

# Femtosecond IN THE NEWS

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## World News

China continues to expand its military options for the conquest of Taiwan. Case in point, the communist giant has researched a conventional hydrogen-based bomb that causes extensive thermal damage [1]. This comes as the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dan Caine, warned the US lacks the ability to deter China [2].

In Iran, a massive explosion at the port of Bandar Abbas, killed at least 14 people [3]. The explosion occurred in an area tied to a charity overseen by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's office [4].

North Korea has confirmed it has deployed troops to Russia [5]. Additionally, the two countries are also constructing an interconnecting bridge [6]. Separately, the North Korean leader observed the launch of short range ballistic missiles that impacted in the area between the Korean Peninsula and Japan [7].

On May 7, India launched attacks on Pakistan in response to a terrorist attack in the Kashmir [8]. One report suggests Pakistan's Karachi Port was damaged during an Indian attack [9]. Another report indicates two Indian warplanes were shot down by Chinese made Pakistani aircraft [10]. Meanwhile, India accused Pakistan of using drones to attack three bases [11]. The fighting included exchange of artillery fire [12]. On May 10, Pakistan accused India of attacking its military bases [13]. Finally, President Trump announced a cease fire between the India and Pakistan [14].

1. Honrada, Gabriel, Asia Times, *China's new hydrogen bomb aims to shock*

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## Middle-East War

The US attacks on Yemen continued. For example, attacks on the capital killed at least 12 people [1]. This comes as a Houthi launched ballistic missile was intercepted over the Israel city of Haifa [2].

On May 4, the Houthis used a ballistic missile that struck near Ben-Gurion Airport [3]. They later announced an aerial blockade around Israel airspace [4]. In response, Israel forces dropped around 50 munitions on terror targets in Yemen [5]. Then Israel struck the airport in Yemen's Houthi-controlled capital Sanaa causing an estimate \$500 million in damage [6].

The USS Harry S Truman lost an F/A-18E Super Hornet fighter jet [7]. On May 6, the same aircraft carrier lost a second F/A 18E aircraft [8]. Finally, Oman mediated a ceasefire between the US and Yemen [9].

On April 27, Israeli forces struck Hezbollah targets located in Beirut [10]. Later, Israel conducted strikes in Southern Lebanon [11].

1. Gambrell, Jon, AP, *US airstrikes killed 12 people in Yemen's capital, the Houthi rebels say*, April 21, 2025.
2. Fabian, Emanuel, The Times of Israel, *In first, Houthi ballistic missile triggers sirens in Haifa; IDF says intercepted*, April 23, 2025.
3. Blair, Anthony, The New York Post, *Israeli, May 4, 2025*.
4. Reuters, *Yemen's Houthis announce campaign targeting Israeli*

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### Special points of interest:

- Tariffs
- India and Pakistan Conflict

## Middle-East War

(Continued from page 1)

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5. Bob, Yonah Jeremy, The Jerusalem Post, *Israel, US carry out joint counterstrike on Houthis in Yemen following Ben-Gurion Airport hit*, May 5, 2025.
  6. Freiberg, Nava, et. al., The Times of Israel, *Houthis, assessing \$500 million damage from Israeli strikes on airport, vow response*, May 7, 2025.
  7. CBS News, *USS Truman aircraft carrier loses \$60M fighter jet in Red Sea, Navy says*, April 29, 2025.
  8. Bertrand, Natasha, et. al., CNN, *Second US Navy jet is lost at sea from Truman aircraft carrier*, May 6, 2025.
  9. NBC News/Reuters, *Oman says it mediated a ceasefire between U.S., Yemen's Houthis*, May 6, 2025.
  10. Bachega, Hugo, & Rawnsley, Jessica, BBC,

*Israel launches air strike on Beirut*, April 27, 2025.

11. AP, *Israel carries out deadly airstrikes against suspected Hezbollah positions in southern Lebanon*, May 8, 2025.

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- and awe Taiwan*, April 21, 2025.
2. Gertz, Bill, The Washington Times, *New Pentagon chairman: U.S. lacks ability to deter adversaries*, April 15, 2025.
  3. Gharagozlou, Leila, et. al., CNN, *Massive explosion at Iranian port kills 14 and injures hundreds*, April 26, 2025.
  4. Gambrell, Jon, AP, *The epicenter of an explosion at an Iranian port is tied to a charity overseen by its supreme leader*, April 30, 2025.
  5. Kim, Jack, Reuters, *North Korea confirms troop deployment to Russia as Putin hails 'heroes'*, April 28, 2025.
  6. NBC News/Reuters, *New Russia-North Korea bridge will boost economic cooperation, both countries say*, May 1, 2025.
  7. Kim, Hyung-Jin, & Tong-Hyung, Kim, AP, *North Korea launches multiple ballistic missiles after Kim vowed to bolster war readiness*, May 11, 2025.
  8. Mogul, V, et. al., CNN, *India launches attacks on Pakistan after Kashmir massacre*, May 7, 2025.
  9. The Economic Times, *Karachi Port significantly damaged due to Indian strike, Pakistan's official port account posts*, May 9, 2025.
  10. Shah, Saeed & Ali, Idrees, Reuters, *Pakistan's Chinese-made jet brought down two Indian fighter aircraft, US officials say*, May 8, 2025.
  11. Biswas, Soutik, BBC, *The first drone war opens a new chapter in India-Pakistan conflict*, May 9, 2025.
  12. Hussain, Aijaz, et. al., AP, *Indian and Pakistan troops swap intense artillery fire*, May 9, 2025.

13. Sangal, Aditi, et. al., CNN, *Pakistan launches fresh military action, claiming India hit its military bases*, May 10, 2025.
14. Joles, Betsy, & Kuchay, Bilal, NPR, *Trump says the U.S. helped broker ceasefire between India and Pakistan*, May 10, 2025.

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*There is no friendship in trade.—Cornelius Vanderbilt*

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## Terrorism

In the Himalayan region of Jammu and Kashmir, terrorists open fire on a group of tourists, killing at least one person [1]. The death toll rose to 26 and India named three militants behind the attack [2]. In response, India retaliated against Pakistan. For example, the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty was suspended, cutting off water to Pakistan [3].

In Moscow, General-lieutenant Yaroslav Moskalik, deputy head of the main operational directorate of the military's General Staff, was killed in a car bomb attack [4]. One report indicates Russia arrested a Ukrainian special services agent for the bombing [5].

In Vancouver, Canada, several people were killed when a 30-year-old male drove his car into a crowd attending a Filipino culture festival [6]. The suspect was charged with murder in the attack that killed at least 11 people [7].

1. Mitra, Esha, et. al., CNN, *Gunmen open fire on tourists in Himalayan region, killing at least one, police say*, April 22, 2025.
2. Reuters, *Pahalgam attack: Kashmir police name three militants, say two are Pakistani*, April 24, 2025.
3. Patelm, Shivam, & Bukhari, Fayaz, Reuters, *Pakistan minister calls India's suspension of river treaty 'water warfare'*, April 24, 2025.
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5. Butenko, Victoria, & Rios, Michael, CNN, *Suspect in Russian general's killing is 'Ukrainian special*

*services agent,' Russian state media report*, April 26, 2025.

6. Lukiv, Jaroslav, & Rossiter, Emma, BBC, *'Mass casualty incident' as car driven into Vancouver street festival*, April 27, 2025.
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*'Capitalism' is a dirty  
word for many  
intellectuals, but there are  
a number of studies  
showing that open  
economies and free trade  
are negatively correlated  
with genocide and war.—  
Steven Pinker*

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## Economy

The trade war between the US and China is still a hot issue. Case in point, China is threatening to retaliate against any country that follows the US in the trade war [1]. Trade talks between China and the US are expected on the weekend of May 10 – 11 [2].

The first trade deal, announced on May 8, was between the US and the UK [3]. Regarding other countries, there is no timeline indicating when deals will be announced.

1. Cheng, Evelyn, CNBC, *China vows retaliation against countries that follow*

*U.S. calls to isolate Beijing, April 20, 2025.*

2. Popli, Nik, Time, *Trump Officials Set to Meet With Chinese Negotiators in Geneva. Don't Expect a Trade Deal*, May 9, 2025.
3. BBC News, *UK-US trade deal a 'huge relief', minister says, as businesses call for more clarity*, May 9, 2025.

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*Unfair trade agreements, passed by both Republicans and Democrats, have sent millions of jobs to other countries. We need to stop this hemorrhaging and find ways for American workers to compete in the new market.—Russ Feingold*

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