Gaza floods destroy 70,000 tents; Trump open to immigration deal after midterms wipeout; Saudi strikes kill 21 children in Yemeni village

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Iran

· **U.S. forces again target Qeshm Island:** U.S. forces fired "projectiles" towards Qeshm Island in the Strait of Hormuz on Sunday night, causing at least four explosions, Iranian state media said.

  · Iranian officials said U.S. forces targeted several areas outside residential and commercial zones on Qeshm. "No damage was caused to the island's vital and service infrastructure," Ahmad Nafisi, deputy governor of Hormozgan province, told state broadcaster IRIB.

  · Residents on Qeshm Island reported hearing several explosions late Sunday evening, Iranian state media reported.

· **U.S. strikes affecting availability of essential medicines:** Recent U.S. strikes have damaged 15 drug-manufacturing companies and eight distribution firms, Iran's Food and Drug Administration said.

  · As a result of the attacks, Iran is facing difficulties in providing 37 out of some 700 types of essential medicine, an agency's spokesperson told the Tasnim news agency.

· **Mojtaba Khamenei urges resolution on stalemate:** Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei issued new directives on ending the state of "neither war nor peace" with the U.S., Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said.

  · "The supreme leader ordered us to end the no-war, no-peace situation," he said on Monday, according to Iranian media reports.

  · Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi urged Washington to accept Tehran's two-day proposal to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and said there have been no changes in Iran's position.

- "American voters have made their choice. Time for the White House to make its own. Our 2-day proposal stands: meet the requirements, including end to war on all fronts, and you will see results. Or choose war, and see our alert and battle-hardened Warriors rain down hell," Araghchi wrote on X.

· **Trump says renewed attack on Iran "highly unlikely" if talks progress:** President Donald Trump told CNN in a phone interview that as long as Washington sees progress in negotiations with Tehran it is "highly unlikely it's going to be necessary" to resume strikes.

- Trump nevertheless added that the U.S. had identified infrastructure targets, including 38 bridges, that it would strike if military action resumes.
- The prime minister of Qatar, which has helped lead mediation efforts to end the war, arrived in Washington, DC, on Monday to meet Trump and Vice President JD Vance.

· **Iran hangs three men in connection with anti-government protests:** In Karaj on Sunday, Iran hanged three men convicted on charges related to nationwide anti-government protests in January, state TV reported.

- The three were convicted of armed riot, damage to public properties, and cooperation with Israel and the United States during the demonstrations. Iran has hanged more than two dozen people on similar charges this year alone.

Palestine

· **Killed and wounded in Gaza:** Over the past 24 hours, Israeli attacks killed three Palestinians—two in new attacks and one due to wounds sustained in an earlier attack—and injured 15 others across Gaza, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

- The total recorded death toll since October 7, 2023, has risen to 74,643 killed and 175,962 injured. Since October 11, 2025, the first full day of the so-called ceasefire, Israel has killed at least 1,613 Palestinians in Gaza and wounded 5,833, while 849 bodies have been recovered.

· **Five Palestinians killed amid heavy rains:** On Sunday, at least five Palestinians, including four children, were killed in Deir al-Balah, in central Gaza, after a sand cliff collapsed onto makeshift tents where displaced families were sheltering, Al Jazeera reported. The sand cliff collapse was triggered by heavy winter rains.

- An unknown number of people are reportedly still missing under the massive pile of sand and rock. Civil defense workers and nearby residents searched through the rubble, largely working with their bare hands.
- "This is a scene that should shame the conscience of humanity," the Gaza Government Media Office said in a statement on Monday.

· **70,000 tents flood as winter storm hits Gaza:** Around 70,000 tents were flooded within 12 hours when the first winter storm of the season hit Gaza this weekend, according to Gaza's Government Media Office. Civil Defense received over 2,100 distress calls and declared a maximum state of emergency.

- Dozens of displacement encampments—tents, shelters, and entire residential areas—were flooded by the heavy rains, Civil Defense said. In some areas, water levels rose 1.5 meters.
- In a statement, Save the Children said, "This is not simply the result of bad weather. Tents, shelter kits and fuel are waiting at Gaza's borders while children sleep in floodwater, because the Israeli authorities are blocking their entry. This is a choice, and children are paying the price. More than a year into the so-called ceasefire, it has failed to protect Palestinian children."

· **Transport companies announce suspension of services:** The Ministry of Health in Gaza said on Sunday it has received reports from a number of approved transport companies announcing the complete suspension of services. The companies attributed the decision to the accumulation of non-payment of their dues, and a large number of vehicles being put out of service due to frequent breakdowns, and an acute shortage of spare parts, oils, and tires.

- The Health Ministry warned of "serious and unprecedented repercussions that threaten the work of hospitals and primary health care centers."

· **80% of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons infected with scabies:** About 80% of Palestinians detained in Israeli prisons, including women and children, are infected with scabies, the Palestinian Prisoner's Society (PPS) reported on Sunday. Israeli authorities routinely deny adequate treatment, clothing, and hygiene facilities to Palestinian prisoners.

- Based on lawyers' visits throughout October and early November, PPS also documented violent raids every two to three days in some prison sections, with prisoners subjected to severe beatings, attacks by police dogs, rubber-coated bullets and gas. They also found systematic food deprivation, with prisoners receiving severely

inadequate quantities and quality of food, and severe overcrowding, with prisoner forced to sleep on floors while guards confiscate mattresses during the day.

· **Herzog taps Eisenkot to form new Israeli government:** Israeli President Isaac Herzog on Saturday formally gave Gadi Eisenkot the first opportunity to form a new government. Eisenkot now has 28 days plus a possible 14-day extension from the president. If he is unable to form a government, Netanyahu could then be given a chance to put together a coalition. If Netanyahu is also unable to do so, new elections could be called.

- Eisenkot has said that parties can join his coalition if they agree to four conditions: recognition of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state; a duty of national service for all; recognition of Hamas as a terrorist organization; and a commitment to destroying Hamas's military and governing capacity.
- Netanyahu's Likud Party won the most seats of any single party, while his wider coalition won 53 seats, short of a 61-seat majority in the 120-seat parliament. Eisenkot's Yashar party emerged as the second-largest party with 21 seats, while his coalition, won a total of 48 seats. Two parties representing Palestinian citizens of Israel won an unprecedented 19 seats.
- Israel's new members of Knesset will be sworn in on Tuesday evening. Netanyahu and his cabinet will remain in office in a caretaker capacity, with limited powers, until a new ruling coalition is formed.

Yemen

· **At least 44 killed in Saudi strikes on Yemeni village:** Airstrikes blamed on Saudi Arabia that hit homes in a Yemeni village near the capital of Sana'a killed at least 44 people, including 21 children, the Health Ministry in Sana'a said on Sunday. It was one of the deadliest attacks in the latest phase of the war, according to the Associated Press.

- The strikes on the village of al-Shariya, east of the capital, also wounded 40 people, including eight children and nine women, the Health Ministry said. Rescue teams are still searching for missing people, and the death toll could rise.
- At least 91 airstrikes targeted six Yemeni governorates in the 24 hours from Saturday to Sunday, Ansarallah military spokesman Yahya Saree said in a statement on Sunday. He added that the total number of Saudi-led coalition attacks since the latest escalation in the war in September was at 4,460.

· **Aramco headquarters damaged in Riyadh:** Several floors of Saudi oil giant Aramco's corporate office in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, were damaged on Sunday in what the energy ministry said was debris from an attempt to attack the building, according to Reuters.

    · Ansrallah military spokesperson Yahya Saree said on Sunday that Ansarallah had hit Riyadh's financial district, where Aramco's headquarters is located, and other targets in response to recent Saudi attacks that have killed and injured dozens of people.

U.S. News

· **Trump diagnoses midterms loss, talks future immigration deal with Democrats on 60 Minutes:** In an interview with 60 Minutes' **Ross Douthat** on Sunday, President Trump discussed his party's historic midterm loss earlier in the week. In part, he attributed the loss to the Iran War, saying that voters "didn't like the war." "They didn't like the fact that gasoline went up," he said, while noting what he called the "great dislike…for Israel." In reference to a post-mortem from Vice President **JD Vance** posted on X last week, which singled out the Iran war, Trump said he would have made the same decision again, though he said he would have made the same post in Vance's position, and that he "liked" Vance's comments.

    · Trump acknowledged that his immigration-enforcement policy was "too tough" and likely cost his party in the midterms. He said he was open to a comprehensive immigration-reform deal that would secure the border, while allowing some immigrant workers to remain in the U.S. if they do not have a criminal record and have been living in the country for some time.

· **And yet: Stephen Miller to replace Susie Wiles as White House chief of staff:** On Friday, Trump announced that **Miller**, previously his homeland security adviser and deputy chief of staff, will replace **Susie Wiles** as the White House chief of staff. In a Truth Social post, Trump said that Miller "gets it very good politically" and is a "great manager." Wiles likely wouldn't have been ousted if Republicans had performed better in the midterm elections, one source told Politico. And another source said that Trump was frustrated that she has acted as a "restraining bull." Miller, 41, has been a key adviser to Trump over both of his presidential terms and is the principal architect of Trump's hardline immigration policy.

· **Clean energy bill moves toward passage:** The Senate has released a so-called manager's amendment of a permitting-reform bill called the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA). The new version of the bill primarily seeks to address concerns around tribal

rights. The clean-energy industry solidly supports BAAJA, though some environmental groups whose focus is blocking energy projects continue to object to it.

- The bill has the backing of Environment and Public Works Chair **Shelley Moore Capito** (R-W.Va.) and Ranking Member Sen. **Sheldon Whitehouse** (D-R.I.), as well as Energy and Natural Resources Chair Sen. **Mike Lee** (R-Utah) and Ranking Member **Martin Heinrich** (D-N.M.). Backers of the bill are optimistic that it could pass within the next two weeks, and they worry that pushing it to the next session would doom it.
- The argument against the environmentalist objections is straightforward: Efforts to transition away from fossil fuels and toward clean energy by relying on litigation and regulation will backfire politically if those efforts drive up the costs of energy, as the midterms just demonstrated. Only by allowing clean energy to outbuild dirty energy can the transition be made feasible. That requires beating back some of the powerful community groups that have been able to block clean energy projects.
- The advocates further argue that the current laws obviously do not prevent the fossil-fuel industry from building dirty-energy infrastructure.

· **Trump orders DOJ investigation of Democratic lawmakers:** On Saturday, President Trump said that he ordered the Justice Department to look into "criminal acts" by Democratic lawmakers. In a Truth Social post, he said that Democrats' threats of investigations and impeachment are "extortion at the highest level." He singled out Sen. **Elissa Slotkin** (D-Mich.), accusing her of threatening young conservatives. and said that "imprisonment should be against these EXTORTIONISTS." During an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union" on Sunday, Attorney General **Todd Blanche** acknowledged Congress' oversight authority, but said that Democrats' rhetoric crossed a line. He refused to rule out the possibility that the DOJ would prosecute Democratic lawmakers for trying to investigate the Trump administration. Blanche said, "I would be very worried if I was a member" of the Oversight Committee. He added that the DOJ will provide legal defense to Trump officials facing scrutiny from Democrats.

· **In Alaska Senate race, Peltola leads by "a couple of hundred votes":** Alaska Governor **Mike Dunleavy** told a local radio station on Sunday that the state's Senate race remains "very close," with Democrat **Mary Peltola** up by roughly "a couple of hundred votes." Seventy percent of the votes are counted in the first round, after which ranked-choice voting preferences kick in. Further votes will be counted over the next two weeks. According to Decision Desk HQ, Peltola is barely leading Sen. **Dan Sullivan**. She has won about 48.2% of votes, and Sen. Sullivan has won 47.9%.

- Separately on Friday, Mary Peltola's campaign announced that it is suing the state to obtain access to records for absentee ballots that were rejected by Alaska's Division of Elections. The campaign claims that it sought access to the ballots multiple times but was denied, and that access is necessary to "ensure voters' lawful votes were properly counted." The state responded to the lawsuit in a press release on Friday, saying it was not constitutionally obligated to provide the information "in the manner requested by the campaign."

· **House Republican leaders expect impeachment of War Secretary Pete Hegseth:** House GOP leadership expects Republican defections to enable the impeachment of War Secretary **Pete Hegseth**, Axios reported. Outgoing Republicans have little to lose, and there is considerable animosity for Hegseth. Rep. **Don Bacon**, a retiring Republican from Nebraska, told Fox News that Hegseth didn't "have a lot of love" on the Hill. Rep. **Thomas Massie** plans to force an impeachment vote this week, accusing Hegseth of defying Congress, and of illegally continuing the Iran war. Hegseth has called the planned impeachment effort a "sham." Hegseth's removal by impeachment would require 67 votes in favor in the Senate.

· **Chuck Schumer says he has enough Democratic support to become majority leader; Chris Van Hollen opens door to a challenge:** Aides to Senate Minority Leader **Chuck Schumer** (D-N.Y.) told the New York Times on Saturday that the 75-year-old has secured commitments from enough senators to win another term as leader of the Democratic Party's Senate Caucus. Schumer has served in that capacity since 2017, and previously served as Majority Leader from 2021 to 2025. The announcement follows a push to change the party's Senate leadership, with a movement underway to draft Maryland Sen. **Chris Van Hollen,** Politico Playbook reported on Monday. Von Hollen had previously declined to challenge Schumer, hinting at a presidential run instead, but a Van Hollen adviser said that he had "received an outpouring of calls and is now in active listening mode. The door is not shut." About a third of Democratic voters view Schumer favorably, according to a May poll from New York Times/Siena.

· **ICE detains 8-year-old Haitian boy at scheduled immigration appointment:** ICE detained an 8-year-old boy as he was arriving at a scheduled immigration appointment in San Diego, Calif., last week, KPBS reported. A volunteer court observer filmed the incident, and said that she had "never watched a child by himself get detained in that manner." The boy, originally from Haiti, has lived in San Diego with his uncle since his father was deported in March 2025. The Department of Homeland Security says that his uncle lacked legal custody, so the boy was treated as an unaccompanied minor and taken into the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement "out of an abundance of caution." The San Diego Unified School district and other local officials demanded the boy's release to his uncle in a letter to DHS

Secretary **Markwayne Mullin** and Health and Human Services Secretary **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.**

· **U.S. deportation flight of Iranians abruptly canceled:** At least eight Iranians were loaded onto a plane in Mesa, Ariz., in a deportation flight bound for Pakistan, before the flight was abruptly canceled, **Ali Rahnama**, a lawyer for the Iranian American Legal Defense Fund, said. The administration said as recently as mid-October that it planned to deport Iranians to Iran through a third country, according to unsealed court documents.

· **Trump admin officials reportedly aware of Nvidia CEO's affair with Chinese spy:** Secretary of State **Marco Rubio** oversaw the drafting of a classified memo warning administration officials that Nvidia CEO **Jensen Huang** had a close relationship with a Chinese spy, the New York Times reported. The memo, circulated this spring ahead of Trump's trip to China in May, drew on electronic surveillance of **Alice Huang** (no relation to Jensen Huang), a Chinese citizen and senior executive at the Singapore-based company Megaspeed, which bought about $2 billion in Nvidia chips and is suspected of helping smuggle restricted chips into China. U.S. officials concluded that Alice Huang was recruited by China's Ministry of State Security. On Sunday, Nvidia opened an investigation in Huang after he acknowledged he had been intimate with her, with the company saying that it has "no reason to believe that either national security or Nvidia secrets were compromised." Trump was briefed on the matter about a year ago and took no action.

📥 Have a tip on Capitol Hill? Email DC Correspondent Julian Andreone at Julian@dropsitenews.com.

Other International News

· **Attack on gas field causes widespread power outages in Iraq's Kurdish region:** An attack on the Khor Mor gas field in northern Iraq's Kurdish region was targeted by a drone attack late on Sunday, taking the facility offline and causing widespread power outages, the AP reported.

  · No casualties were announced, and the extent of the damage was not immediately clear. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

· **Sudanese Armed Forces advances against Rapid Support Forces in West Kordofan:** On Sunday, the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and its allies fought heavy battles with the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Abu Minaiqir, about 34 miles north of El-Khuwei in West Kordofan, the Sudan Tribune reported. The SAF also said that it shot down a

long-range drone near Wad Banda, its third interception in Kordofan in 72 hours, as it pushes west to secure routes for future operations in Darfur.

· **SAF detains Bashir-era official wanted by International Criminal Court:** The SAF said on Sunday that it had detained Ahmed Haroun, chair of former President Omar al-Bashir's National Congress Party, who is wanted by the International Criminal Court over alleged war crimes and genocide in Darfur in the early 2000s, Reuters reported. It was unclear why the SAF moved against Haroun, whose Islamist movement has fought alongside it against the RSF.

· **Migrant boat sinks off Senegal, killing at least 34:** On Saturday, at least 34 people died when a wooden pirogue carrying migrants and refugees capsized off the Loumpoul dunes in Senegal's Kébémer department, between Dakar and Saint-Louis. The Interior Ministry said that one person was rescued.

· **Bangladeshi ex-PM Sheikh Hasina, who fled country in disgrace after repressing protesters, requests new passport to return:** On Monday, former Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina asked Bangladesh's embassy in New Delhi to issue her a new passport and national identity card, Reuters reported. It is the clearest indication yet that she plans to return to Bangladesh, where she would almost certainly surrender before a court. As prime minister, she ordered a deadly crackdown on 2024 student-led protests, and last year a Bangladeshi court sentenced her to death in absentia for her role in the repression. During the protests, Hasina resigned as prime minister and fled to India.

· **Drone attack on Colombian military base kills three soldiers:** A drone strike on a military base in Santa Rosa del Sur, in northern Colombia, killed three soldiers and wounded at least 16 other soldiers, the Colombian armed forces said on Saturday. Colombian officials blamed the National Liberation Army for the attack. The drone strike follows a strike on the group inside Venezuelan territory last month. It is the latest in a wave of attacks on security forces since conservative President Abelardo de la Espriella took office in August. Since assuming power, de la Espriella has canceled peace talks and escalated military operations against armed groups.

· **Guatemalan lawmaker, three police officers killed in attack:** Gunmen killed Guatemalan congressman Julio César Portillo Paz, of the right-wing National Unity of Hope Party, and three National Civil Police officers in an attack in Río Hondo, Zacapa, on Friday, Reuters reported. President Bernardo Arévalo ordered security forces to assist prosecutors in identifying those responsible. The killings come three weeks after former anti-corruption prosecutor Juan Francisco Solórzano Foppa was shot dead in Guatemala City, fueling fears of a new wave of political assassinations.

· **Mexico arrests alleged Jalisco cartel leader linked to 19 killings:** Mexican forces arrested Rafael Álvarez, the alleged head of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel's "Los Rs" cell, along with 19 others in an operation in Zapopan on Sunday. The operation relied on intelligence from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Mexican Navy said. Security Minister Omar García Harfuch said that Álvarez, who was wounded in a shootout during the arrest and faces a U.S. extradition warrant, is linked to at least 19 killings, including last year's murder of Carlos Manzo, the mayor of Uruapan, in Michoacán.

· **Russian strikes cause power outages for hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians:** Russian strikes on energy facilities have caused power outages for more than 600,000 people in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region and 250,000 in the Kharkiv, Ukrainian officials and energy company DTEK said. The strikes followed a huge Russian assault on Saturday that cut power in five regions, which President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said was aimed at pressuring Kyiv ahead of U.S.-brokered peace talks in Abu Dhabi this week.

· **Poland opens terrorism investigation after gunman kills six in Krakow:** The National Prosecutor's Office announced that it is investigating the deadly Krakow shooting as a terrorist attack. On Saturday, a 24-year-old Polish gunman opened fire in Krakow's historic city center, killing six people, including a British national, and wounding 15 others. After the attack, police found the bodies of the suspect's parents and sister at his home in Ostrowiec Świętokrzyski. He was wounded in a gunfight with police, and died of his wounds on Monday.

· **200,000+ people march in Amsterdam demanding action against Israel:** On Sunday, more than 200,000 people marched through Amsterdam in a protest calling on the Dutch government to halt all arms sales to Israel and to tighten trade restrictions with the country over its genocidal war on Gaza. Prime Minister Rob Jetten, who participated in the march last year but was not present on Sunday, defended his government's record on Gaza, saying that it was exerting "greater political and diplomatic pressure" on Israel.