



Monday, March 17, 2025

1. The White House said it deported immigrants under the Alien Enemies Act.

This weekend: President Donald Trump secretly signed a proclamation invoking the act from 1798. Then a judge barred him from using it to deport alleged Venezuelan gang members.

The latest: Trump officials said 137 immigrants were expelled to El Salvador using the act. It raises questions about whether Trump violated the judge's order.

2. Trump moved to eliminate several more federal agencies this weekend.

One target: The agency that oversees federally run media outlet Voice of America. Trump has essentially shut down VOA, despite new leader Kari Lake's big plans for the network.

In other Trump news: He has offered a lifeline to help Elon Musk's faltering business empire. Meanwhile, Democrats are trying out a new media strategy to take on Trump.

One more thing: Tourists are scrapping U.S. travel plans.

3. A huge storm system killed 39 people in central and southern states.

The details: Violent weather spread wildfires and spawned at least 81 tornadoes across eight states this weekend, causing widespread destruction.

What caused it? Unseasonably warm and humid air from the Gulf of Mexico moved north, fueling the storms. The strongest tornadoes had winds of at least 136 mph.

4. Trump launched large-scale attacks on Yemen's Houthi militants.

This weekend: U.S. warships and jets launched strikes against the Iran-backed group that has targeted shipping and military vessels since 2023. At least 31 people were killed, the Houthis said.

In other news from the Middle East: An Israeli strike killed eight aid workers in Gaza, a British charity said. And Hamas is offering to release its last living American hostage.

5. A nightclub fire killed 59 people yesterday in North Macedonia.

What happened? The blaze in Kocani appeared to have been ignited by pyrotechnics used as part of a local band's performance, an official said.

The latest: At least 152 people were receiving treatment at hospitals across the country. Officials issued arrest warrants for four people in connection with the fire.

6. The men's and women's NCAA basketball tournament brackets are set.

In the men's field: Auburn, Duke, Houston and Florida are the No. 1 seeds. Florida — one of our best bets — is among a record 14 SEC teams to qualify.

In the women's field: UCLA, South Carolina, Texas and USC are the top seeds. The defending champ Gamecocks are no lock — and there's no Caitlin Clark.

Up next: The First Four — games played tomorrow, Wednesday and Thursday to fill out the brackets. For some, the real March Madness is that North Carolina's men sneaked in.

7. A volcano in Alaska could be about to erupt.

Which one? Mount Spurr, 80 miles west of Anchorage. It's been spewing gas amid an uptick in shallow earthquakes — meaning an eruption may be imminent.

What if it blows? Avalanches of hot rock and gas would mostly hit uninhabited wilderness. But it could disrupt air travel and shower ash over Anchorage's 300,000 residents.



Vocabulary 17/03/25:

1. to invoke - to make reference to, to quote
to strip - to remove sth.
2. Voice of America is the official state foreign broadcaster of the USA (Deutsche Welle)
media outlet - media company
to scrap - to discontinue a system or plan, to get rid of sth.
3. to spawn - to generate
5. blaze - large, strong fire
warrant - Haftbefehl
6. NCAA - National Collegiate Athletic Association (College Basketball League)
SEC - South-Eastern Conference
bracket - a diagram showing a series of games played in a tournament
seed - frontrunner, fancied team
no lock - here: not safe, not guaranteed
7. to spew - to spit out, to make sth. flow out in large amounts

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