

[Israeli secret service says it captured plot leader in Iran, foiling attack](#)

JERUSALEM: Israel said on Thursday its Mossad intelligence service carried out an operation in Iran to capture the suspected leader of an Iranian plot to attack Israeli businesspeople in Cyprus and thwart the attack.

"In a unique operation on Iranian soil, the Mossad captured the head of the cell, who, during an investigation, gave a detailed confession that led to the exposure and dismantlement of the terrorist cell behind the Cyprus attack," the Mossad said in a statement.

Iranian officials were not immediately available for comment.

[Red Cross facilitates release of 125 Sudanese soldiers captured by paramilitary force](#)

CAIRO: The International Committee of the Red Cross said Thursday it had facilitated the release of 125 Sudanese army soldiers held captive by the country's rival paramilitary force.

The soldiers walked free on Wednesday, the ICRC said, as the violent conflict between the army, led by Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, commanded by Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, enters its 11th week.

[UAE, Make-A-Wish Foundation launch 'Joy of Eid' initiative](#)

DUBAI: Seven children with chronic illnesses were given a day to remember on Thursday thanks to the "Joy of Eid" initiative launched by the Emirates Foundation and Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The youngsters and their families were treated to a day of fun at the Adrenark Adventure indoor park in Abu Dhabi, Emirates News Agency reported.

Lebanon economic crisis worsened by vested interests, IMF says

UNRWA chief visits France

PARIS: Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner-general of UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, visited France for the first time as the agency's chief.

During his two-day visit, Lazzarini met with high-level French government officials, as well as members of the National Assembly, the Senate, and civil society.