

FRANCE



# 100-YEAR-OLD MESSAGE



**A rare carrier pigeon message from the First World War has been discovered in Ingersheim, France. The tiny capsule would have been strapped to a pigeon's leg.**

Pigeons were used to carry news and secret messages in both world wars. This was a time before mobile phones!

The message was written by a German soldier. It reads: "Platoon Pothof receives fire as they reach the western border of the parade ground, platoon Pothof takes up fire and retreats after a while. In Fechtwald half a platoon was disabled. Platoon Pothof retreats with heavy losses."

IRELAND



# FLYING OFF THE SHELVES

**Fifteen-year-old Anthony Gorman from Co Offaly, has been blown away after receiving hundreds of orders for his homemade reindeer decorations.**

Made from local ash tree wood, and built by Anthony and his dad in their workshop, the wooden reindeer have been a surprise Christmas hit. Anthony said: "Orders have come in from all over Ireland! I think people like them because I am so young. They are just so surprised that a 15-year-old can produce all of this."



INDIA



# CRACKERS FOR KAMALA



**People in southern India have been celebrating the success of Kamala Harris in the US elections.**

As vice president, she will be the second most powerful person in America. Kamala's mother was Indian. She went to the USA to study, and ended up staying.

People from her ancestral village set off fireworks and celebrated her achievement, saying it was a historic and "proud moment" for the country.

## Questions on: World News

1) Match the headline to the correct country.

India	Flying off the shelves
France	Crackers for Kamala
Ireland	100-year-old message

Look at the news from Ireland.

- 2) What sort of wood are these decorations made from?
- 3) Can you find the words with a similar meaning to ‘unexpected seasonal success’?

Look at the news from France.

- 4) This message seems to describe the experiences of platoon Pothof. What do you find out from the message?

	True	False
They have been attacked		
They want urgent back-up		
They were attacked but won		
They have had to retreat (go back)		
Many soldiers in the platoon have died		
They are headed to Fechtwald		

Look at the news from India.

- 5) Can you explain the link between the American election and India?
- 6) What does the word ‘ancestral’ mean?
  - to do with people from southern India
  - to do with your family who lived in the past
  - to do with your right to vote

- 7) Why do you think “Crackers for Kamala” is a good headline for this story?

Consider all the news.

- 8) Which story are you most likely to share with a friend? Why? Which story are you most likely to share with a parent or grown-up? Why? Are your choices different?



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## World News

Which war is the message from?

How did the pigeon carry the message?

What nationality was the soldier who wrote the message?

How old is Anthony?

What sort of wood are the reindeer being made from?

Who is Anthony making the reindeer decorations with?

Where has Kamala Harris had success?

Where did Kamala's mother come from?

How did the people from her ancestral village celebrate?

Which war is the message from?

How did the pigeon carry the message?

Why do you think pigeons were used?

How old is Anthony?

What sort of wood are the reindeer being made from?

Who is Anthony making the reindeer decorations with?

Where has Kamala Harris had success?

Where did Kamala's mother come from?

Why did the people from her ancestral village celebrate?

