

## Drone Attack Causes Minor Fire in Saudi Gas Plant: Minister

RIYADH - A Saudi minister said a drone attack on Saturday caused a minor fire in a gas plant in an oil field in eastern Saudi Arabia, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

In a statement carried by the SPA, Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources Khalid A. Al-Falih said the attack on Shaybah Oil Field on Saturday morning caused limited damage with no injuries reported. The oil production and exports wouldn't be affected by the "terrorist" attack, Al-Falih added.

The attack was part of hostilities against the international oil supply and economy, he noted.

The Saudi minister urged the global community to fight militants including the Iran-backed Houthi militias. (Xinhua)



## Neighbor News

### New Report Says US Sanctions on Iran are Killing Cancer Patients

TEHRAN - The patient cancers in Iran are losing their lives as a result of US economic sanctions against the Islamic Republic, an Iranian pharmacology professor says. In a Foreign Policy article, Dr. Abbas Kebriaee Zadeh, professor of toxicology and pharmacology at Tehran University of Medical Sciences, wrote that US sanctions against Iran indirectly hamper the flow of vital medicines for cancer patients in the Islamic Republic. The article reveals that while Washington claims its harsh sanctions against Iran would not target the flow of medi-

cine and other humanitarian necessities into Iran, banking sanctions are in fact increasing import prices, blocking supply chains, and creating deadly drug shortages in the country. Citing the US Census Bureau, Kebriaee Zadeh adds that under the administration of US President Donald Trump during the last two years, the US' annual exports of pharmaceutical products to Iran declined to an average of \$8.6 million a year compared to \$26 million annually during the Barack Obama-era sanctions. (Press TV)

### Russian Satellites May Soon Become INVISIBLE from Earth

MOSCOW - Russia's space agency claims to have found an unconventional way of equipping its satellites with stealth features, effectively making them hard to spot from Earth. A special wrap may be the solution, they say. Roscosmos has invented top-notch technology which involves covering satellites with a unique air-bubble wrap that scatters light, Russian media reported. The method is said to reduce the satellite's visibility by 10 times or more when observed by telescopes

from Earth. The agency says the technology - which seems to be of dual use - could be employed to 'hide' satellites travelling at 10,000km to 20,000km above Earth's surface. Russia, the first country to have sent a satellite into orbit, recently unveiled new technology involving the unmanned spacecraft. Just this month, Roscosmos presented a solution to the growing problem of space debris - a satellite that would destroy itself at the end of its lifetime. (RT)

### U.S.'s North Korea Envoy to Visit Japan, South Korea Next Week

WASHINGTON - The U.S. special envoy for North Korea will travel to Japan and South Korea next week to coordinate efforts to secure the denuclearization of North Korea, the State Department said on Friday. Stephen Biegun will be in Japan from Monday to Tuesday and in Seoul from Tuesday to Thursday, a State Department statement said. News of Biegun's trip came after U.S. President Donald Trump said last Saturday that North

Korean leader Kim Jong Un had told him he was ready to resume stalled denuclearization talks with the United States and would stop recent missile testing as soon as U.S.-South Korea military exercises that have been held this month end. The State Department statement made no mention of any talks with North Korea. When asked if any were planned during Biegun's trip, a spokeswoman said the department had no additional



meetings to announce. The statement said the purpose of the trip was "to further strengthen coordination on the final, fully verified denu-

clearization" of North Korea. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Aug. 7 he was hopeful ... (More on P4)...(9)

### Senior UK Conservative Lawmaker Says He Could Not Back Corbyn-Led Government



LONDON - A Conservative lawmaker at the centre of efforts to block a no-deal Brexit said on Saturday he was pessimistic about his chances

because he and other party colleagues could not support a caretaker government led by op-

position leader Jeremy Corbyn. With Prime Minister Boris Johnson vowing to take Britain out of the European Union with or without a deal by Oct. 31, anti-Brexit politicians from all sides have been trying, and so far failing, to agree on a plan to stop it from happening. Corbyn, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, wants a caretaker government with himself as head, and then an election. But other opponents

of a no-deal Brexit worry that Corbyn, a staunch leftist, would not win enough support, prompting leaders of smaller parties to put forward their own suggestions as to who could lead a government long enough to delay Brexit. Oliver Letwin, a lawmaker from Johnson's ruling Conservatives, was asked to lend his support to Corbyn this week, but he told BBC Radio on Saturday: "I don't think it's at all likely that a majority would be ... (More on P4)...(10)

### Japan May Offer Its Fukushima Robots to US for Denuclearization of North Korea

TOKYO - Japan has offered the US its best nuclear-cleanup robots - designed for Fukushima - for use in dismantling North Korea's nuclear facilities, hoping to remain in the loop as Washington and Pyongyang talk denuclearization. The remote-controlled robots are being developed to remove melted fuel debris from reactors in the aftermath of the 2011 Fukushima power plant meltdown. First reported by the Japan Times, the offer

to dispatch the robots comes as Tokyo seeks to play an active role in denuclearization talks. Japan previously told Washington that it would help cover costs associated with International Atomic Energy Agency inspections of North Korean facilities, and even offered to send its own experts to assist. The robots could help to alleviate concerns about radioactive contamination from the improper storage of nuclear ... (More on P4)...(13)

### Russian Company Talks Supplies of Equipment to Uzbek Plant

TASHKENT - Uzbekistan will receive high-quality equipment with a high degree of reliability at a competitive price, a representative of the Russian OJSC Volgogradneftemash told Trend in an interview. Recently, Trend reported that Volgogradneftemash will supply equipment for an air separation unit to one of the processing plants in Uzbekistan. "We will deliver three oxygen receivers with a diameter of 3 m, a length of 22 m and a total weight of almost 400 tons that will operate under high pressure to the Uzbek plant," the representative said. He added that the wall thickness of the enclosure of the apparatus is 70 mm. The equipment is made of domestic steel in accordance with the requirements of Russian standards and technical

regulations of the Customs Union. "In accordance with the contract, we can't say which of the factories of Uzbekistan will receive our company's products," the representative stated. Volgogradneftemash OJSC is the largest Russian manufacturer of technological equipment for the gas, oil and petrochemical industries. The main types of products are reactors, coke oven chambers, columns, separators, tanks, shell-and-tube heat exchangers, oil pumps, devices for starting and receiving chambers for cleaning and diagnostic tools and pipeline fittings. Almost all gas producing, gas transporting and oil and gas processing enterprises of Russia and the CIS countries are equipped with the equipment manufactured by OJSC Volgogradneftemash. (Trend)

### 'Just Fake News': Huawei VP Rejects WSJ Report of Employees Spying on African Politicians

BEIJING - Huawei has never engaged in hacking activities, the company's vice president of strategy, Andrew Williamson, told RT after a report claimed its technicians helped African governments to snoop on political opponents. RT America's Sara Montes de Oca spoke with Williamson after traveling to the telecommunication giant's headquarters in Shenzhen, China. The Wall Street Journal reported earlier this week that governments in Uganda and Zambia had allegedly enlisted Huawei's help to spy on dissenting voices, including tapping into opposition politicians' ... (More on P4)...(14)

### Trade Turnover Between Turkey and Kyrgyzstan Decreases

BISHKEK - The trade turnover between Turkey and Kyrgyzstan decreased by \$3.652 million in June 2019 compared to June 2018 and reached \$27.102 million, Turkish Ministry of Trade told Trend on Aug. 15. "Turkey exported goods worth \$24.546 million to Kyrgyzstan and imported goods worth \$2.556 million from Kyrgyzstan," the ministry said. In the first half of the year, the trade turnover between Turkey and Kyrgyzstan decreased by \$25.003 million compared to the same period of 2018 and reached \$189.366 million. "In January-June 2019, Turkey exported goods worth \$169.537 million to Kyrgyzstan and imported goods worth \$19.829 ... (More on P4)...(15)

### North Korea's Kim Jong Un Expresses 'Great Satisfaction' Over Latest Weapons Tests

PYONGYANG - North Korea said Saturday that leader Kim Jong Un supervised another test-firing of an unspecified new weapon, seen as an attempt to pressure Washington and Seoul over slow nuclear negotiations and their joint military exercises. Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency, or KCNA, said that following Friday's launches, Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over his military's "mysterious and amazing success rates" in recent testing activity and vowed to build up "invincible military capabilities no



one dare provoke." The report did not mention any specific comment about the United States or South Korea. The launches were North Korea's sixth round of tests since late July that revealed developments of a new rocket

artillery system and two separate short-range mobile ballistic missile systems that experts say would expand its ability to strike targets throughout South Korea, including U.S. bases there. KCNA ... (More on P4)...(11)

### Kashmir Is 'Definitely A Nuclear Flashpoint,' Pakistan Armed Forces Spokesman Warns

Tensions between Pakistan and India over the disputed territory of Kashmir could spark a nuclear conflict, Pakistan's military spokesman said. The warning comes amid reports of more fighting along the Line of Control between them. "Kashmir is definitely a nuclear flashpoint," Major General Asif Ghafoor, chief spokesperson of the Pakistan Armed Forces, said on Saturday. He added that Pakistani armed troops are ready to repel any time, describing the dispute as a long-term struggle.

Ghafoor's remark comes just hours after reports of another fatal exchange of fire along Kashmir's Line of Control (LoC). An Indian soldier is said to have been killed in the skirmish, in what Indian media have called an unprovoked ceasefire violation from the Pakistani side. Earlier in the week, Islamabad announced that three Pakistani and five Indian soldiers had died in cross-border fighting. New Delhi denied that any of ... (More on P4)...(12)

### Influenza H1N1 Death Toll Inches Closer to 100 in Myanmar

YANGON - The death toll of seasonal influenza A (H1N1) pdm 09 reached 96 as of Friday, an official from Ministry of Health and Sports told Xinhua on Saturday.

From January 1 to August 16 this year, a total of 463 laboratory confirmed influenza H1N1 infection cases were reported with deaths inching closer to 100. During the period, Yangon region registered highest mortality rate with 66 deaths, accounting two-thirds of total deaths as it has the highest population density, said Daw Khin Khin Gyi, deputy director of Contagious Disease Prevention and Eradication Division under the ministry's Public Health Department. Also, 12 deaths were reported in Ayeeyarwady region while seven deaths in Bago, three deaths in Sagaing and two in Magway regions.

Meanwhile, Mon state registered three deaths, followed by Kachin, Rakhine and Shan states with one death each. Of the total deaths, 78 deaths were those who suffered from H1N1 influenza with underlying diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases, and other immunodeficiency conditions, said a report of the Central Epidemiology Unit and National Health Laboratory under the ministry. The symptoms of the seasonal influenza come within one to five days which is called incubation period after exposure for the infected person as the virus is spread through airborne droplets from sneezing and coughing or by hands which are contaminated with secretions. (Xinhua)

### Iran Hosts Yemeni, European Meeting to End Saudi-Led War

TEHRAN - A trilateral meeting was held among Iran, Yemeni's Ansarullah movement and the four European states of Britain, France, Germany and Italy in Tehran on Saturday to discuss ways to end the devastating war in Yemen and send immediate humanitarian aid to the country. Senior Assistant to the Iranian foreign minister for Political Affairs Ali Asqar Khaji headed Iran's delegation while the Yemeni and European delegations were led by Ansarullah Spokesman Mohammed Abdul Salam and the British, French, German and Italian envoys to Tehran, respectively. During the meeting, the participants explained about their governments' views about the

political, field and humanitarian situation in Yemen, expressing regret over the continued critical conditions in the country after thousands of Yemeni people were killed and wounded and different infrastructures in the country were destroyed in the Saudi-led war. They also underscored the need for an immediate end to the war and finding of a political solution to the crisis in Yemen, and called for the dispatch of humanitarian aid to the country as soon as possible. Meantime, the delegations participating in the meeting emphasized full implementation of the Stockholm agreements, describing it as a prelude to the final settlement of the political crisis in Yemen. (FNA)