

# Hiroshima Atom Bombing should Never be Repeated: US Diplomat

TOKYO - A U.S. diplomat who attended this week's 70th anniversary of the American atomic bombing of Hiroshima said Friday that nuclear weapons should never be used again. Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Rose Gottemoeller was the highest-ranking U.S. official at Thursday's ceremony. Gottemoeller said she was moved by seeing aging Japanese survivors continue to tell their stories to help the world understand the consequences of nuclear weapons. She said those stories must be passed on to future genera-



tions and the world must continue nonproliferation efforts. "I do think that it's very, very important that the word get passed down to the next generation. We don't want to see nuclear use happen again," she

said. Gottemoeller added that people need to understand "the dire and terrible consequences of nuclear weapons' use for humanity." The U.S. atomic attack on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, killed 140,000 people from injuries and the immediate effects of radiation within five months. Another on Nagasaki three days later initially killed more than 70,000. Gottemoeller is also scheduled to attend the Aug. 9 ceremony in Nagasaki. With the average age of surviving victims, or hibakusha, now exceeding 80 this year, passing on their ...*(More on P4)...(30)*

## UNHCR Calls Refugee Situation in Greece Humanitarian Emergency

GENEVA - With 124,000 refugees arriving on Greek soil since the beginning of the year, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) indicated on Friday that Greek infrastructure and services are failing to address the needs of refugees fleeing wars in Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq. Representing a staggering 750 percent increase compared to the same period last year, UNHCR Director of the Bureau for Europe Vincent Cochetel

urged both Greece and the European Union to take decisive measures to deal with the crisis at hand. "On most of the islands, there are no reception facilities," he reported, adding that if such facilities do exist, they are often too small and consequently overcrowded, forcing many refugees to camp outside in inadequate water, sanitation and food conditions. "I've been working 30 years with UNHCR, I've visited many African



and Asian countries and I've never seen such a situation," Cochetel stated, adding that "this is the European Union and this

is totally shameful." UNHCR indicated that 50,000 new arrivals, 20,000 more than in June, were...*(More on P4)...(31)*

### Media

## Russian Hackers Crack U.S. Pentagon Email System

WASHINGTON - U.S. media reported on Thursday that Russian hackers are attacking the Pentagon's Joint Staff unclassified email system, leaving thousands of Department of Defense (DOD) workers without emails for nearly two weeks. U.S. officials believe Moscow may have orchestrated the "sophisticated cyberattack," which infiltrated the Joint Chiefs

of Staff email system sometime around July 25, according to multiple reports from NBC and CNN. NBC reported that suspected Russian hackers initiated the "sophisticated cyber intrusion" through encrypted accounts on social media. Media outlets quoted officials as saying that the hack on unclassified email accounts has reportedly affected around 4,000 Chiefs

of Staff personnel, both military and civilian, and was conducted through an automated system that was able to siphon large amounts of information and redistribute it to thousands of web accounts. The officials told NBC that only unclassified data was obtained, and the Pentagon immediately moved to shut down the Chiefs of ...*(More on P4)...(32)*

## Turkey Freezes Former Yemeni President's Assets

ANKARA - The Turkish government decided to freeze assets of former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and four former Yemeni officials, Turkish media reported on Friday. The Turkish government made the decision in line with a UN Security Council resolution, which was published on the Official Gazette on Friday following approval by the cabinet, the state-run Anadolu Agency reported. Assets of former President Saleh,



his son Ahmad Ali Abdullah Saleh and members of the Houthi militias Abdullehalek el Houthi, Abdul-

lah Yahya el Hakeem and Abdulmalik el Houthi will be frozen, according to the ...*(More on P4)...(33)*

## Kerry Says U.S. Ties can Grow if More Freedom in Vietnam

HANOI - Secretary of State John Kerry lauded on Friday the warming of ties with Vietnam but said the scope of relations, and military deals, would depend on its communist rulers' willingness to protect rights and freedoms. Kerry is Vietnam's latest high-profile visitor from Washington as the former enemies mark two decades of calibrated engagement since the normalization of ties that have expanded rapidly in the past year. In a speech to mark the anniversary, Kerry said barriers of "mistrust and misunderstanding" were falling and urged Vietnam

to show greater commitment to pursuing legal reforms and allowing freedom of expression and assembly. "Progress on human rights and the rule of law will provide the foundation for a deeper and more sustainable strategic partnership," Kerry said. "Only you can decide the pace and direction of the process." Despite pursuing Western engagement and economic reforms, Vietnam has been chided for crushing dissent, with bloggers, activists and journalists among those facing harassment, arrest and jail. *(Reuters)*

## EU Appeals for Assets for Greece, Hungary Migrant Operations

BRUSSELS - The European Union appealed Friday to its member countries to live up to pledges to provide planes and other assets so that its border agency can cope with a migrant influx into Greece and Hungary. EU leaders committed in April to triple the Frontex agency's budget and provide it with more assets as thousands of people fleeing conflict and poverty converged on Europe in search of better lives. "If we don't get these assets, it would seriously

## Top Iraq Cleric Asks PM to Name Corrupt Politicians

KARBALA - Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, directed Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi on Friday to take tougher measures against corruption and name politicians standing in the way of reform. "He must be more daring and courageous in his reforms," Ahmed al-Safi, a representative of the Ayatollah Sistani, said in a sermon delivered in the shrine city of Karbala. Baghdad and several cities in southern Iraq have been swept by a string of protests against the poor quality of services, including worsening power outages

that have coincided with searing summer temperatures. The demonstrators, many of them secular Iraqis, have blamed the services crisis on corruption and incompetence across the political class. Another series of protests is due to take place later Friday, this time with the planned participation of several top political figures. Abadi took office nearly a year ago announcing tough action against pervasive corrupt practices that had come to symbolize the tenure of his predecessor Nuri al-Maliki. *(AFP)*

## Abe, Okinawa Governor meet to Discuss USBase Relocation

TOKYO - Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Okinawa Governor Takeshi Onaga on Friday made some headway on the central government's contentious plans to relocate a controversial U.S. airbase within Japan's southernmost prefecture. At a meeting held at the prime minister's office, the pair agreed that the central and prefectural governments through intensive consultations over the coming weeks will try to work through the current stalemate. Onaga said Abe told him that were it not for Friday's meeting, the pair might still be at loggerheads over the issue, opinion of which on the tiny island of Okinawa stands staunchly opposed to Abe's base relocation plans. Under a previous bilateral accord between the United States and Japan, the U.S. Marine Corps' Air Station Futenma will be relocated from the densely populated area in Ginowan, to the less populated

coastal Henoko district of Nago also on the island, a move that is vehemently opposed by prefectural officials and citizens of Okinawa, who already shoulder the majority of Japan's U.S. base-hosting burdens. Onaga, for his part, said he would like to deepen discussions during the period of consultations, scheduled to take place during five weeks when land reclamation work in Henoko has been suspended, to gain a deeper understanding of the central government's intentions. The first round of talks are scheduled to take place on Tuesday between Onaga and Abe's top spokesperson, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga, in Naha, the capital of Okinawa. Onaga said he's keen to convey his and the prefecture's opinions on Okinawa's postwar base-hosting burdens, including the specifics of how and why the Futenma base was built in the first place. *(Xinhua)*

## Neighbour News

### Pakistan Condemns U.S. Drone Strike in N. Waziristan

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Friday condemned a recent U.S. drone strike in North Waziristan tribal region where security forces are battling the Taliban militants and other armed groups. An American spy aircraft fired two missiles on a house in North Waziristan's Datta Khel area late Thursday, killing at least five people, security sources said. "A US drone strike in the Lawara Mandi area of North Waziristan Agency on 06 August 2015 resulted in casualties. We condemn such strikes which are in disregard of our territorial sovereignty and international law," the Pakistani Foreign Ministry said. "These events also gen-

erate distrust among the local populace. We reiterate our call for cessation of such strikes," a ministry's statement said. Section of the media reported that those targeted belonged to the Haqqani Network that is blamed for deadly attacks in neighbouring Afghanistan. The Thursday U.S. strike came after a lull of nearly two months. The last strike was reported in June. Security officials believe that Taliban and other militants, who have fled the military offensive in North Waziristan, are now hiding in the rugged mountains that also include parts of Datta Khel and Shawal area. *(Xinhua)*

### Iran Quds Chief Visited Russia in Breach of U.N. Travel Ban

MOSCOW - The head of Iran's elite military Quds Force, who is subject to a United Nations travel ban, has visited Russia, two U.S. security sources said on Friday. Qassem Soleimani, chief of the force which is an overseas arm of the Revolutionary Guards, has been subject to an international travel ban and asset freeze by the U.N. Security Council since 2007. Fox News reported on Thursday that Soleimani had arrived in Moscow on July 24 and met President Vladimir Putin and Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu before departing three days later. A Kremlin spokesman denied any meeting between Soleimani and Putin had taken

place, RIA news agency reported. One U.S. security source told Reuters the Fox report was true but it was unclear what was discussed at the meeting. A senior administration official in Washington said U.S. sanctions on Soleimani would remain in place. "We will maintain sanctions on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the Quds Force, its leadership - including Qassem Soleimani - and its entire network," the official said. Two officials at the Russian Foreign Ministry said they could neither confirm nor deny a Soleimani visit to Moscow. The Russian defense ministry was not available for comment. *(Reuters)*

### Tajik PM Presides over Meeting of Consultative Council

DUSHANBE - Tajik Prime Minister Qohir Rasulzoda presided over a meeting of the Consultative Council on Improving Investment Climate in Dushanbe capital of Tajikistan, on Friday. Qodiri Qosim, the Council Executive Secretary and also the head of State Committee on Investment and State-owned Property Management, reported on the results of monitoring of the process of implementation of decisions made by the Council. Tajik Minister of Industry and New Technologies Shavkat Bobozoda reported on the results of activities of the working group on improvement of investment climate in industry. Qodiri Qosim submitted the draft investment law in new edition for consideration of the meeting. He said that the new investment law had been drafted for the purpose of imple-

menting instructions and recommendations made by the president during his meeting with entrepreneurs and investors. Qosim also submitted the issue of improvement of investment climate in the energy sector and continues electricity delivery for consideration of the meeting. Representatives of private sector and partners for development also expressed their opinions on the issues discussed at the meeting. The Consultative Council on Improving Investment Climate in Tajikistan was established in January 2008. The Council aims to conduct the single national policy on improvement of business environment and attraction of investments in further socioeconomic development of the country as well as provide an effective interaction among government institutions in this sphere. *(Agencies)*

### China Committed to Uphold Peace, Stability in S. China Sea

BEIJING - A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson on Friday emphasized that China has always been committed to jointly upholding peace and stability in the South China Sea with ASEAN. Spokeswoman Hua Chunying's remarks came after a joint communique re-

leased on Thursday, two days after the conclusion of the 48th ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting. The South China Sea issue is mentioned in the communique. "We have taken note of the communique," Hua said. "As for the issue mentioned, Foreign Minister Wang Yi ...*(More on P4)...(34)*