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There were fears in Europe of a resurgence of COVID-19. Catalonia returned to a form of lockdown. Britain announced that people arriving from Spain, including British tourists coming back from the beach, should quarantine for 14 days. The Spanish government was irked. Croatia, Germany, Luxembourg and Romania all saw localised spikes of coronavirus. Still, Europeans are much better prepared now than they were when the pandemic began.

Najib Razak, Malaysia’s prime minister from 2009 to 2018, was sentenced to 12 years in jail and fined $49m after being found guilty of seven charges related to the theft of billions of dollars from 1mdb, a development fund. He still faces verdicts in other trials. Mr Naijb, who said he thought the vast fortune in his personal bank account was a donation from a Saudi royal, remains free, pending an appeal.

The US defence secretary, Mark Esper, announced the withdrawal of nearly 12,000 American troops from Germany. President Donald Trump had criticised Germany’s reluctance to spend more on defence. Mr Esper said the decision would bolster nato and deter Russia. He suggested that some of the troops could be redeployed on Russia’s doorstep around the Black Sea and in the Baltic countries.

The federal quasi-military agents sent to Portland to help quell violent protests are to leave the city’s centre, on the condition that Oregon provides security to protect the federal courthouse there.

South Africa took a $4.3bn emergency loan from the IMF to soften the economic shock of COVID-19. The loan marks a big change for South Africa, which had previously shunned the imf so as not to dilute its economic sovereignty.

Perrance Shiri, Zimbabwe’s agriculture minister, died, reportedly of COVID-19. He led the Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland in the 1980s, which tortured and massacred thousands of suspected opponents of the despot, Robert Mugabe, and their families. He once likened himself to Jesus, since he decided who lived and who died.

Parliamentarians in Somalia voted to remove Hassan Ali Khaire as prime minister. America, which supports the Somali army in its fight against the jihadists of al-Shabab, called the process flawed. Lawmakers say Mr Khaire failed to prepare the country for elections next year.

In another dreadful week for workers in the aviation industry, Airbus said it would cut 15,000 jobs, about a tenth of its total, because it does not expect demand for its aircraft to return to pre-COVID levels until at least 2023, or possibly 2025. The announcement was lambasted in France, where the government has dispensed a huge rescue package. Aeromexico, Mexico’s biggest international airline, filed for bankruptcy protection. And easyJet, a British carrier, started a consultation on redundancies, which could see 727 pilots lose their jobs. Qantas announced 6,000 jobs cuts.

There was some good news for Virgin Australia, after two months in bankruptcy proceedings, as Bain Capital stepped in to buy the business. Shareholders lost their shirts in the deal, but the airline hopes to fly again in September.

The Federal Aviation Administration confirmed that the first certification flights had been conducted for Boeing’s 737 max, which has been grounded for 15 months following two crashes. Although the tests were described as a “milestone” in its rehabilitation, Boeing’s passenger plane won’t be returning to the skies soon; the faa still has to carry out “a number of key tasks”.

Shell joined the list of big oil and gas companies that have had to write down the value of assets because of falling energy demand and lower oil prices. The company expects to record charges of between $15bn and $22bn in the second quarter related to the writedowns. BP, meanwhile, agreed to sell what is left of its petrochemicals business to Ineos, a privately held firm with a record of taking over the chemical divisions of multinational companies, for $5bn.

Germany became the latest flashpoint for safety concerns at Amazon warehouses during the pandemic, as its workers went on strike. Their union claims that 40 people contracted COVID-19 at two sites recently. The online retailer says it has provided enough personal protective equipment.

Meanwhile,Amazon sealed a dealto buy Zoox, a developer of self-driving taxis. Reportedly costing $1.2bn, itis Amazon’s biggestinvestmentin autonomous-vehicle technology, which it may try to adaptforits delivery services.

Wells Fargo became the first big American bank to cut its dividend in light of the Federal Reserve’s recent stress tests. The central bank banned share buy-back programmes and capped dividends for 33 banks during the third quarter. All large banks will be required to resubmit and update their capital plans later this year to show they can cope with an extreme economic scenario.

Cirque du Soleil filed for bankruptcy protection and laid off 3,500 employees who had been furloughed in March, when it was forced to cancel performances because of COVID-19. In other pandemicrelated redundancies, SSP Group, which operates food outlets at transport hubs around the world, and is best known in Britain, its home market, for its Upper Crust and Camden Food Co shops, slashed 5,000 jobs. Microsoft announced the permanent closure of all its 83 stores, most of which are in America.

American stockmarkets recorded their best quarter in at least two decades. From April to June the s&p 500 and Dow Jones Industrial Average rose by around 25%, and the Nasdaq by over a third. Most of the gains came in April and May following the market rout in March amid the coronavirus crisis (European stocks actually outperformed the s&p 500 in June). Most share indices are still lower than at the start of the year. The tech-heavy Nasdaq is a notable exception; it has climbed by 10%.

Tesla overtook Toyota to become the world’s biggest carmaker by market capitalisation. The maker of electric vehicles has seen its share price rev up from $225 a year ago to $1,120, giving it a value of more than $205bn. It has yet to turn an annual profit.