

# Trump Says Discussed Forming Cyber Security Unit with Putin

WASHINGTON - U.S. President Donald Trump said on Twitter on Sunday that he discussed forming a cyber security unit to guard against election hacking with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Tweeting after his first meeting with Putin on Saturday, Trump said now was the time to work constructively with Moscow, pointing to a ceasefire deal in southwest Syria that came into effect on Sunday.

"Putin & I discussed forming an impenetrable Cyber Security unit so that election hacking,



& many other negative things, will be guarded and safe," he said following their talks at the G20 summit in Hamburg, Germany. Trump said he had raised allegations of Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election with Putin.

"I strongly pressed President Putin twice about Russian meddling in our election. He vehemently denied it. I've already given my opinion...."

He added: "We negotiated a ceasefire in parts of Syria which will save lives. Now it is time to move forward in working constructively with Russia!" (Reuters)

## Macron Says Still Trying to Change Trump's Mind on Climate Change

HAMBURG, Germany - French President Emmanuel Macron said here Saturday that he will not give up trying to change U.S. President Donald Trump's mind on climate change. Macron made the remarks to the press after the closing session of the G20 summit in Hamburg.

Macron called the retreat of the United States from the Paris Agreement "a mistake", saying there is no alternative of the international agreement reached in



2015. Macron said Paris will host a summit on December 12 to make further progress on Paris agreement. The G20 declaration fails

to reach an agreement on climate change. The U.S. side announced it will immediately cease the implementation of the Paris Agreement, while the other leaders

of G20 members stated that the agreement is irreversible, according to the declaration. The G20 summit has taken place from July 7 to 8. (Xinhua)

## U.S.-Russian Ceasefire Goes into Effect in Southern Syria

DAMASCUS - The ceasefire agreement reached between the United States and Russia went into effect on Sunday in southern Syria, local media reported.

The ceasefire covers the provinces of Sweida, Daraa, and Qunaitera, according to the media.

On Friday, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said the United States and Russia had reached ceasefire agreement to quell fighting in southwest Syria.

He said the agreement, if

it holds, may be a blueprint for other parts of the country.

"This area in the south is our first show of success.

We hope we can replicate that elsewhere," he said. The ceasefire is part of the de-escalation zones' deal, which went into force last May in four Syrian areas including the southern part of Syria, where battles flared up again, prompting the United States and Russia to agree to a ceasefire. (Xinhua)

## Italian PM Calls for Global Coordinated Efforts to Address Migration Challenge

HAMBURG, Germany - Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni Saturday called for global efforts and coordinated actions to address migration challenge. At a press conference after G20 summit in Hamburg, Germany, the prime minister said Italy's effort on immigration "can not be unlimited."

He admitted the views are divided on immigration issues between Italy and its neighbors like France, adding that he does not expect sudden conversions in that

regard. Though Italy has made important efforts, for instance, performed international search and marine rescue operations, "this effort can not be unlimited, it can not be done only by us," Gentiloni said. Meanwhile, the Italian prime minister regarded the outcomes of the G20 summit as "acceptable results", underlying that G20 stands against protectionism and incorrect behaviors in trade, while granting legitimate trade defence instruments to individual countries. (Xinhua)

## Xi, Trump Meet on Ties, Hot-Spot Issues on G20 Sidelines

HAMBURG, Germany - Chinese President Xi Jinping and his U.S. counterpart, Donald Trump, met here Saturday to discuss bilateral ties and global hot-spot issues on the sidelines of a Group of 20 (G20) summit.

Xi told Trump that stronger China-U.S. ties are conducive to stability and prosperity and serve the interests of both peoples and the international community in a complex world where various conflicts emerge.

Noting that the two countries have made new pro-

gress in bilateral cooperation in many fields since the Mar-a-Lago meeting despite some sensitive issues, Xi urged joint efforts with Trump to keep bilateral ties on track and coordinate in international affairs. Xi also stressed that the two countries should stick to mutual respect and win-win cooperation to keep China-U.S. relations healthy and stable.

For his part, Trump hailed the "wonderful relationship" with Xi and expressed confidence in the "success" in addressing common problems to-



gether with China.

Trump was scheduled to pay a state visit to China later this year. Xi and Trump set a constructive tone for the development of China-U.S. relations during their talks at the

Mar-a-Lago resort in the U.S. state of Florida in April. The meeting was the first face-to-face communication between the two heads of state since the new U.S. administration took office. (Xinhua)

## Trump Keeps it Friendly with Xi at G20 on North Korea Threat

HAMBURG - U.S. President Donald Trump took a conciliatory tone on Saturday at a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping where the leaders agreed to keep working on two pressing issues: the nuclear threat posed by North Korea and bilateral trade irritants.

Trump campaigned in last year's presidential election on cracking down on China for its trade practices, but he softened his rhetoric after taking office, saying he wanted to work with China on the nuclear issue.

When the two leaders first met in April at Trump's Florida resort, they appeared to hit it off. Trump called Xi a "good man" as he urged him to use Beijing's economic clout to force North Korea to curb its nuclear weapons program.

Lately, Trump has expressed some impatience on China's role in North Korea - particularly after Pyongyang launched an intercontinental ballistic missile that some experts believe could have the range to reach Alaska, and parts of the U.S. West Coast. His administration made new arms sales to Taiwan, imposed sanctions on two Chinese citizens and a shipping company and put China on a global human trafficking list. It also accused a Chinese bank of laundering money for Pyongyang.

The White House is also debating trade actions against Beijing, including tariffs on its steel exports and a few days before the G20 talks, Trump complained that trade between China and North Korea had grown. But he showed none of that impatience on Saturday, when the leaders met at the invitation of Xi at the tail end of the G20 in Germany. (Reuters)

## Iraqi PM Declares Victory of Mosul Battles against IS Group

MOSUL, Iraq - Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi arrived in Mosul on Sunday and congratulated the armed forces for their victory over Islamic State after 266 days of battles, liberating Mosul from IS after its three years of rule in the city.

Liberating Mosul from the occupation of Islamic State (IS) is a great victory for Iraq's anti-terror war, but the war-torn country will face grave challenges of national reconstruction and reconciliation, experts said.



Iraqi forces have liberated Mosul, the capital city of Iraq's northern province of Nineveh and the second largest Iraqi city, after a nine-month fierce battle to drive out IS, which had used the city as its de facto capital.

It was in Mosul that IS leader Sheikh Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared in 2014 the establishment of Islamic State (IS), a caliphate in Iraq and Syria. The fall of Mosul symbolizes the total collapse of IS in Iraq. (Xinhua)

## Saudi-Led Warships Shell Houthi Positions in Yemen

ADEN, Yemen - Warships of the Saudi-led Arab coalition launched an intensified bombing on a number of positions held by fighters of the Shi'ite Houthi group in war-torn Yemeni province of Taiz on Sunday, a military official told Xinhua.

According to the military source, "the Saudi-led warships based near the Mocha seaport bombed several positions held by Houthi fighters in Hamli and Khaled Bin-Walid military bases in the western part of Taiz province."

Arms depots and military vehicles belonging to the Houthi militias were completely destroyed in the Saudi-led

bombing in Taiz's western area, the source said.

Medical sources in the area confirmed to Xinhua that the shelling that targeted the Houthi-controlled sites resulted in killing 15 Houthi gunmen and injuring more than 20 others. Airstrikes launched by fighter jets of the Saudi-led Arab coalition targeted on Sunday military positions used for firing missiles by Houthis in Taiz. Meanwhile, intense fighting continued between the Saudi-backed government forces and the Shi'ite Houthi fighters in different northern provinces, causing casualties from both warring sides. (Xinhua)

## British PM Calls for Resolving Qatari Crisis through Dialogue

KUWAIT - Visiting British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson on Saturday called on Qatar and its Arab neighbors to resolve a diplomatic crisis through dialogue. Johnson, who is in a three-nation Gulf tour aimed at calming down the tensions in the Gulf, issued the call during a meeting with his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the official KUNA news agency reported.

Johnson arrived in Kuwait from Riyadh, the first leg of his Gulf tour which will also take him to Qatar. The top British diplomat expressed anxiety at the crisis between Qatar and a Saudi Arabia-led alliance of Arab countries, saying the blockade imposed on Doha is "unwelcome" and the parties need to resolve it through dialogue. Sheikh Sabah applauded Britain's support of Kuwait's efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis, KUNA reported. Kuwait, which has not joined the Saudi-led bloc in cutting diplomatic ties with Doha and imposing a blockade early last month, has been playing the role of mediator in the crisis.

Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain and Egypt issued a list of 13 demands to Qatar later last month, including closing Al-Jazeera TV station, stopping financing and supporting terrorism, and downgrading its ties with Iran, as major preconditions for ending their boycott. On Thursday, the four nations slammed Qatar's response, relayed by Kuwait, saying Doha's refusal to accept their demands was proof that the tiny rich Gulf nation is linked to terror groups. (Xinhua)

## Neighbor News

### German Media, Scholars Laud Xi's Visit for Promoting Bilateral Ties, Global Cooperation

BERLIN - German media and scholars have spoken highly of Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to the country for promoting bilateral ties and global cooperation.

Xi paid a state visit to Germany at the invitation of German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Chancellor Angela Merkel in Berlin and attended the 12th G20 summit in Hamburg on July 4-8.

Leading German newspapers and magazines have reported the talks between Xi and Merkel, and Xi's speech at the summit with front-page headlines and cover stories. Merkel referred to "the times of world turmoil" and said that Germany and China

could contribute to its appeasement, said Sueddeutsche Zeitung.

The German government sees China as a reliable partner, said Frankfurt Rundschau. While the influence of some countries has decreased, Germany and China together have the biggest playing field to push forward global goals under G20. The more both speak with one voice, the higher is the possibility for the summit to be successful, said Handelsblatt.

Professor Thomas Heberer, a well-known China watcher from Germany's Duisburg-Essen University, said Xi took up "the major role" to promote a cooperative and open world economy. (Xinhua)

### Nawaz to Inaugurate Construction Work on Dasu Dam

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif on Monday will inaugurate commencement of construction work on Dasu hydropower project with installed capacity of 4,320 MW. The project is being constructed on river Indus upstream of Dasu town in Kohistan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK). The hydropower project is a run off river project located at 7km upstream of Dasu town. The site of Dasu hydro power project is 74km downstream of proposed Diamer Bhasha Dam site and 350km from Islamabad.

The project will have total installed capacity of 4320 MW which is among the priority projects under the National Power Policy 2013 and Vision 2025 of Government of Paki-

stan, the PM office media wing said in a press release on Sunday.

The project will be implemented in two stages. Each stage will have capacity of 2160 MW. About 12 billion power units would be generated annually on completion of Stage-I.

PC-I of Project (Stage-I) of Rs. 486,093 million was approved by the EC-NEC in March 2014.

Dasu Hydropower project is a component of least-cost electricity generation strategy of the Federal Government to add low-priced hydel electricity to the national grid to overcome electricity shortages in the country, improve the ratio of hydel electricity in the overall system, stabilize electricity tariff and provide relief to the consumers. (APP)

### Iran, Turkey Mull Free Trade Plan to Boost Cooperation

TEHRAN - Iran and Turkey are mulling a plan to achieve free trade between the two countries based on an earlier agreement to remove preferential tariffs, Press TV reported on Sunday.

The announcement was made by Mahmoud Vaezi, Iran's Minister of Communications and Information Technology, after his meeting with the visiting Turkish Economy Minister Nihat Zeybeki.

Tehran and Ankara had already taken measures to realize the mutual trade objectives that they had agreed on during the earlier meetings between the presidents of both countries, said Vaezi.

Both sides need to enhance their banking cooperation to facilitate the expansion of their mutu-

al trade, he stressed.

To this end, Iran and Turkey had agreed to study the mechanisms needed for using their own currencies in trade transactions between the two countries, he said, adding that the issue will be discussed in more precise details during an upcoming visit to Tehran by the governor of Turkish central bank.

During Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's meeting with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Ankara in April 2016, both sides agreed to strengthen economic ties and cooperate in the fight against terrorism.

Energy-hungry Turkey imports large amounts of natural gas from Iran and the two countries are looking to boost banking and trade ties. (Xinhua)

### New China-Europe Freight Train Links China's Jiangxi, Uzbekistan

TASHKENT - A new China-Europe freight train running between eastern China's Jiangxi Province and Uzbekistan has been launched.

The train loaded with steel coils, garments and daily items, valued at 1.8 million U.S. dollars, departed from Ganzhou city Friday and is expected to leave China through Horgos in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, arriving in Tash-

kent 12 days later.

More than 4,000 freight train journeys have been made between Chinese and European and central Asian cities since August 2011, with the opening of the Chongqing-Duisburg Line, according to China Railway Corporation.

The trains currently operate between 28 Chinese cities and 29 cities in 11 European countries. (Xinhua)