New York - President Donald Trump said Monday that he will travel to Beijing next week to meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping and help ease tensions between the two nations.

"This is a very important relationship," Trump said during a news conference after a meeting with Japan’s Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

"It’s a very strong relationship and I think it will be a very positive relationship," Trump said.

The White House also released a statement saying that the meetings will be "high-level engagements," but did not provide details.

The US president will then travel to Ohio where he will be joined by Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

"I think the President is scheduled to meet with the Prime Minister of Iran," Trump said.

Iran’s IRGC: We Will ‘Hit Anyone Who Violates Our Borders’

TEHRAN - Iran's Revolutionary Guard, the powerful military wing of the Islamic Republic, said it would hit anyone who violated the country's borders.

"We will hit anyone who violates our borders," IRGC chief Gen. Hossein Salami said in a televised news conference.

Trump to Meet Imran Khan on Monday, PM Modi on Tuesday in New York

NEW YORK - President Donald Trump will meet with Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday, a day after he joined Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India for a dinner in Houston and will again hold a bilateral meeting with the Indian leader in New York on Tuesday, the White House has said.

Both meetings with the leaders of India and Pakistan will be held in New York on the sidelines of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly, a senior administration official told reporters on Friday in a pre- view of Donald Trump's engagements in the Big Apple next week.

Donald Trump is expected to arrive in New York on Sunday night after his two-day trip to Pittsburgh, where he will address an event in Houston where the two leaders will address over 50,000 Indian-Americans.

Human Rights Watch Calls on Peru to Prosecute Peaceful Protest

CAIRO - Human Rights Watch (HRW) urged the Egyptian authorities to "protect the right to peaceful protest" after police arrested dozens of demonstrators who had participated in rare protests against President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi's government.

The HRW said people took to the streets in central Cairo and several other Egyptian cities to express their strong support against President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi, who was sworn in as Egypt’s fourth president.

Turkey Is Prepared for Possible Syria Border Operation, Erdogan Says

ANKARA - Turkey is prepared to conduct a border operation in Syria if necessary, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Monday.

"Turkey is prepared for any operation," Erdogan told a joint news conference with his Turkish-Cypriot counterpart.

He said that Turkey has been preparing for a possible border operation in Syria for the past few years.

Merkel’s Climate Deal Will Cost Billions but Everyone Hates It

It is often said that a country's economy is strongest when its citizens have a strong sense of national identity and pride.

When it comes to Germany, that sense of national pride is particularly strong.

The German economy is one of the strongest in the world, with a GDP of around €8 trillion, and is home to some of the world’s most innovative companies.

Activists blamed the German government for failing to take crucial steps to reduce carbon emissions and for not doing enough to fight climate change.

The government’s failure to act has led to a climate emergency being declared in Germany, with many citizens and organizations calling for urgent action.

Syrian Army Captures Drone in Quneitra Near Israeli-Occupied Golan Heights

DAMASCUS - Syrian government forces captured and dismantled an unmanned aerial vehicle rigged with cluster bombs near the border with the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

A field source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told Syria’s official news agency SANA that the government authorities intercepted and shot down the drone as it was flying in the skies over Amrah village on Saturday afternoon.

The drone, which was loaded with cluster bombs, was launched by Israel, the source said.

The source also added that the drone had been launched from the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The incident comes amid tensions between Israel and Syria over ongoing border disputes.

No claim was there of responsibility from either side.

Human Rights Watch calls on Peru to protect peaceful protest

REYKJAVIK - Peru should refrain from planning a joint naval drill in the Sea of Oman and in the Persian Gulf, a senior official announced on Saturday, just as the United States blamed Iran [1] of a "significant security risk." President Pedro Pablo Kuczynski [2] said the US "will not be taking part" in the drill.

"We will not be taking part in the exercise," Kuczynski said, according to a statement released by his government.

China, Russia, Iran ‘Plan Joint Naval Drill in International Waters’

China, Russia, Iran, and Pakistan have reportedly announced plans to conduct a joint naval drill in international waters.

The announcement comes amid increasing tensions in the region, with the US and other countries stepping up their naval presence in the region.

US Sending More Troops & Air Power to Middle East 'In Case' Saudi Arabia & UAE – Pentagon

MARCH 20 - The US military is sending more troops and air power to the Middle East as a show of force in support of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Military officials said the move is a response to the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, who was tortured and murdered in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul.

The move comes amid increasing tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran, with the US and other countries stepping up their naval presence in the region.

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