bomb Attack, Centre Responds*, June 29, 2025.
3. Taer, Jennie, New York Post, *Gunman killed after ambushing Border Patrol agents outside McAllen, Texas, office*, July 7, 2025.
4. Loria, Michael, USA Today, *Fireworks and AR-15s used in July 4 ambush on ICE agents, leading to 10 arrests*, July 9, 2025.
5. Koch, Alexandra, Fox News, *Multiple arrests after violent mob attacks Portland*

ICE facility with fireworks and knives, June 26, 2025.

6. Khan, Daryl, New York Post, *Protester fires gun at federal agents in chaotic clash during California pot farm raid: wild video*, July 11, 2025.

The fact is that the

Vietnamese held

Americans after 1973.–

Bo Gritz

Economy

The US Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contracted at a 0.5% rate for the first quarter [1]. On the positive side, the unemployment rate for June fell from 4.2 to 4.1% [2].

On June 27 and 30, both the Nasdaq and the S&P 500 stock indexes reached fresh all-time highs [3,4]. On July 2, the S&P 500 closed at a record high [5]. On July 3, both the S&P 500 and Nasdaq stock indexes reached new record highs [6]. On July 10, both the Nasdaq and S&P 500 stock indexes closed at record highs [7].

Meanwhile, the tariff negotiations continue. The Administration announced a trade deal with Vietnam where their goods would be tariffed at 20% and US goods at 0% [8].

1. Wiseman, Paul, AP, US economy shrank 0.5% in the first quarter, worse

than earlier estimates had revealed, June 26, 2025.

2. Zilber, Ariel, The New York Post, *June jobs report comes in stronger than expected – tanking hopes that the Fed will cut rates this month*, July 3, 2025.

3. The Wall Street Journal, *Stock Market Today: Nasdaq, S&P Hit Records*, June 27, 2025.

4. Lee, Medora, USA Today, *US stocks end up on trade hope, tax bill voting. S&P 500, Nasdaq hit record high again*, June 30, 2025.

5. Choe, Stan, et. al., AP, *US stocks hit another record as Tesla and Nike rally*, July 2, 2025.

6. Conlon, Sean, & Han, Lisa Kailai, CNBC, *Dow jumps more than 300 points, S&P 500 sets new record after strong June jobs*

report, July 3, 2025.

7. LoGiurato, Brett, et. al., Yahoo/Finance, *Stock market today: S&P 500, Nasdaq eke out fresh records, Nvidia closes at \$4T market cap*, July 10, 2025.

8. Buchwald, Elisabeth, & Jaramillo, Alejandra, CNN, *Trump announces a US trade deal with Vietnam*, July 2, 2025.

*What the eyes see and the
ears hear, the mind
believes.—Harry Houdini*
