Twitter Thread by db



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@tier10000

THURSDAY 24th

Merry Brexmas

-Johnson is expected to make the Brexit deal announcement today at around 08:00GMT

-Johnson will first talk to EU Chief at 07:00GMT to sign and seal after "late night wrangles over individual fish species" (not a joke)

-There were four secret calls between PM and EU chief VDL yesterday to get the deal over the line, VDL asked Johnson: “Do we have a deal?” to which the PM replied, “Yes.” ■
-Johnson is said to have made "huge concessions", likely to anger Brexiteers in Britain

-Senior European source says Johnson is willing to accept that the EU hands back just 25 percent of the value of fish it catches in British waters, over a 5.5-year transition period. The UK was previously insisting on 35 percent, over three years

-Sources say Boris showered Michael Gove with praise last night on the Cabinet call, Said his former rival and been "indispensable" in getting a deal, with planning and No Deal readiness■

South Africa travel ban
-Passengers travelling from South Africa to England today will be denied entry, after government scientists and ministers became increasingly alarmed about a new strain of the coronavirus that has emerged in the country.

-Hancock yesterday signalled that the South African COVID strain was significantly more transmissible even than the newly identified British strain
-"Government sources warned that the South African strain had the potential to be the next big COVID story" Great

Trump pardons
-Trump has pardoned Paul Manafort, Roger Stone and Charles Kushner
-He granted full pardons to 26 more people on last night
-More waves of pardons expected in the coming week

Vaccine news
-Moderna expects its vaccine to protect against UK coronavirus variant
-"We have tested against a number of previous variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that have emerged since the first outbreak of the pandemic and found our vaccine to remain equally effective"

Iran
-Trump to hold Iran responsible for the recent attacks on American embassies in Iraq
-"Embassy in Baghdad got hit Sunday by several rockets. Guess where they were from: IRAN. Some friendly health advice to Iran: If one American is killed, I will hold Iran responsible."

Stimulus
-House to move forward with $2000 stimulus payment vote today
-House Dems plan to try to pass $2,000 stimulus payment via unanimous consent. If that does not work, they will push a bill on Monday to increase the $600 payment in the existing relief package to $2,000

Alibaba
-Chinese financial regulators summon Ant Group for a meeting ■
-"China has launched an antitrust investigation into Alibaba Group and will summon the tech giant’s Ant Group affiliate to meet in coming days"

No-one has been assigned to the usual morning broadcast round due to Christmas
Some notable appearances however
-Nigel Farage on LBC @ 7.05
-Dominic Raab on LBC @ 7.50
-Raab on Times radio @ 9.05

Shocker
-Reports floating around that timings this morning "may slip a bit"
-PM public appearance not expected for minimum couple of hours plus plus

Just in: China will suspend flights with the UK due to the new strain