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ZELENSKY: WE NEED EVEN MORE TANKS

» UKRAINE SEEKS 300 TO TURN TIDE AGAINST PUTIN BEFORE SPRING OFFENSIVE BY RUSSIA

Nicholas Cecil Political Editor

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY stepped up his call today to the West for hundreds of battle tanks to be swiftly supplied to Ukraine as Vladimir Putin's army is set to launch spring offensives.

He issued the plea as Germany followed Britain's lead in sending heavy battle tanks to Ukraine.

In his nightly address, Mr Zelensky thanked Ukraine's allies for their support against Putin's bloody invasion. But he is calling for 300 tanks to turn the tide of the war firmly against Russia.

"It is not about five, or 10, or 15 tanks. The need is greater," he said. "Every day we are doing everything necessary to fill the deficit. Discussions need to end with decisions. Decisions to really strengthen our defence against terrorists."

He also stressed the need for "speed of implementation" of promises of military equipment.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz announced this morning that Berlin will supply its Leopard 2 tanks to Ukraine, overcoming misgivings about sending heavy weaponry that Kyiv sees as crucial to defeat the Russian invasion but Moscow cast as a needless provocation. He also gave the green light to other allies, including Poland, Spain and Norway, to send their German-built Leopards.

"This decision follows our well-known line of supporting Ukraine to the best of our ability. We are acting in a closely coordinated manner internationally," Mr Scholz said in a statement after a Cabinet meeting. The goal was to quickly establish two battalions with Leopard 2 tanks for Ukraine, it added, explaining that Germany would in a first step provide 14 Leopard 2 tanks from military

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More regrets from Met chief as he pleads for public's patience

Martin Bentham Home Affairs Editor

SIR Mark Rowley today appealed to the people of London not to lose heart over "painful" and "gastly" new crimes by Met officers that will be uncovered as he tries to clean up his force.

The Met Commissioner said he was determined

to root out rogue officers and that progress was already being made in trying to uncover new cases.

But as he expressed his dismay at the "gastly" crimes of Met rapist David Carrick and another PC convicted of child sex offences, he warned that purging his force will take time and expose fur-

ther troubling cases that will dismay the public. "We need the support of the people of London: please don't lose heart as we confront these issues, as we do this necessary and painful work, to rid the organisation of those who corrupt our integrity," Sir Mark said as he gave the latest update today on his efforts to restore his force's

battered reputation. "You will see progress from us step by step."

"We must improve dramatically for London. But lifting the stone and revealing painful truths will not be resolved overnight and it's

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ARMANI BRINGS THE CIRCUS TO PARIS

Harlequin designs dominated Giorgio Armani's haute couture collection

FULL STORY PAGE 7



Cars banned from 75% of streets by one London council

Rachael Burford
Political Correspondent

A LONDON borough is set to ban motor vehicles from 75 per cent of its roads in a major expansion of controversial low traffic neighbourhoods measures.

Hackney council signed off plans to put three-quarters of its streets into restricted zones in what it is billing as "the country's most ambitious plan" to tackle toxic air.

The Labour-run borough already has the highest number of the schemes in London, with roughly half of its roads covered by traffic management measures.

Mayor Philip Glanville said Hackney's three-year "local implementation plan" would see the area have the largest number of car restrictions, public electric vehicle chargers and cycle parking in the capital.

He added: "This is the most ambitious plan in London, if not the most ambitious in the country, building on an incredible track record in this borough."

Under the new proposals Dalston, Hoxton, Chatsworth Road, Craven Walk, Cazenove Road and Stamford Hill will have the zones installed

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smaller oysters and patted to a larger two-course meal, they've seriously upped the food offering here. The wine ain't half bad, either.

Take it late

All-in-one venues tend not to be that impressive, with either the drinks, dining, or dancing letting the side down. New spot **Stereo** (35 The Piazza, WC2, stereocentral.com) aims to buck the trend. The bar-come-diner-com-club is open until 3am and, as the name hints at, is all about the live music: DJs and bands play nightly. Expect chills of Studio 54. The capital's music scene likewise gets another notch on its collective bedpost with the recent opening of **The Lower Third** (26 Denmark Street, WC2, thelowerthird.co.uk), which stays open until 1am most nights; Benny Atlas and Nate James are on the bill this week. All dressed up with nowhere to go? Try **Ronnie Scott's** (47 Frith Street, W1, ronniescotts.co.uk), which has jazz until 2am, sometimes later. The Late Late show – which has nothing to do with James Corden – and everything to do with brilliant music – has a second house after 11pm for anyone stumbling out of a long

Soho dinner. For the ultimate farewell to any new year virtues, **The Box** (11-12 Walkers Court, W1, theboxsoho.com) is having something of a renaissance as London's last unutterable word in debauchery. Open until 4am most mornings, the nightclub-come-theatre is, er, not for the faint-hearted. Without spoiling its sur-



Without spoiling surprises, The Box is a parish vicar's nightmare, with nudity, profanity and depravity

prises – and there are a lot of them – it's best described as something out of a parish vicar's hellish nightmare with nudity, profanity and depravity.

Send help

If the night proves too hedonistic, too heady and frankly just too

much, rest assured salve is at hand. If you find yourself, intentionally or otherwise, out of the box, the new **Sichuan Fryby Dumpling Shack** (2 Westgate Street, E8, sichuanfryby.com) is the ideal cure: numbingly-spiced fried chicken will not only be an endorphin-releasing revelation, but should prove carby enough to soak up any sauce still surging through your system.

For a more classic resolve, the historic **Regency Cafe** (17-19 Regency Street, SW1, regencycafe.com) is probably London's best-loved cafe; a no-nonsense, plastic-moulded-seating institution with the capital's ultimate fry-up. Those who are ready, willing and able to stomach more substantial fare should alternatively try the fashionable **Princes Royal** (47 Hereford Road, W2, cubitthouse.co.uk), which is custom-made for those in need of a velvet-cushioned rest invite to society the Sunday roast is a blinder, the Bloody Mary brilliant, and staff suitably soothing. And, being a pub, there are no shortage of pints for those looking to get back on it. Cheers, and Godspeed.

Bagpiping hot haggis for a Burns Night to remember

FOR A country with 5.5 million inhabitants – a little over half the population of London – Scotland has long punched above its weight culturally. Two of its finest exports – food and literature – come together every January 25 on Burns Night, the annual celebration of the national poet of Scotland. Pride of place goes to haggis, a mince of sheep's heart, liver and lungs steamed inside a sheep's stomach. If you haven't booked any, here's where to get a last-minute table tonight.



Whisky galore: the Cadogan Arms' three courses finish with a raspberry and whisky cranachan

menu kicks off with whisky-cured smoked salmon ahead of venison and haggis Wellington and Scottish raspberry and whisky cranachan. The menu price includes two whisky cocktails and a dram of single malt. How much? Three courses, £75

● 298 King's Road, SW3, thecadoganarms.london

Bolside Tavern

It's not Burns Night but Burns Week at Bolside, the tarts-and-cake restaurant owned by Kamal Macdonald, heir apparent to the chief of Clan Macdonald of Clanranald. The four-course menu includes the finest Scottish produce: Dundalk smoked salmon, Cullen skink, Orkney herring, Scottish dry-aged beef and Dumfriesshire Blackface haggis. The evening includes a bagpiper.

How much? Four courses from £69

● Cabot Square, E14 4QT, bolside.co.uk

Skylight Peckham

For a less reverential take on Burns Night, head to this Peckham rooftop, where alongside poetry readings and live music there will be a menu of Scottish-inspired plates including haggis Scotch eggs, crispy spiced neeps and tatties and smoked cod's roe fishcakes. The ticket price includes a whisky cocktail on arrival. How much? Tickets, £7; haggis Scotch egg, £6.50

● 120 Peckham Hill Street, SE25 5JT, skylightburns.com

Cadogan Arms

The Chelsea pub's three-course

Three courses, £49

● 47 Madrat St. W1, maddoxtavern.com

The Prince Alfred

One of several Young's pubs paying tribute to Robbie Burns, the Prince Alfred in Little Venice is offering a three-course meal including a glass of Glenfiddich 12-year-old Scotch. How much? Three courses, £40

● 5a Formosa Street, W9, theprincealfred.com

Ben McCormack

STARS SHELLEY VON STRUNCKEL

Aries March 20 – April 19

A week or so ago, you made arrangements involving others. At the time the actual circumstances seemed straightforward. Since then, you've realised you were short of facts and these will require a up-to-bottom review. Temping as it is to do a quick version, you'd regret it. This requires serious detail.

0904 470 1141 (65p per minute)*

Taurus April 20 – May 20

Although the New Moon took place last week, you're still trying to understand the changes it ushered in. That's because they were taking you in an unfamiliar direction and left you little time to ask questions. Now that you're more informed, your options and potential plans are much clearer.

0904 470 1142 (65p per minute)*

Gemini May 21 – June 20

Sometimes mistakes are no more than that, obstacles that force you to pause and rethink your short-term strategy. Now, however, events are calling your attention to certain long-term arrangements. Temping as it is to go for a quick version, you'd regret it. These need to be discussed in depth.

0904 470 1143 (65p per minute)*

Cancer June 21 – July 22

Only days ago, you were amazed at how smoothly certain plans were going. However, sudden changes have meant rethinking everything. Annoying, if not worrying, as these are, they're actually a well-timed opportunity to review and update those plans. Be bold. Within days you'll realise how wise this was.

0904 470 1144 (65p per minute)*

Leo July 23 – August 22

This is a tricky period during an unsettling cycle. The problem? Most of these changes aren't yet settled and are unlikely to be for some weeks yet. Interfacing as living with the uncertainty is, you've got to know. Knowing that, focus on being observant. You'll be amazed how much you learn.

0904 470 1145 (65p per minute)*

Virgo August 23 – September 22

Long ago you realised that you're better off dealing with certain tricky practical issues right away, even if you're short of facts. The problem? Others assume that, as usual, you will be up to date on the details. Explain that with as much in translation that isn't possible and say you're doing the best you can.

0904 470 1146 (65p per minute)*

Libra September 23 – October 22

Although the Sun moved into your fellow air sign of Aquarius and to accent life's joy a week ago, you're still wrestling with some of the changes it triggered. The problem? Events were as unexpected as they were unsettling. For now, go with the flow. Many of those details will sort themselves out.

0904 470 1147 (65p per minute)*

Scorpio October 23 – November 21

For some time you've intended to do a serious clear out of everything from your cupboards and cabinets to your habits. The former won't be that complicated. However, recognising which habits need to change, if not go, will be as challenging as it will be worthwhile. The sooner you begin, the better.

0904 470 1148 (65p per minute)*

Sagittarius November 22 – December 21

Rowing back of time, money and who's responsible for what isn't your favourite activity. So, if you neglect these in too long, the gap between your approach to the matter in question and what others think is right can become overwhelming. The secret? Discuss them frequently, but keep those exchanges brief.

0904 470 1149 (65p per minute)*

Capricorn December 22 – January 19

Although the Capricorn New Moon took place over a month ago, you're still reflecting on the ideas it triggered and insights it revealed. The problem? While you've got a clear understanding of the need to take over these, others are in a hurry. Say nothing. Eventually, they'll realise that they too must slow their pace.

0904 470 1150 (65p per minute)*

Aquarius January 20 – February 17

Appearing as the idea of a 'luring' party may be, the week's events of health and burns, these changes are in your best interests. The trick? Make a point of exploring absolutely everything others suggest and discussing your own ideas. Then back off and quietly consider what would work and what wouldn't.

0904 470 1151 (65p per minute)*

Pisces February 18 – March 19

When you make certain plans or commitments, the foundation on which they were based seemed solid. Since then there have been small shifts of changes, some of which are still unfolding. Tempting as it is to gather the kind of facts that would reassure others, for now you're urged to wait and watch.

0904 470 1152 (65p per minute)*

IF IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY TOMORROW...

Judging by the planetary setup to your birthday chart, while some ideas and offers will be crystal clear, others will be confusing – a first step of facts. In some cases this will be due to others' carelessness, and you need only ask them for further details. But in just as many, the actual situation will be a state of mind that's still growing. You may want to back off and observe changes often. However, leave the actual developments and decisions to destiny's hands.

