

Newsletter | The Close Newsletter

Iran Targeted Trump: The Bloomberg Close, Americas Edition



Bloomberg/Getty

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Good afternoon. Here's what you need to know to end your day.

- The White House learns that Iran plotted to assassinate Trump.
- New Jersey's Menendez is found guilty after a two-month trial.
- Swiss watchmakers reel from a China-led pullback in demand.

Copy Link

News emerged of an Iranian effort to assassinate Donald Trump, with no indication of any link to Thomas Matthew Crooks, the alleged shooter at Saturday's rally.



Scott Olson/Getty

- **The plot appeared** linked to a pattern of threats against former Trump administration officials stemming from the US killing in 2020 of Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps.
- **Follow the money:** Marc Andreessen and Ben Horowitz plan to make big donations to pro-Trump PACs.
- **Trump's** still-evolving support for crypto has excited some Silicon Valley donors. Here's a roundup of billionaires' bets on Trump and Joe Biden.

What Else Is Happening

Senator Bob Menendez was found guilty on all 16 corruption charges stemming from the FBI seizure of gold bars, cash and a Mercedes Benz at his home. Prosecutors said the New Jersey Democrat was paid to promote Egypt's interests. Menendez plans to appeal. Chuck Schumer called for his resignation.



Yuki Iwamura/Bloomberg

In other news:

- **Elon Musk** said X and SpaceX will move their HQs to Texas from California. Tesla is seeking to hire nearly 800 employees.
- **Emmanuel Macron** accepted Gabriel Attal's resignation as France's PM, but named him to head a caretaker government with limited powers.
- **Amazon's Prime Day** sales climbed almost 12% in the first seven hours of the event compared with the same period a year ago.
- **Hurricane Beryl:** There are still 142,668 customers without electricity in Texas, mainly around Houston.
- **JPMorgan is in** contract to purchase a Manhattan building near its new headquarters for more than \$300 million.

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Opinion

Housing will dictate how much the Fed cuts rates, Conor Sen writes. A lot of pent-up economic energy will be unleashed once mortgage costs fall to levels that boost transactions and home-linked consumption.

Features

Wellness retreats are taking high-tech biohacking to heart, promoting vacations to with promises to lower your biological age. In need of an ozone infusion? One option is Kamalaya in Koh Samui,

Thailand, where basic detox programs start at \$4,760. Closer to home, try Canyon Ranch locations in Massachusetts and Arizona.



Ralf Tooten/Kamalaya

Car repossessions surged 23% in the first half of 2024 from the same period last year, providing a window into the average consumer's financial health while juggling tight budgets and high interest rates.

By the Way

Sales of Swiss luxury watches are in sharp retreat as nervous consumers reconsider splashing out and Chinese demand slumps. It's a big problem for the country, where the industry employs more than 65,000 workers and is the third-largest export sector.



Pascal Mora/Bloomberg