



based on mixed sources

## Overview of Mojtaba Khamenei’s Wealth

The precise net worth of Mojtaba Khamenei is not publicly known. However, various reports suggest that he controls assets worth billions of dollars. These holdings reportedly include luxury properties in cities such as Tehran, Dubai, London, and Frankfurt, along with financial assets believed to be held in foreign bank accounts, including Switzerland. Many of these assets are thought to be managed through a network of shell companies, trusts, and intermediaries, which makes it difficult to directly link the properties and investments to him personally.

### Key Assets Linked to Mojtaba Khamenei

- Luxury Real Estate
- High-value homes in Tehran, Dubai, and Frankfurt
- Properties on London’s Bishops Avenue—often referred to as “Billionaires’ Row”
- Mansions and residential properties reportedly worth more than £100 million in London
- Financial Holdings
- Offshore bank accounts, including in Switzerland
- Foreign investment vehicles used to manage wealth outside Iran
- Investment Network
- Investments in luxury real estate across Europe, the Gulf region, and North America

Commercial properties and hotels in several European countries

### Business and Political Connections

Mojtaba Khamenei has long been associated with influential networks inside Iran, including ties to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Reports suggest that these connections help facilitate a complex investment structure involving shell companies and proxies. Properties and assets are frequently registered under the names of intermediaries rather than in his own name, making ownership difficult to trace.

### Sanctions and Financial Scrutiny

Mojtaba Khamenei has been under U.S. sanctions since 2019 due to his alleged role within the Supreme Leader’s office and connections to Iran’s security establishment. Authorities in the United States and the United Kingdom have increased efforts to track assets linked to Iranian leadership networks, resulting in closer scrutiny of property ownership and financial activity tied to his associates.

### Wealth Compared to Iran’s Economic Conditions

The scale of wealth attributed to Mojtaba Khamenei has drawn attention because it contrasts with the economic challenges faced by many Iranians. Critics and investigators have raised questions about the origin of these assets, with some suggesting they may be linked indirectly to revenues from Iran’s oil industry and state-connected economic networks.

Influence Through His Father’s Economic Empire

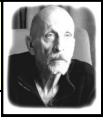
Mojtaba Khamenei’s personal wealth is separate from the much larger financial system historically associated with his father, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Reports have estimated that Ali Khamenei oversaw an economic network worth roughly \$95 billion through institutions such as the Execution of Imam Khomeini’s Order (Setad). Although this wealth is not Mojtaba’s personal property, becoming Supreme Leader gives him significant influence over these powerful institutions and the vast financial resources they control.

### Major Economic Institutions Under the Supreme Leader

Setad (Execution of Imam Khomeini’s Order) Originally established to manage properties abandoned after the Iranian Revolution, Setad evolved into a massive holding company. It operates hundreds of subsidiaries in sectors such as finance, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, real estate, energy, and petrochemicals, with assets estimated to be worth tens of billions of dollars.

### Religious Foundations (Bonyads)

Iran also has a network of powerful charitable foundations that operate outside regular government oversight. One of the largest is the Mostazafan Foundation, which controls numerous companies and operates across industries including construction, agriculture, mining, and manufacturing.



Estimates place its assets at more than \$10 billion.

#### IRGC Economic Network

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps runs a vast economic empire through construction, engineering, and energy companies. One of its most prominent firms, Khatam al-Anbiya Construction Headquarters, is involved in major infrastructure, oil, and gas projects worth billions of dollars. While the IRGC is not formally owned by the Supreme Leader, its leadership ultimately answers to that office.

#### Overall Financial Influence

Estimates of Mojtaba Khamenei's personal wealth range from hundreds of millions to several billion dollars. However, his position as Iran's Supreme Leader grants him influence over a far larger economic system—potentially worth tens or even hundreds of billions of dollars—through state-linked institutions, foundations, and political networks.

based on Daily Express via <https://www.msn.com/en-gb/money/other/severe-punishment-facing-brits-refusing-conscription-as-ex-nato-boss-fears-ww3-close/ar-AA1XPLP6>

Story by Christopher Sharp

#### Former NATO Chief Warns of Potential Global Conflict as Experts Discuss Possible Penalties for Avoiding



#### Conscription

As tensions in the Middle East continue to intensify, concerns are growing about the potential global consequences of the conflict. Missile strikes have reportedly affected areas popular with British tourists, including Dubai in the United Arab Emirates. Meanwhile, the UK Prime Minister has faced criticism from former US President Donald Trump after taking a cautious approach toward deeper involvement in the crisis.

Amid these developments, a former NATO commander has warned that the situation could escalate into a wider global conflict. Richard Shirreff, who previously served as NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander

Europe, said he could not recall a more dangerous geopolitical moment during his lifetime.

"I fear that future historians may look back on this week's reckless attempt at 'regime change from the skies' as the event that triggered a third world war," he said.

If a global conflict were to emerge, Britain might consider measures to rapidly increase the size of its armed forces. One potential option would be the reintroduction of conscription, which the UK has not used since 1960.

Historian and author David Swift suggested that if conscription were brought back, penalties for those refusing to serve could be introduced. However, rather than prison sentences, he believes financial penalties would be more likely.

"I imagine fines would be used instead of imprisonment," Swift said. "This is partly due to limited prison capacity, the difficulty of enforcing such penalties, and the likelihood that any form of conscription would rely heavily on financial incentives."

Swift pointed to examples from other countries. Greece previously imposed a fine of around €6,000 (about £5,200) on those who refused military service, although the country debated removing the penalty in 2019.

Another possible model could come from Switzerland. There, individuals who refuse military service must pay an additional three percent in taxes for the duration of the period they would otherwise have spent in training.

According to Swift, penalties must be significant enough to discourage people from opting out, but not so harsh that they involve imprisonment.

"It needs to be a meaningful financial disincentive," he explained. "If the fine were only a few hundred pounds, many people would simply choose to pay it rather than serve."

He also suggested that any future conscription system could target certain groups while exempting others. Individuals working in sectors considered vital to national defence—such as defence manufacturing or strategic industries—might be excluded from military service. In some cases, people could even be directed to work in those industries instead.

Swift added that a policy focusing on unemployed graduates could prove politically popular with some groups. Meanwhile, the conflict in the Middle East is already having economic consequences. Oil prices have surged above \$100 per barrel, prompting some countries, including Croatia and South Korea, to introduce fuel price caps in an effort to protect consumers.

based on <https://newsukraine.rbc.ua/news/ukraine-regains-more-territory-than-russia-1773060075.html>  
Kateryna Danishevska

#### Ukraine Regains More Territory Than Russia Captured in a Month, Commander-in-Chief Says

Ukrainian forces regained more territory over the course of a month than Russian troops managed to capture during the same period, according to Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Oleksandr Syrskyi. He noted that this marks the first time such a result has been achieved since the Kursk offensive operation in 2024.

According to Syrskyi, Ukraine's Defence Forces are working to seize the operational initiative and force Russian troops to react to Ukrainian actions on the battlefield.

"For the first time since the Kursk offensive in 2024, our troops have restored control over a larger area of Ukrainian land in one month than the enemy managed to capture during the same time," Syrskyi stated.

These results were discussed during a working meeting reviewing the Armed Forces of Ukraine's operations in February.

Ukrainian troops are continuing counteroffensive operations in the Oleksandrivske direction. In this sector, Air Assault Forces units regained control of 285.6 square kilometres of territory within a month. Overall, since the start of the operation, Ukrainian Defence Forces have restored control over more than 400 square kilometres of Ukrainian land.

Syrskyi added that Ukrainian forces are holding back Russian advances in several other directions and, in some areas, are continuing to move forward.

Despite having nearly three times the



manpower, Russian forces have been forced to delay planned operations, reinforce weak points in their defences, and redeploy troops from other sectors, the commander-in-chief said.

#### Liberation of Ukrainian Territories

Analysts from the Institute for the Study of War recently reported evidence supporting Ukraine's battlefield successes in February.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy stated in an interview with the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera that Ukraine has liberated around 460 square kilometres of territory since the beginning of the year.

Earlier, Syrskyi had also noted that in



February Ukrainian Defence Forces regained more territory than Russian forces captured during the same period.

based on mixed sources

### £20,000 Reward Offered in Hunt for Killer of Diane Sindall

A £20,000 Crimestoppers reward has been offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for the murder of Diane Sindall nearly 40 years ago.

Diane, a 21-year-old florist from Seacombe, was murdered in Birkenhead in the early hours of Saturday 2 August 1986 after her van ran out of petrol on Borough Road as she drove home from work.

She had finished a late shift at the Wellington pub in Bebington and left at around 11.45pm in her blue Fiat van. After the vehicle ran out of fuel, Diane is believed to have set off on foot along Borough Road, possibly heading towards a bus stop or an all-night petrol station.

Witnesses reported seeing her walking along the road between midnight and about 12.20am. She was wearing jeans and a distinctive white top with large green spots.

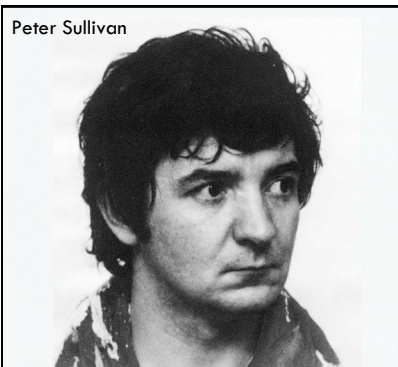
Her body was discovered around 12 hours later in an alleyway off Borough Road. She had been sexually assaulted and suffered extensive injuries. The cause of death was a cerebral haemorrhage.

The brutality of the attack led to the killer being dubbed the "Beast of Birkenhead."

Investigation Reopened After DNA Breakthrough

Following advances in forensic science, the case was reopened in 2023 after DNA

Peter Sullivan



evidence from the crime scene was found not to match Peter Sullivan, the man who had been convicted of Diane's murder and spent 38 years in prison before being released.

Detectives are now working with the National Crime Agency to identify the person whose DNA was recovered from the scene.

Extensive testing has been carried out across the UK using voluntary DNA elimination samples. So far, hundreds of men have been ruled out, with further forensic results still pending.

Detective Superintendent Rachel Wilson said the investigation team remains determined to identify the person responsible.

"It is devastating that Diane's family are still waiting for answers almost 40 years later," she said. "We remain committed to identifying the individual whose DNA was left at the scene."

Key Sightings and Evidence

Police believe Diane was last seen alive walking along Borough Road shortly after midnight.

One taxi driver reported seeing a man and woman arguing near Argyle Street around 12.10am. Investigators believe the woman could have been Diane.

The man was described as white, about 5ft 10in tall, in his 20s, with brown hair and no facial hair. He was wearing a brown hip-length jacket and loose-fitting jeans.

Detectives are keen to establish whether this couple was Diane and her attacker.

Police also revealed that a teenage girl was assaulted on the same side of Borough Road earlier that night and was later seen sitting on a bench nearby, visibly distressed.

Days after the murder, items belonging to Diane were discovered on Bidston Hill, where witnesses reported seeing a small fire and a man running away from the area.

Appeal for Information

Detectives believe there may still be people who know what happened but have never come forward.

"Even after all these years, someone may hold vital information," said Det Supt Wilson. "It is never too late to do the right thing."

Gary Murray, North West Regional Manager for Crimestoppers, urged anyone with information to come forward anonymously.

"Diane's family have waited almost four decades for justice," he said. "Someone, somewhere knows what happened that night."

Crimestoppers is offering a reward of up to £20,000 for information given exclusively to the charity that leads to the arrest and conviction of Diane's killer.

based on <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15629297/Labour-accused-bribing-failed-asylum-seeker-families-new-scheme-offering-40-000-hand-outs.html>

By DAVID BARRETT, HOME AFFAIRS EDITOR

### Labour accused of 'bribing' failed asylum seeker families with new scheme offering £40,000 hand-outs

A new Labour scheme offering failed asylum seeker families up to £40,000 to leave the UK voluntarily has been criticised by opposition MPs as a "bribe".



The Home Office has informed around 150 families that they may receive payments of £10,000 per person—up to four people per household—if they agree to return to their home countries.

Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood approved the pilot scheme in an effort to reduce the cost of housing families who have exhausted their asylum appeals. Officials say the government currently spends an average of £158,000 per year accommodating such families in hotels and other temporary housing.

Raising an urgent question in the House of Commons, Shadow Home Secretary Chris Philp condemned the policy, arguing that the payments were excessive.

He told MPs the scheme amounted to "bribing illegal immigrants with £40,000 per family to leave", adding that the sum was "more than most working people earn in a year". Philp said taxpayers should not be funding such payments and described the policy as "disgraceful".

He also called on the government to leave the European Convention on Human Rights, arguing that doing so would allow the UK to deport illegal migrants more quickly and deter Channel crossings.

Philp further claimed that since the general election around 67,000 people had entered the UK illegally—an increase of 45 per cent

compared with the equivalent period previously—and alleged that some had committed serious crimes.

Responding for the government, Asylum Minister Alex Norris defended the scheme as a cost-saving measure. He said the choice was between continuing to spend around £158,000 per family per year on accommodation or offering £40,000 to support their voluntary return.

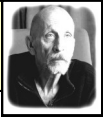
"I think that is a good equation," Norris told MPs.

The payments would be issued via electronic cards that families can access once they arrive in their home country after travelling on government-funded flights.

The pilot scheme applies only to families whose asylum claims have been rejected and whose appeals have been exhausted. It is limited to migrants from countries considered safe.

The new offer is significantly higher than the existing voluntary return payment scheme, which is capped at £3,000 per person. Officials say the programme could be expanded to thousands more families if it proves effective, although the Home Office does not currently have precise figures on how many failed asylum seeker families are supported by public funds.

Labour previously scrapped the former government's Rwanda policy, which would



have required some asylum seekers to have their claims processed in Rwanda rather than the UK.

Separately, the Home Office said 75 migrants arrived in the UK on Sunday, bringing the total number of arrivals over the previous six days to 891.

based on

<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/stamp-prices-hit-1-80-121230628.html>

Joshua Searle

### Stamp prices to rise to £1.80 despite Royal Mail missing delivery targets

Royal Mail has announced another increase in stamp prices from April 7, despite continued concerns about its failure to meet delivery targets.

The price of a first-class stamp will rise by 10p to £1.80, while second-class stamps will increase by 4p to 91p.

The latest rise means the cost of a first-class stamp has more than doubled in six years, increasing by 137% after eight separate price rises. Second-class stamps have also

standards," Pardoe said. "Increases should be tied to Royal Mail's performance."

Royal Mail said the increases reflect the rising cost of delivering letters as volumes continue to fall. The company said letter volumes are 70% lower than they were 20 years ago, while the number of delivery addresses has increased by four million to 32 million across the UK.

Richard Travers, managing director of letters at Royal Mail, said price changes are considered carefully to balance affordability with the cost of maintaining the service.

"On average, UK adults now spend around £6.50 a year on stamps," he said.

Royal Mail has also repeated calls for reforms to the universal service obligation, which requires it to deliver letters six days a week. Ofcom last year approved plans to end Saturday deliveries for second-class letters and move to an every-other-weekday schedule, with pilot schemes already running in 35 delivery offices.

Talks between Royal Mail and the Communications Workers Union (CWU) over

RAF Typhoon fighter jets have destroyed two drones in separate incidents in the Middle East, Defence Secretary John Healey has confirmed.

One drone was intercepted over Jordan, while another was shot down while heading towards Bahrain.

Healey also said that the Royal Navy destroyer HMS Dragon will depart for the eastern Mediterranean within the next few days as the UK strengthens its military presence in the region.

However, HMS Prince of Wales, one of the Royal Navy's two aircraft carriers, is now unlikely to be sent to the Middle East as part of these efforts.

The carrier had been placed on heightened readiness on Saturday, meaning it could deploy within five days if ministers approved the move. The step prompted speculation that it might be dispatched to the Mediterranean to help protect the UK's sovereign base areas in Cyprus from potential Iranian missile and drone attacks.

Sources now indicate that the vessel is instead expected to take part in long-planned NATO exercises in the Arctic.

Officials had previously stressed that no final decision had been taken about deploying the carrier to the Mediterranean, although reports over the weekend suggested the option was under serious consideration.

Those reports drew a sharp reaction from US President Donald Trump, who indicated that American forces no longer required support from the UK carrier.

Writing on Truth Social, he said the United States "doesn't need them any longer" and added that Washington did not need allies who "join wars after we've already won".

The UK did not allow its bases to be used during the initial US strikes on Iran, but has since permitted their use for defensive operations against Iranian missile attacks.

A Downing Street spokesperson said HMS Prince of Wales had always been maintained at a high level of readiness.

"The Ministry of Defence is increasing the ship's preparedness and reducing the time needed for deployment, but no decision has been taken to send her anywhere," the spokesman said.

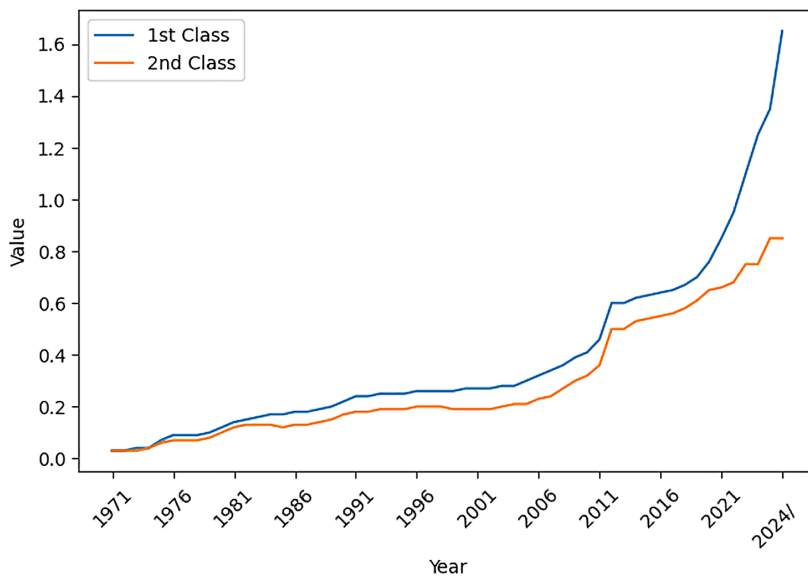
The carrier had already been scheduled to deploy to the Arctic later this year, although it remains unclear why the government initially moved it to an advanced readiness posture.

Some officials suggested the move reflected ongoing assessments of the security situation in the Middle East, though sources now say the decision was not directly linked to the escalation involving Iran.

The UK has already begun reinforcing its military footprint in the region following drone attacks on British bases. Additional fighter aircraft and the destroyer HMS Dragon are among the assets being deployed.

Ministers have faced criticism from some opposition figures who argue the government acted too slowly to strengthen defences around Cyprus.

1st Class vs 2nd Class Over Time



increased six times during the same period.

The announcement comes after Royal Mail admitted last month that it had missed its delivery targets again in the most recent quarter. The company has not met its annual target for delivering first-class post on time since 2019–20.

Consumer groups have criticised the increases. Anne Pardoe, head of policy at Citizens Advice, said it had been more than five years since Royal Mail met its delivery targets, leaving customers uncertain whether important letters — including medical appointments and official documents — will arrive on time.

She warned that proposed changes to delivery schedules and performance targets could make matters worse and said regulator Ofcom should not continue approving price rises without improvements in service.

"Higher prices must come with higher

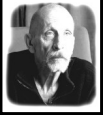
how to roll out the changes across its network of around 1,200 delivery offices have so far failed to reach agreement. Negotiations, which ended without a deal on March 2, have been extended for a further two weeks. Royal Mail said the reforms are necessary to create a more modern and sustainable postal service.

Despite the increases, the company argues that UK stamp prices remain below the European average, which it said is around £1.56 for second-class and £1.93 for first-class stamps.

based on based on <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c0mgyw32j8jo>

By Jack Fenwick, Political correspondent and Becky Morton, Political reporter

**RAF jets shoot down two more drones, says Healey**



Last week a small drone struck the runway at RAF Akrotiri, causing what the Ministry of Defence described as minimal damage. Healey said the drone was believed to have originated from Lebanon or Iraq, and that recovered fragments were being examined for evidence of foreign military technology. Shadow defence secretary James Cartledge questioned why HMS Dragon was only sent to the region after the base had already been targeted. Healey responded that the government had been gradually increasing its military presence in the Middle East since January. The UK has already deployed Typhoon and F-35 fighter jets, air defence systems and an additional 400 personnel to Cyprus.

based on <https://www.theroyalobserver.com/p/royal-author-urges-beatrice-and-eugenie-to-come-clean-over-andrews-secret-payout>

**Royal author calls on Beatrice and Eugenie to clarify claims over Andrew's alleged payout**

A royal historian has urged Princess Beatrice and Princess Eugenie to address questions surrounding a reported financial arrangement involving their father, Prince Andrew, and controversial billionaire David Rowland.

Recently revealed emails suggest Andrew was expecting to receive up to £300,000,

with £50,000 allocated to each of his daughters, as part of a wider financial plan linked to the Rowland family. The messages, reported by The Mail on Sunday, appear to show Andrew discussing how the money would be distributed. According to the correspondence, half of the funds intended for the princesses were to be invested in Jellybook, a venture capital firm founded by Jonathan Rowland, the son of David Rowland, which focused on

backing social media businesses. The disclosure has renewed scrutiny of Andrew's financial dealings during the period when he served as the UK's special trade envoy, particularly given his close relationship with the Rowland family. In one email, Andrew reportedly outlined how the funds would be divided, explaining that £50,000 would go to each daughter, with £25,000 of each share invested in Jellybook. The remainder of the money, according to the message, would be directed to accounts at Drummonds Bank once the £300,000 payment had been received. Jonathan Rowland, who was chief executive of Banque Havilland at the time, appeared to respond by confirming details of the plan and noting that funds could initially be invested on behalf of the princesses if their personal accounts had not yet been set up. Another email suggested that David Rowland himself would provide the £300,000, with £150,000 earmarked for the princesses and the Jellybook investment.

The revelations have prompted fresh political criticism. Labour MP Karl Turner said the details were troubling and questioned whether the payments might be connected to Andrew's role as a government trade representative. Turner said it was important to establish whether the financial

arrangement could have been linked to Andrew promoting the Rowlands' commercial interests while holding his official position. Shadow business minister Harriet Baldwin also called for further investigation, saying the allegations needed to be examined thoroughly. She added that if the claims proved accurate, they could suggest Andrew had blurred the line between his public responsibilities and private financial matters. Royal historian Andrew Lownie said the reports raised significant questions for the York sisters themselves. "Did they receive this money, and did it come from David Rowland?" he asked. "If it did, was it connected to their father supporting Rowland's business interests during his time as trade envoy?"

Lownie argued that the situation required greater transparency and said it was time for both Andrew and his daughters to clarify the circumstances surrounding the alleged payments.

The issue has also reignited discussion about how Beatrice and Eugenie funded their lifestyles in their early twenties. At the start of her career, Princess Beatrice reportedly earned about £19,500 a year, yet was frequently seen travelling abroad, reportedly taking numerous holidays during that period.

based on <https://www.dw.com/en/jeffrey-epstein-zorro-ranch-new-mexico-searched/a-76288598> by Zac Crellin

**US authorities search Jeffrey Epstein's former ranch**



**New Mexico authorities reopen investigation into Epstein's former Zorro Ranch**

Prosecutors in New Mexico have reopened a criminal investigation into activities linked to the late financier and convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, following the release of newly unsealed FBI documents.

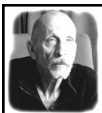
Investigators on Monday carried out a search at Zorro Ranch, a remote property once owned by Epstein, as part of renewed efforts to examine allegations of illegal activity at the site.

Officials said the case, which had originally been closed in 2019 after Epstein's death, was revived earlier this year after information contained in the recently disclosed "Epstein files" raised new questions. In a statement, the New Mexico Department of Justice said the search was connected to an ongoing criminal inquiry into alleged offences that may have taken place at the ranch before Epstein died in 2019.

Authorities said they intend to continue



Princess Eugenie of York, Princess Beatrice of York, and Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor. All reconstructed from a real photo



investigating the claims, support survivors and pursue any evidence uncovered during the probe.

### Background to the ranch

Zorro Ranch lies roughly 30 miles (48 kilometres) south of Santa Fe. Epstein purchased the property in 1993 from former New Mexico governor Bruce King.

The estate was one of several high-profile properties Epstein owned, alongside a Manhattan townhouse and a private island in the Caribbean.

At Zorro Ranch, Epstein constructed a large hilltop mansion and a private airstrip, reportedly hosting a number of influential guests there over the years.

Following Epstein's death, his estate sold the ranch in 2023, with proceeds used to repay creditors. According to authorities, the current owners have cooperated fully with investigators conducting the latest search.

### Allegations linked to the property

At least two women have previously accused Epstein and his associates of sexual misconduct at the ranch.

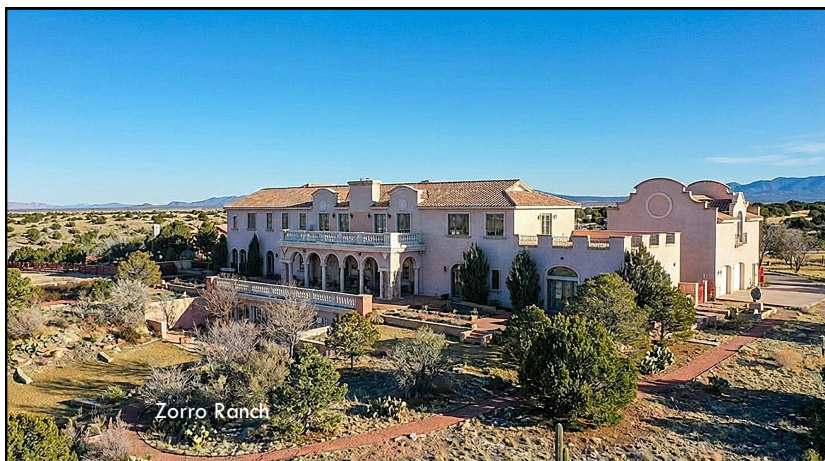
One woman, identified in legal filings as

"Jane Doe 15," alleged that she was raped at the property when she was 15 years old. Another accuser, Annie Farmer, said Epstein's associate Ghislaine Maxwell, who is currently serving a prison sentence, sexually assaulted her at the ranch when she was a teenager.

### Calls for justice

The renewed investigation has drawn attention from political leaders and campaigners.

New Mexico congresswoman Melanie Stansbury said authorities were pursuing the case thoroughly and emphasised the importance of accountability.



Zorro Ranch

based on <https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/archaeology/a70537662/the-fame-shipwreck-hull/>

By Tim Newcomb

### Storm reveals remains of 17th-century shipwreck

Part of a 395-year-old shipwreck has been uncovered after a storm exposed wooden remains on a beach in southern England.

The discovery is believed to be from The Fame, a Dutch merchant ship that sank in 1631 after running aground on a sandbank near the Swash Channel, a key shipping route into Poole Harbour.

Maritime archaeologists first identified much of the wreck during excavations in 2013, but a section of the hull had



remained missing for centuries.

The newly exposed piece, found at Studland beach, measures around 20 feet long and includes timber frames and outer hull planks that have survived remarkably well.

The Fame, which was more than 130 feet long and armed with around 40 guns, is thought to have been

transporting salt from the Caribbean to Europe when it wrecked. All 45 crew members reportedly escaped safely.

#54 - White mates in 7

