

News Digest

MONDAY . AUGUST 17, 2026

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01Meta faces a historic \$1.4 trillion trial involving dozens of states over allegations of designing addictive features and harming child mental health.

02Prominent high-frequency trading firm Jane Street suffered a historic \$15 billion loss in July due to wrong-way bets in Asian equity markets.

03President Trump threatened to claim the Strait of Hormuz as US territory and issued military warnings to Oman amid escalating tensions with Iran.

04Nvidia announced a \$1.5 billion investment in a data center developer linked to OpenAI to solidify its dominance in the artificial intelligence infrastructure sector.

05Senator Rand Paul led the first outside inspection of Fort Knox's gold stores in over 50 years to verify the US Treasury Department's holdings.

Technology 5 dispatches . 10 in brief

Nvidia and OpenAI Unveil Massive AI Infrastructure Expansion

Nvidia has announced a series of monumental investments solidifying its dominance in the artificial intelligence infrastructure sector. The chip giant revealed a \$1.5 billion investment in SB Energy, a data center developer linked to SoftBank and OpenAI. This deal ensures Nvidia will be the sole supplier of compute infrastructure at OpenAI's Ports-Pike data center near Cincinnati, Ohio. Separately, OpenAI announced a massive 10-year lease for this Ohio facility, which will require 8 gigawatts of computing capacity. Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang is guaranteeing \$105 billion in lease and power obligations for the project. The facility is being developed on land owned by the U.S. Department of Energy, previously used for uranium enrichment. In a related disclosure, Nvidia revealed a \$21 billion stake in SpaceX, highlighting its

broader strategy to fund AI infrastructure expansion. SpaceX is also expanding its own computing capacity from 2 gigawatts to nearly 10GW by 2027. Nvidia plans to mobilize a consortium of investors worth \$500 billion, including Apollo Global and Goldman Sachs. This partnership aims to provide partially guaranteed loans to Wall Street investors backed by the value of Nvidia's chips. SoftBank is also an existing investor in SB Energy, having previously sold Nvidia stock to fund AI investments. The \$33 billion project is part of a growing trend of massive natural gas power plants being built to support AI demand. These developments matter because they highlight Nvidia's dominant role in the AI industry and its ability to provide significant funding. The partnership with Wall Street investors will further entrench Nvidia's technology in the market. However, the sheer scale of power required raises questions about grid sustainability. This expansion aims to solidify Nvidia's position as a key player in the burgeoning field of artificial intelligence. The collaboration underscores the intense capital race defining the current AI landscape. Investors are betting heavily on the continued growth of generative AI models. The physical footprint of these data centers represents a significant shift in industrial land use.

Sources [TechCrunch](#) [Ars Technica](#) [Slashdot](#)

[Related](#) [US Grid Operator Proposes Curtailing Data Center Power During Emergencies](#)

Flock Safety Overhauls Policy Amidst Growing City Boycotts

Flock Safety has decided to implement several changes after months of negative press regarding its automated license plate reader systems. The company provides ALPR camera systems to law enforcement agencies but faced criticism about technology being misused for surveillance and harassment. CEO Garrett Langley apologized for the company's role in enabling abuse of its systems. The changes include recommending a 7-day ALPR data retention period and introducing Evidence Mode. Flock is also strengthening data security through multi-factor authentication and an independent security review. These changes aim to deter law enforcement agencies from abusing systems which have been criticized for being used to stalk ex-partners. However, over 20 local jurisdictions in the US have either stopped using Flock cameras or begun the process of doing so. This marks the highest amount in a single month since tracking began in 2021. Wisconsin residents are increasingly wary of Flock's cameras due to concerns over privacy and trust. Several towns and cities have withdrawn from Flock deals, including Dane County, which includes Madison. The county voted to cut funding for its 24 license plate cameras and banned further expenditures on the system in April. The Electronic Frontier Foundation argues that these changes are too little, too late and amount to an admission that Flock's technology needs reforms. The EFF argues that police access to historic ALPR data should require a warrant. Companies like Flock should not be allowed to decide how much privacy individuals deserve, according to the EFF. This backlash against Flock cameras reflects a growing public anger towards technology oligarchs and their potential to impose surveillance states. The cameras were initially sold as a traffic safety measure but have raised concerns about civil liberties and democracy. Activists have been mapping the company's use and local officials have expressed dissatisfaction with the cameras' effectiveness. The Flock uprising has sparked a national conversation about data centers, AI, and the need for citizens to fight back. Concerns remain about the company's willingness to comply with cities' requests and the prevalence of unapproved cameras.

Sources [Techdirt](#) [Ars Technica](#) [Slashdot](#) [Slashdot](#)

Meta Faces Historic \$1.4 Trillion Trial Over Social Media Addiction

Meta is set to go on trial in a federal court in Oakland, California, facing dozens of states' allegations. The company is accused of deliberately designing addictive features, misleading users about safety, and illegally collecting data from children under 13. The case could have significant implications for thousands of similar lawsuits against the company. Key people involved include Mark Zuckerberg, Meta's CEO, who may testify, as well as Instagram chief Adam Mosseri. The trial is being led by federal Judge Yvonne Gonzalez Rogers and will last about six weeks. The states accuse Meta of violating consumer protection laws and breaking COPPA regulations by collecting data from minors without permission. The company faces potential penalties of up to \$1.4 trillion, but the judge has already called this figure unreasonable. This case matters because it could influence other lawsuits against Meta and shape the company's future policies. It also addresses practices regarding user safety and data collection on platforms like Instagram. The trial highlights the growing legal scrutiny facing big tech companies over their impact on mental health. States are arguing that the company's algorithms prioritize engagement over user well-being. Evidence may show internal knowledge of harms caused by the platforms. The outcome could set a precedent for how social media companies are regulated in the future. Plaintiffs hope to force changes in how features like infinite scroll are implemented. Defense attorneys will likely argue that users have parental controls available to them. The verdict could reshape the economic model of ad-supported social media. Legal experts are watching closely to see how damages are calculated in such a massive case. The trial begins amidst broader congressional inquiries into social media safety. Public interest groups have rallied support for the states involved in the litigation.

Sources Slashdot

US Grid Operator Proposes Curtailing Data Center Power During Emergencies

PJM Interconnection, the largest US grid operator, has proposed a new framework requiring data centers to use backup generators when grid supply approaches dangerously low levels. This proposal aligns with President Donald Trump's Ratepayer Protection Pledge to protect residential customers from data center power consumption costs. The proposal also aims to reduce electricity demand from large power users like data centers before traditional consumers such as households are affected. PJM does not currently have the authority to curtail power to these sites, requiring cooperation from individual state governments. Data centers are adding pressure to the grid, with PJM's recent capacity auction showing a 6.8 GW supply gap despite meeting its price cap. The proposal highlights growing tension between data center expansion and grid reliability. If implemented, it could help prevent blackouts and pass costs on to other power consumers if the grid cannot meet demand. PJM manages electricity for 67 million people across a territory from Washington, D.C. to Chicago. The proposal also includes creating a registry to track data center locations and power consumption. This step aims to mitigate the strain caused by rapidly expanding data centers on the nation's power grid. This regulatory move comes as AI companies plan massive increases in computing capacity. The physical constraints of the power grid may limit the speed of AI infrastructure deployment. Utilities are struggling to keep pace with the energy demands of new tech facilities. This situation underscores the interdependence of digital growth and physical infrastructure. Energy analysts warn that without new generation sources, reliability could suffer. The proposal represents a significant shift in how industrial power users are managed. Local communities are concerned about the noise and emissions from backup generators. State regulators will need to approve the framework before it can take effect.

Sources Slashdot

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Anthropic Sparks Controversy With New AI Text Watermarking System

Anthropic's announcement that its Claude chatbot will start watermarking text generated by the model has sparked controversy. The move is intended to comply with the European Union's AI Act. The watermark indicates that Claude processed the text, not necessarily that it wrote it, and can remain after editing or proofreading. This move has sparked controversy among users who have canceled their subscriptions to Claude due to concerns about authorship and potential contract penalties. Other companies such as Google, Meta, Microsoft, OpenAI, and Synthesia have also committed to adhering to the EU's code. The watermark issue highlights the need for clarity in AI-generated content and its potential impact on users who rely on these models. Anthropic plans to tweak Claude to minimize errors and improve accuracy. Some experts have expressed concerns about AI taking credit for work created by humans. Others see watermarks as a way to prevent AI from training on AI-generated text. Google has also announced that it will allow users to remove the visible watermark from its AI-generated content. Anthropic CEO Anthony Amodiei believes that the growing backlash against AI is not primarily due to his own warnings. He argues it is rather a broader crisis of trust in companies, governments, and the tech industry. Amodiei disputes claims that his warnings have fueled a backlash in the US, particularly against data centers. He believes that the public's negative view of AI is rooted in a lack of trust in institutions. The incident highlights the complexities of regulating and communicating about AI. Industry leaders are struggling to address public concerns in a constructive manner. Transparency and regulation remain key themes in the development of these technologies. Users are demanding more control over how their inputs are processed and labeled. The controversy underscores the need for industry-wide standards on AI content identification.

Sources Slashdot.Slashdot

Also in Technology

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<https://arstechnica.com/space/2026/08/theres-a-huge-launch-crunch-right-now-and-it-will-probab...>

YouTube is changing how it counts views to give the numbers a boost

<https://www.theverge.com/streaming/981105/youtube-video-view-counting-update>

Reddit begins testing a new audio and video experience, similar to popular TikTok videos

<https://techcrunch.com/2026/08/17/reddit-begins-testing-a-new-audio-and-video-experience-simil...>

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Crypto hardware wallet owners face fresh security risks after recent spate of personal data thefts

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Apple ordered to stop scaring iPhone and iPad users away from third-party apps

<https://www.theverge.com/tech/980977/apple-app-tracking-transparency-settlement-germany>

Cursor launches Origin code hosting platform as GitHub outage exposes opening in AI coding race

<https://venturebeat.com/infrastructure/cursor-launches-origin-code-hosting-platform-as-github-...>

Finance 5 dispatches . 9 in brief

Jane Street Records Historic \$15 Billion Loss in July

Jane Street, a prominent high-frequency trading company, has suffered massive losses amounting to \$15 billion in July. This led to a historic slump for the firm, marking its first down month in a decade. The loss was primarily driven by wrong-way bets in Asian equity markets. Additionally, investments in Situational Awareness, a hedge fund also owned by Jane Street, contributed to the downturn. The company's positions were noted to mirror those held by Leopold Aschenbrenner before being acquired by Citadel. Robert Granier, CEO of Jane Street, downplayed the significance of the loss in public statements. However, partner Turner Batty acknowledged that the company had reduced risk-taking after the slump. Major investors including PIMCO, Capital Group, and Fidelity are involved with the organizations impacted. The significance of this event highlights the risks associated with high-frequency trading strategies. It shows the potential for market makers to create momentum in both directions. This can lead to significant losses when those bets go wrong during volatile periods. The incident underscores the importance of risk management in mitigating such losses. It also emphasizes the need for selective investment strategies in modern trading. The article suggests that Jane Street may double down on its momentum-chasing strategies. This could potentially exacerbate similar losses in the future if market conditions remain unstable.

Sources ZeroHedge

Copper Squeeze Deepens in London as Futures Near Record Highs

Copper prices in London have reached record highs, holding above \$14,000 per ton for nine consecutive sessions. This surge is driven by steep backwardation and a confluence of bullish drivers in the market. The key cash-to-three-month spread has widened to its highest level since the 2021 market squeeze. This signaling indicates that near-term demand is outstripping available supply significantly. Richard Garchitorena, a Barclays analyst, attributes the trend to constrained copper supplies globally. He cites production declines in Chile and Indonesia as major contributing factors. Delayed shipments due to severe weather have also exacerbated the supply issues. LME copper stockpiles have plummeted 32% from a month earlier according to recent data. Meanwhile, Comex inventories have risen 8% showing a divergence in regional storage. Speculative net-long positions have increased to 77,123 contracts, up 20% from July. Analysts, including David Wilson at BNP Paribas SA, believe the momentum may push prices even higher. Although some note that copper is approaching overbought territory technically. The market squeeze comes ahead of a critical delivery date for liquidity in the LME's contracts. This timing may pressure traders with short positions to cover their bets urgently. The copper price surge has significant implications for mining stocks and investors.

Sources ZeroHedge

Senator Rand Paul Verifies US Gold Stockpile at Fort Knox

For the first time in over 50 years, the contents of Fort Knox's gold stores have been verified. This verification occurred through an outside inspection led by Senator Rand Paul. The US Treasury Department recently stated that Fort Knox holds approximately 4,580 metric tons of gold. However, concerns about the accuracy of this claim led to Paul's inspection initiative. This marks a rare exception to the policy of not allowing independent audits of federal gold stores. Senator Rand Paul was given access to the vaults last week to confirm the holdings. The US Treasury Department has been criticized for avoiding transparency on its gold holdings. The location is Fort Knox, Kentucky, which houses a large portion of the US gold reserves. This development matters because it offers hope that a return to a commodity-backed currency standard might be possible. Such a move could potentially save the US economy from an inflationary spiral. Senator Paul's comments highlight concerns about the stability of the US economy since the credit crisis. He references the 2008-2009 crisis and the need for a more transparent understanding of monetary policies. The Fort Knox gold stores have remained a mystery sparking public concern over the years. Skepticism over the government's reported reserves has been prevalent among economists. This new development may lead to further scrutiny of the Treasury Department's handling of the reserves.

Sources ZeroHedge

Trump Threatens to Claim Hormuz Strait as US Territory

Iran has vowed to go on an offensive against the US in response to the ongoing conflict over the Strait of Hormuz. They threaten to escalate tensions if diplomacy fails to resolve the current standoff. Iranian forces have seized a UAE oil tanker in the Strait of Hormuz recently. Iran's Foreign Ministry has stated that the US-Iran agreement is effectively dead and irrelevant. President Trump has reiterated his declaration that he wants to make the Strait of Hormuz a US territory. He called the idea a great one despite criticism from international observers. The MoU between the US and Iran expired on Monday with Iran denying any intention of pursuing talks. Trump also threatened to bomb Oman if it gets in the way of US efforts to negotiate. He aims to strike a favorable peace deal with Iran through these aggressive tactics. Iranian drones have targeted Barzani's Erbil office in Iraq but no casualties were reported. Key people involved include President Trump

and Iranian officials like Esmaeil Baqaei. US Energy Secretary Wright is also involved in the discussions regarding energy security. The US and Iran are the primary organizations or locations involved in this conflict. The Strait of Hormuz remains a critical chokepoint for global energy supplies. Oman and Iraq are also implicated in the regional stability issues.

Sources ZeroHedge

Related Geopolitical Tensions Halt Global Rush to Renewable Energy

Geopolitical Tensions Halt Global Rush to Renewable Energy

The global economy has been forced to reassess its reliance on renewable energy alone for energy security. This follows the U.S.-Israel war on Iran and disruptions in fossil fuel supply chains. Countries are increasingly turning to stable producers like Canada for reliable fossil fuel supplies. Oil is becoming a valuable commodity once again in this shifting landscape. Canada's vast oil reserves and improving relations between Ottawa and Alberta have made it attractive. Major oil companies including ConocoPhillips and Continental Resources have welcomed the recent agreement. They cite improved risk profiles for investment in the region as a key factor. The shift is global with U.S. oil companies also ramping up production in response to rising prices. Veteran oilman Harold Hamm plans to increase capital expenditures by \$300 million due to higher prices. Norway a vocal advocate for renewable energy has reversed course on its policies. The country announced plans to reopen three North Sea gas fields by 2028. Critics argue that this move undermines climate goals set by international bodies. But the Iran crisis has exposed the deep dependence on fossil fuels for stability. The article highlights the growing importance of stable producers like Canada and the U.S. These nations are protecting economies from disruptions in global energy markets.

Sources ZeroHedge

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<https://www.businessinsider.com/fidji-simo-ai-curing-diseases-cancer-pots-dario-amodei-2026-8>

OpenAI president says companies should do 10 things ASAP to defend against AI cyber threats

<https://www.businessinsider.com/openai-president-greg-brockman-10-cybersecurity-tips-hugging-f...>

"Cash Crunch" Deepens? Mark Walter Explores Chelsea FC Stake Sale To Clearlake

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Half Of Typical US Family's Paycheck Swallowed By Housing, Childcare

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Google is buying Spirit Airlines' old data for \$10 million to improve its AI

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Trump Accuses BBC Of Harassing His Family In \$10bn Lawsuit

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Rugged robotic mules could make dangerous supply missions safer for US soldiers, but there are some things still to work out

<https://www.businessinsider.com/us-soldiers-ground-robots-for-resupply-missions-2026-8>

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<https://www.zerohedge.com/political/almost-60-democrats-have-favorable-view-socialism>

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Romania 3 dispatches . 5 in brief

Constitutional Court Validated Amendment Threatens Timișoara Mayor's Mandate

The Romanian Constitutional Court has validated a controversial amendment known as the "Fritz Amendment," introduced by the Social Democratic Party (PSD). This legal change implies that the current mayor of Timișoara, Dominic Fritz, could lose his mandate within 30 days of the law entering into force. The decision centers on incompatibility issues previously identified by the National Integrity Agency (ANI). Fritz has announced his intention to challenge this decision at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). He argues that applying the law retroactively violates constitutional principles regarding non-retroactivity. The USR party leadership has expressed shock and disappointment over the court's ruling. Minister Oana Țoiu stated that the decision undermines trust in public institutions. Despite the ruling, Fritz maintains that his mandate depends on the President's signature on the law. Theoretically, the President of Romania could send the law back to Parliament for reexamination. This situation highlights a significant clash between the judiciary and the executive branches. Political opponents view the amendment as a targeted move against opposition leaders. The validation of the amendment sets a precedent for future incompatibility cases. Legal experts warn that this could weaken accountability mechanisms for public officials. The timing of the decision coincides with other controversial rulings by the Court. Public reaction has been mixed, with supporters calling it judicial overreach. Critics argue it protects corrupt officials from facing consequences. The USR party vows to continue fighting the decision through all legal avenues. This ruling effectively keeps officials in office even if found incompatible under new conditions. It marks a significant shift in

how integrity laws are applied in Romania. The outcome will likely influence upcoming local and national elections.

Sources Biziday.Antena 3

Related Court Rules Public Access to Officials' Asset Declarations Unconstitutional

Court Rules Public Access to Officials' Asset Declarations Unconstitutional

In a separate but related decision, the Constitutional Court ruled on the transparency of asset declarations. The Court declared unconstitutional the public publication of financial interest declarations for high-ranking officials. This includes declarations from spouses and partners of public dignitaries. The reasoning cited conflicts with the right to privacy and data protection under the Constitution. Officials will still be required to file these declarations, but they will remain confidential. This ruling significantly reduces public access to information about officials' wealth. The amendment regarding partners was seen by some as targeting specific individuals like the Prime Minister's partner. Transparency advocates argue this move hinders the fight against corruption. The Court also invalidated the phrase regarding persons with relationships similar to spouses. This legal phrasing was deemed too imprecise by the judges. The decision aligns with previous rulings protecting the privacy of politicians' families. Opposition parties have criticized the measure as a step backward for transparency. The PSD party leadership had expressed support for publishing such declarations previously. This creates a contradiction between party rhetoric and the Court's outcome. The ruling affects all current and future high-ranking officials in Romania. It removes a key tool used by journalists and activists to monitor wealth accumulation. Legal scholars note the tension between privacy rights and public interest. The Court emphasized that confidential filing still ensures some level of oversight. However, the lack of public access limits external verification capabilities. This decision complements the Fritz amendment in reshaping integrity laws.

Sources Antena 3.Biziday

Related Constitutional Court Validated Amendment Threatens Timișoara Mayor's Mandate

Constitutional Court President Defends Meeting With Prime Minister Amid Criticism

The President of the Constitutional Court, Simina Tănăsescu, is facing intense criticism following a meeting with the Prime Minister. Interim Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan met with Tănăsescu to discuss administrative space allocation. Critics feared the meeting involved discussions about pending court cases. Tănăsescu has firmly denied discussing any legal dossiers during the encounter. She stated the conversation was strictly about office space needs for the Court. Bolojan also denied any improper interference in judicial matters. He described the meeting as routine administrative coordination. Despite explanations, calls for Tănăsescu's resignation have emerged from opposition parties. The High Court of Cassation and Justice requested clarification on the meeting. The Council of Superior Magistrates also demanded public transparency regarding the contact. Tănăsescu explained the meeting was not announced due to short notice. She described the situation as extremely constraining for the institution. The incident raises concerns about the

independence of the judiciary in Romania. Perceptions of collusion between the executive and judicial branches have intensified. Tănăsescu confirmed she has no intention of stepping down from her position. The controversy adds to the existing tension surrounding the Court's recent rulings. Observers note the timing coincides with decisions favorable to the governing coalition. Trust in the Constitutional Court has been eroded by these events. Both leaders insist the separation of powers remains intact. The fallout continues to dominate political discourse in Bucharest.

Sources Biziday.HotNews.ro

Also in Romania

Cristi Danileț, despre „eminențele cenușii” după decizia CCR în cazul lui Fritz: Cine va fi desemnat „să facă un contorsionism să ne convingă că albul e negru”

<https://hotnews.ro/cristi-danilet-despre-eminentele-cenusii-dupa-decizia-ccr-in-cazul-lui-fritz...>

Șefa CCR, despre mandatul lui Dominic Fritz după decizia pe legea ANI. „Așa e redactată legea în prezent”

<https://hotnews.ro/sefa-ccr-despre-mandatul-lui-dominic-fritz-dupa-decizia-de-astazi-asa-e-red...>

„Certitudinea” unui ministru USR, după decizia CCR care îl poate lăsa pe Fritz fără mandatul de primar. „Șocul este mare”

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Liderul AUR care anticipează „o bătălie în interiorul USR” între Nicușor Dan și Ilie Bolojan, după decizia CCR: „Va fi dură”

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„Se încearcă să se facă din țânțar armăsar”. Ce spune Bolojan despre întâlnirea cu șefa CCR, Simina Tănăsescu

<https://www.antena3.ro/politica/se-incearca-sa-se-faca-din-tantar-armasar-ce-spune-bolojan-des...>

General 5 dispatches . 10 in brief

Meta Faces Landmark Trial Over Child Mental Health Impact

Meta is facing a landmark legal challenge that could fundamentally change Instagram and Facebook. A coalition of over 30 states has launched a lawsuit aiming to hold the tech giant accountable. The case centers on the platform's impact on young people's mental health. Internal research by Meta shared in court documents links like counts to feelings of rejection. These metrics can drive social comparison leading to negative self-worth. A 9-year-old girl named Kaley described feeling depressed after seeing her online engagement metrics. She had created fake accounts to manipulate likes on her posts. Judge Biedscheid has deemed Meta's platforms a public nuisance. This ruling cites their role in

exacerbating the youth mental health crisis. Key people involved include Kaley and her lawyers alongside Judge Gonzalez Rogers. Attorneys from 30 more states are participating in the lawsuit. Organizations such as Meta are directly implicated in the proceedings. This matter matters because social media companies have a significant influence on interaction. Their impact on young people's mental health is becoming increasingly clear. The outcome could force permanent changes to how features like likes function.

Sources BBC News

Trump Threatens Military Action Against Ally Oman Over Iran Talks

US President Donald Trump has issued a startling threat against a key ally. He stated he would bomb Oman if it gets in the way of Iran deal talks. The administration is focused on reopening the Strait of Hormuz. This waterway is crucial for the global economy. About a fifth of the world's oil passes through the strait. Oman borders the southern side of the Strait and has been negotiating with Tehran. They have been playing a key role as a mediator. Trump made the threat during a phone interview with Fox News. This occurred after Iranian officials said they were close to finalizing a deal with Oman. The future of talks between the US and Iran is unclear. There is an expiring 60-day Memorandum of Understanding complicating matters. Trump claimed that the US has a direct backchannel with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. Iran denies the existence of such a backchannel. This incident raises concerns about Trump's leadership and diplomacy. The situation remains volatile with tensions at a high level.

Sources BBC News

Hayden Panettiere Found Dead at 36 Following Years of Public Struggles

Actress Hayden Panettiere has passed away at the age of 36. Tributes have been paid by colleagues such as Oscar winner Viola Davis. Panettiere died in Greenville, South Carolina. There were no signs of foul play or suspicious circumstances according to police. The cause of death has not been released but is believed to be related to cardiac arrest. An acquaintance placed the 911 call after finding her unresponsive. Police and medical crews attempted to resuscitate Panettiere but were unsuccessful. The Greenville County Coroner's Office confirmed advanced life support measures were initiated. The investigation has not revealed any signs of trauma. This tragic loss highlights the devastating impact of substance abuse. Panettiere had spoken publicly about the emotional toll of acting. Her role in Nashville mirrored her real-life experiences. The character Juliette Barnes was praised for being believably flawed. However, the role brought up traumatic memories for Panettiere. She struggled with anxiety and addiction at the time of filming.

Sources BBC News BBC News

Ballon d'Or Winner Rodri Completes Record Move to Barcelona

Spanish midfielder Rodri has completed his move from Manchester City to FC Barcelona. He agreed on a £65m deal and a four-year contract with the La Liga champions. Rodri expressed his excitement to join his dream team. He aims to win major titles including the Champions League. The 30-year-old won the 2024 Ballon d'Or. He joins Barcelona after spending seven seasons at City. During that time he won 12 major honors. These honors included four Premier League titles. Rodri's signing is a significant coup for Barcelona. The club had initially rejected City's offer of £38.5m. Real Madrid was also reportedly interested in the midfielder. They ultimately fell behind Barcelona in the pursuit. The deal marks a new chapter in Rodri's career. With his arrival Barcelona bolster their midfield. This transfer is significant due to its high profile nature.

Sources BBC News

UK Prime Minister Burnham Contacted Impersonator of Trump Aide

Prime Minister Andy Burnham exchanged messages with someone posing as Susie Wiles. Wiles is the chief of staff to US President Donald Trump. Burnham did not realize it was an impersonation initially. The communication took place before Burnham became suspicious. Only a few messages were exchanged during the incident. A government spokesperson declined to comment on the security breach. Downing Street confirmed that no significant messages were exchanged. The conversation was quickly reported to authorities. The incident has raised concerns about potential security breaches. These concerns affect both the UK and US governments. Susie Wiles had previously reported her phone being hacked. A White House official stated the latest incident had nothing to do with that hack. This incident comes amid ongoing concerns about cyber espionage. The UK government has taken steps to secure sensitive information. Investigations are ongoing to determine the source of the impersonation.

Sources BBC News

[Related](#) Trump Threatens Military Action Against Ally Oman Over Iran Talks

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Princess Eugenie announces name of baby daughter

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Wildfire phone alert was 'entirely appropriate', government says

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Does Reform's plan to cut £50bn in welfare spending add up?

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Norway's king admitted to hospital and put on sick leave

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Lennon criticises 'nasty' Scottish Labour as leadership bid fails

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Boy, seven, among four injured after crash that killed five teenagers

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Man City move for £85m Bouaddi and still want Fernandez

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End of briefing. News Digest . 18 stories . 34 in brief . 4 sections