

Europol, Greek Police to Search for Jihadists at Greek Refugee Camps

ATHENS - Europe's law enforcement agency Europol will send some 200 officers to Greece in coming weeks to search for any jihadists at refugee camps in co-operation with Greek police, local media reported.

Europol Director Rob Wainwright confirmed the operation while taking an interview with a British newspaper, Greek media such as "Kathimerini" (Daily newspaper, "Eleftheros Typos" (Free Press) and news portal in.gr. Greek police have not commented yet on the reports. But according to Wainwright, Europol officers will be deployed along Greek officers to track down any extremists who may be dis-



guising as refugees using forged documents and intend to travel to other European countries. Following last year's terrorist attacks in Paris, police investigation showed that some of the perpetrators had entered Europe from Turkey on refugee boats and had passed through hotspots on Greek islands, Greek media reported.

More than a million people have landed on Greece's shores since early 2015, seeking refuge from wars and extreme poverty. Many have continued their journey to other European countries. About 57,000 refugees and migrants are currently stranded in Greece after the country's northern borders were closed in February. (Xinhua)

UN Security Council Slams DPRK's Latest Missile Launch

UNITED NATIONS - The UN Security Council "strongly condemned" the launching of a submarine-launched ballistic missile by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Aug. 23, saying that the launch is "in grave violation of" the Pyongyang's international obligations under relevant Security Council resolutions.

In a statement issued here late Friday, the 15-nation UN body also strongly

condemned the ballistic missile launches conducted by the DPRK on Aug. 2 and July 18, and the launching of a submarine-launched ballistic missile by the DPRK on July 9. "These launches are in grave violation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's international obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2087 (2013), 2094 (2013) and 2270... (More on P4)... (15)

EU-U.S. Trade Deal Negotiations have Failed: German Economy Minister

BERLIN - German Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel said on Sunday that the negotiations between the European Union (EU) and the United States over a free trade deal had de facto failed. "The negotiations with the USA have de facto failed, because we as Europeans, of course, should not subject ourselves to American demands," Gabriel said in an interview with German ZDF television.

He noted that the two

sides could not agree on a single chapter of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) being discussed. "Things are not moving on the issue," he added. Since July 2013, when the EU and the United States started negotiations on the free trade deal, 14 rounds of talks have been held. Both sides have sought to conclude the negotiations by the end of this year.

An earlier survey found that public support for



the agreement dropped sharply in both Germany and the United States in recent years. Concerns of the opponents include declines in consumer and labour protection, environmental standards as well as the secrecy of the negotiations. (Xinhua)

Czech Republic Not to Accept Refugees under EU-Turkey Deal in 2016

PRAGUE - The Czech Republic will not accept refugees under the EU-Turkey migrant deal till the end of 2016 due to very thorough security control measures, Czech Interior Minister Milan Chovanec said Sunday. In accordance with EU-Turkey migrant deal, the Czech Republic is obliged to accept 80 refugees from Turkish camps till the end of 2016. "We carry out very thorough security checking of refugees which is unlikely to be completed till the end

of 2016. So, one cannot assume that we will accept somebody till the end of the year," Chovanec said as quoted by the Czech television broadcaster. Chovanec noted that the Czech Republic would not carry out an uncontrolled acceptance of migrants, like Germany did. According to the deal agreed on March 18, Turkey pledged to take back all undocumented migrants who come ashore in Greece if EU countries ... (More on P4)... (16)

Pre-Summit G20 Meetings are Fruitful: China Minister

BEIJING - China's Finance Minister Lou Jiwei said Sunday that several rounds of financial and monetary policy consultations this year ahead of the upcoming G20 summit have generated many results. Financial and central bank officials from G20 members decided nine prioritized areas and 48 guiding principles for structural reforms, said Lou, calling the progress a "milestone". The policy makers for the first time proposed using



monetary, financial and structural reform measures to boost growth and stabilize outlook. They

also agreed to push reforms of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. These officials vowed to encourage multilateral development banks to ... (More on P4)... (17)

Russia Lifts Charter Flights Ban on Turkey

MOSCOW - The Russian government signed on Sunday a decree lifting the restrictions on charter flights to Turkey after an eight-month ban introduced due to tensions between the two countries arising from the downing of a Russian warplane by Ankara in Nov. 2015.

Following the move, a number of Russian airlines have begun to submit applications to the country's air transport authorities for charter flights to Turkey. Meanwhile, the Russian government has proposed that airlines take additional steps to ensure the safety of charter flights between Russia and Turkey. Russia has taken a series of restrictive measures against Turkey from 2016, including bans on the import of Turkish foodstuffs, charter flights in both directions, and the visa-free travel regime between them. On June 30, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a lift of the ban on package tours to Turkey and instructed the government to take steps to resume charter flights between the two countries after Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan apologized for the downing of the Russian warplane. (Xinhua)

India Becomes fourth Country to Successfully Test Launch Scramjet Engine

SRIHARIKOTA - India on Sunday became the fourth country to successfully test launch a scramjet engine, The Hindu reported. The test flight, which represents an milestone in the ISRO's efforts regarding its future space transportation system, took place at the Sathish Dhawan Space Centre launch pad. The purpose of the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) experimental mission is the realisation of an Air-



Breathing Propulsion System that utilises hydrogen fuel and oxygen from the atmosphere as an oxidiser. The scramjet engines help reduce launch costs

by cutting down on the amount of oxidiser which needs to be carried along with the fuel. An ISRO official told Indian news agency IANS that ... (More on P4)... (18)

Turkish Airstrikes Kill 25 Kurdish Militants in North Syria

ANKARA - Turkish airstrikes killed 25 Kurdish militants in northern Syria on Sunday, Turkish General Staff stated. The airstrikes were conducted after Turkish army and the Free Syrian Army (FSA) attacked by the Kurdish terrorists groups on Saturday night, the statement said. According to the CNN Turk, one soldier was killed and three others injured in the attack. Turkish media reported earlier in the day that Turkish warplanes, artillery hit Kurdish People's

Protection Units (YPG) targets in northern Syria on early Sunday morning. Turkish warplanes hit and destroyed a YPG ammunition depot in Jarablus of northern Syria, military sources told local media. Turkish warplanes had struck the YPG fighters near the Syrian town of Jarablus on Saturday. The Turkish military, which has entered Jarablus as part of the Euphrates Shield operation to back Syrian rebels to sweep Islamic State (IS) militants off the border, hit ... (More on P4)... (19)

Battles in Libya's Sirte Kill 18 Soldiers and Injure 120

TRIPOLI - Fierce clashes against the Islamic State (IS) militants in the Libyan city of Sirte killed 18 soldiers and injured another 120 on Sunday, according to Sirte's field hospital. The hospital posted on its Facebook page that "the hospital has so far received around 120 injured soldiers, whose injuries vary from medium to slight." The hospital also posted the names of the 18 killed soldiers.]]] Sirte, the hometown of former leader Moammar Gaddafi, killed in the 2011 uprising, was taken over by the IS last year.]

Government forces on Sunday attempted to advance further into IS's two remaining posts in Sirte, according to a spokesman.] Sirte is located 450 km east of the capital Tripoli, and has witnessed increased violent clashes between government forces and IS affiliates since May.] In addition to the hundreds of killed and injured soldiers, the fighting forced city residents to flee to safer nearby cities.] The IS terrorist group is also responsible for several suicide bombings and deaths of foreigners in Libya. (Xinhua)

WHO Urges African Nations to Increase Resources for Health Sector

NAIROBI - The World Health Organization (WHO) has urged African states to increase the use of domestic resources for funding their health sectors. Director for Health Systems and Services Cluster of WHO Regional Office for Africa, Delanyo Dovlo, told Xinhua Saturday that on average a majority of African countries fund

health needs from domestic resources. "In order to gain sustainability and resilience in their health systems, African states must be able to rely more and more on domestic resources for health in the same way developed countries have managed," Dovlo said during a civil society forum on Africa's health in Nairobi. Dovlo said that the use of ... (More on P4)... (20)

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Uzbekistan's Longtime Ruler Islam Karimov Hospitalized

MOSCOW - Uzbekistan's government issued an unusual statement Sunday announcing the hospitalization of President Islam Karimov, who has ruled the former Soviet republic in Central Asia for more than 25 years. The statement gave no details about the nature of the illness suffered by the 78-year-old president, saying only that "in the opinion of the specialists, a full medical examination and subsequent treatment will require a certain amount of time." Karimov, who tolerates no dissent, has ruled

Uzbekistan since Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made him the republic's Communist Party chief in 1989. In December 1991, just days after the Soviet Union ceased to exist, Karimov was elected president of the newly independent state. As he has aged, questions have arisen about both a successor and the long-term stability of the strategically placed Central Asian country. During the war in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan served as an important supply route for U.S. and NATO troops. (AP)

Armed Forces Must Deter Enemy's Aggression: Ayatollah Khamenei

TEHRAN - Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says the country's Armed Forces must boost their preparedness to deter any enemy aggression. Addressing a meeting with commanders and officials of Iran's Khatam al-Anbiya Air Defense Base on Sunday, the Leader added that the base stands "at the forefront of confrontation with any aggression." Ayatollah Khamenei said the Islamic Republic is faced with an evil and deceitful front which is hos-

tile to religious beliefs, independence and insurmountability of the Iranian nation. "In the face of such an enemy, which seeks to undermine the country's defensive prowess, Armed Forces' preparedness must be boosted to an extent that the enemy would not even dare to think about any aggression," Ayatollah Khamenei stated. The Leader mentioned "determination, resolve and capability of manpower" as the leading factors, which do away with obstacles and weaknesses. (Presstv)

Draft Amendments to Pakistani Corporate Sector Rules Issued

ISLAMABAD - Three years after its enactment, amendments are being made to the Pakistani Public Sector Companies (Corporate Governance) Rules 2013 as the government functionaries have been facing issues in implementing existing rules. The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) on Saturday issued the draft of amendments in the Rules and floated the document on its website to obtain feedback from all stakeholders including the public. The need for amend-

ments in the Public Sector Companies (Corporate Governance) Rules, 2013, has mainly been pushed by the Economic Reforms Units of the Ministry of Finance. "Some concerns regarding implementation of the Rules have been forwarded by the concerned line Ministries of concerned Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs)," said an official of the SECP. After consultations with the government, mainly finance ministry officials, the SECP has decided to introduce amendments to the ... (More on P4)... (21)

Pakistan, Tajikistan Envisage Jacking up Bilateral Trade to \$500m: Envoy

DUSHANBE: In a bid to jack up bilateral trade by around eight times up to \$500 million per annum from existing level of \$65 million, Pakistan has officially asked Tajikistan to construct its route from Ishkashim for connecting it with Chitral that can ensure its access to warm water of Karachi port through distance of 2,200 kilometres. "Both sides are working to facilitate bilateral trade as the leaders of the both the countries have envisaged target for jacking up bilateral trade up to \$500 million over the medium term against existing level of \$65 million in 2015. We have officially discussed opening up of route from Ishkashim to Chitral that will help them transport their products up to Karachi port and will also help us boost our exports," Pakistan's Ambassador in Tajikistan Tariq Iqbal

Soomro told The News in an exclusive interview here at the embassy premises on Friday. The ambassador said that the Trilateral Transit Agreement among Pakistan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan did not exist for which Pakistan was struggling a lot because it would help in reducing nonofficial trade. According to independent estimates, the volume of non-official trade was already ranging around \$300 to \$400 million per annum, mainly routed through Afghanistan. He said that Tajikistan had already applied for becoming part of Quadrilateral Agreement on Traffic in Transit (QITA) for which all four member countries including Pakistan had agreed in principle and it was hoped that Tajikistan would soon join this forum of QITA. (Agencies)