Trump pardons nearly 1,600 Capitol rioters as he signs first orders of presidency



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The new president and Vice-President JD Vance are attending three inaugural balls this evening to round off the day

Trump arrives directly from the Oval Office, where he earlier signed a flurry of executive actions - here's a summary

He issued nearly 1,600 pardons in connection with the Capitol riots on 6 January 2021 - many are expected to be released within hours

"The golden age of America begins right now," Trump said in his inaugural address earlier today, adding that he will be a "peacemaker and a unifier"

Analysis: A fiery speech from Trump as he throws jabs and makes promises. The BBC's North America correspondent Anthony Zurcher takes a look

During his speech at the Commander-in-Chief Ball, Trump said a big part of the reason he won the election was his relationship with the military.

"I have to tell you, with the military, we really won," he said.

Under the leadership of Pete Hegseth, who is set to be the next defence secretary, the country will again have "the most powerful military the world has ever seen", Trump added.

"We are going to have a nice iron dome," he said. "There's only one focus: defeating America's enemies. We're not going to be defeated, we're not going to be humiliated. We're only going to win win."