

Anti-Terror High on ASEAN Police Summit Agenda

PUTRAJAYA, Malaysia - Police chiefs of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) gathered in Malaysia on Tuesday to kick off a four-day conference with anti-terror high on the agenda, weeks after the host country suffered its first attack linked to the Islamic State.

When addressing the opening ceremony of the 36th Conference of the ASEAN Chiefs of Police (ASEANAPOL), Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said terror-related incidents around the world is proof that terrorism is an even greater



threat than it has been in the past. A grenade attack at a night pub near Kuala Lumpur, the country's capital, on June 28 was carried out on the orders of a Malaysian Islamic State fighter in Syria, Malaysian police has said.

Citing the Jakarta attacks in early 2016, Najib said Malaysia is "far from immune to this danger," also urging the attendees to enhance cooperation and to share and analyze the best practices in combatting violent extremism. Malaysian authorities have announced ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Turkey-U.S. Ties in Peril over Post-Coup Cleric Extradition Standoff

ISTANBUL - Turkey has been pressing hard on the U.S. to hand over an exiled Turkish cleric for his alleged role in the failed coup plot that roiled the country ten days ago, further straining the soured ties between the two allies.

Presidential spokesman Ibrahim Kalin fired the latest salvo of harsh demands on Monday by writing in The New York Times to present "testimony and evidence" obtained from coup plotters that are pointing to Fetullah Gulen



and request his extradition once again for being behind the overthrow bid. The Turkish government has confirmed that the failed bid was organized

by followers of Gulen, who is accused of running a campaign through his Gulen Movement to topple the government by means of infiltrating Turk-

ish institutions, particularly the military, police and judiciary, to form a "parallel state." More than 2,300 institutions or entities administered by the Gulen Movement have been shut down in a widening crackdown launched in the wake of the coup attempt, which left at least 246 people dead and 2,186 others injured.

In addition, more than 13,000 suspects have been detained over the coup, mostly from the military, ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

Refugee Problem Should Not be Confused with Terrorist Problem: German Expert

BERLIN - The refugee problem should not be confused with the terrorist problem, a German expert on terrorism and famous analyst on politically motivated violence said Monday in an interview with Xinhua.

"We must be aware of not putting every refugee on the side of terrorism. That is not the truth," said Rolf Tophoven, head of the Institute for Crisis Prevention in Essen, Germany. Germany has been one of the major destinations for refugees in recent years.

In 2015 alone, more than 1.1 million refugees arrived in the country. This has already raised worries among quite a few Germans about potential security risks. Multiple attacks carried out by refugees concentrated in one week have once more disturbed German society. When asked about a possible association between recent attacks, Tophoven said there were neither connections between the attackers, nor clues indicating the violence can be ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

No One Immune from Terrorism after Killing in French Church: Italian FM

ROME - Italian Foreign Minister Paolo Gentiloni said on Tuesday that no one was immune from terrorism after getting the news about an attack in a church in northern France.

"No one can feel immune from the terrorist threat and let's not fuel the legend that if we didn't attack, they wouldn't attack Europe," Gentiloni told a combined session of the Senate and the Lower House's foreign affairs and defence committees, according to ANSA news agency.

Referring to ISIS, Gentiloni said, "We must respond by putting out the crisis hotbeds." The foreign minister stressed that Italy is "on the front line" and was regaining a leading role in the international arena.

He also expressed Italy's support for France after reports that a priest was taken hostage and killed later by attackers in a church in northern France.

"We express our closeness to France," Gentiloni said. *(Xinhua)*

US Democrats Struggle for Unity before Hillary Clinton's Presidential Nomination

PHILADELPHIA, United States - For supporters of Bernie Sanders, Monday was their last hope for the champion of a "political revolution" to win the Democratic Party's presidential nomination.

"My message is I am begging super delegates to change their minds," Gina Robinson Ungar, a delegate from the state of Indiana, told Xinhua at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia where Democrats began their national convention with a struggle to fully unite behind



Hillary Clinton. "The super delegates still can turn this around if they make a wise choice. The super delegates need to know

how unpopular Hillary is in part of the country," said the dairy owner from Evansville city, who wore a black Bernie T-shirt and

a green hat. She was referring to the party officials and "big shots" who make up about one-sixth of the ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Turkey Says a New Constitution to be Made: PM

ANKARA - Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said Monday that the process to make the new constitution has started, local media Daily Sabah reported.

The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), the opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) have reached a consensus on the making of a new constitution, Yildirim said at the press conference after the cabinet meeting. "We have agreed to make minor changes in the current constitution, and the process to make a whole new constitution has started," the prime minister added.

"We will work together to prepare the infrastructure for this (system)," Yildirim said. On bigger changes ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

India Hosts BRICS Policy Planning Dialogue

NEW DELHI - India held Tuesday as chair of the BRICS group a policy planning dialogue session in the eastern Indian city of Patna, said officials.

The session were attended by the representatives of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, said officials at the Ministry of External Affairs. This is the first time that India is hosting an official foreign policy related engagement with the themes being Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions, said the officials. India said its objective during its BRICS chairmanship is to further consolidate Intra-BRICS co-operation by adopting a five-pronged approach: institution building to further deepen and sustain co-operation, implementation of the decision of previous summits at Fortaleza and Ufa, integrating ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Erdogan, Putin Due to Meet in St. Petersburg on Aug. 9

ANKARA - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will meet his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Russia's city of St. Petersburg on August 9, Anadolu Agency reported on Tuesday.

The meeting will be the first face to face meeting for the two leaders since Moscow and Ankara started to mend ties damaged by the downing of a Russian jet last year, Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Simsek said in Moscow.

Simsek said the two countries wanted to normalize relations "as quickly as possible."



It will be Erdogan's first announced trip abroad since the failed coup attempt in Turkey on July 15, the Hurriyet Daily News commented. Putin called Erdogan on July 17, a day after security forces

quashed a coup attempt, telling the Turkish president that "Russia found anti-constitutional acts and violence unacceptable and is hoping for the restoration of order and stability in Turkey." *(Xinhua)*

UNSC Renews Mandate of UN Mission in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS - The UN Security Council (UNSC) on Monday unanimously adopted a resolution to extend the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) until July 31, 2017.

The 15-nation UN council recognized the security of UN personnel is essential for UNAMI to carry out its work for the benefit of the people of Iraq and called upon the government of Iraq to continue to provide security and logistical support for the UN pres-

ence in Iraq, the resolution said. The Security Council reiterated its grave concern over the current security situation in Iraq as a result of the continuing presence of and the threat by the terrorist groups, in particular the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), also known as Da'esh, and associated armed groups, the resolution said. "The presence of ISIL (Da'esh) on Iraq's sovereign territory is a major threat to Iraq's future, underscoring that the only way to address this ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Knife Attack in Eastern Japan Leaves at Least 15 Dead

TOKYO - A knife-wielding man attacked a facility for the disabled in eastern Japan's Kanagawa prefecture early Tuesday, leaving at least 15 people died and 20 others injured, said police.

The number of the injured were confirmed at 20 after the police counted the injured in hospitals. The 26-year old knife attack suspect, named Satoshi Uematsu, turned himself in at the Tsukui

Police Station around 3 a.m. Tuesday admitting to the attack, said police. The police are investigating the motive behind the attack that took place at about 2:30 a.m. at the Tsukui Yamayuri En facility (Tsukui Lily Garden), a two-storey building 2 km east of SagamiKo station in Sagami city, about 50 km west of downtown Tokyo, they said. ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

THAAD Deployment in S.Korea Causes Outcry from Students

SEOUL - Decision between Seoul and Washington to deploy Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) to South Korean soil caused an outcry from college students as they held a rally in central Seoul to block the war risks-escalating U.S. weapons system from being installed in their homeland.

About 20 students from six South Korean prestigious universities, including Korea University, Kyung Hee University, Sungkyunkwan University, Yonsei University, Chung-Ang University and Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, gathered in Gwanghwamun in central Seoul on Tuesday.

The student group, named Nationwide Students' March, held a press conference, saying the United States and South Korea are heightening tensions in the Northeast ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Nieghbor News

Chinese FM Calls on EAS to Focus on Development, Cooperation

VIENTIANE - Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Tuesday that the East Asia Summit (EAS) should focus on development and cooperation in the context of sluggish global economic growth and increasing pressure of economic downturn in the region.

Wang made the remarks when attending the sixth East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in the Lao capital Vientiane, adding that all parties in the region should fully implement the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to narrow differences of development within the region. As 2016 marks the beginning of the second

decade for the EAS, the minister suggested that participants of the summit stick to its nature of a "leaders-led strategic forum," to ASEAN's central role, to the "ASEAN way" which includes consensus-building and accommodating the comfort level of all parties, and continuously promote cooperation in key areas. Terrorism and other forms of non-traditional security threats are on the rise in the region and have become a common challenge for regional countries, Wang said, urging all parties of the EAS to cooperate to fight against these threats and contain the spread of extremist terrorism. *(Xinhua)*

Iran Denies Presence of Al-Qaida Members in the Islamic Republic

TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Ministry denied reports about the presence of some members of al-Qaida in the Islamic republic, semi-official Mehr news agency reported on Tuesday.

"Iran has no information about the presence of these people (al-Qaida members) on its soil," Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi was quoted as saying.

On Wednesday, the United States announced that it had imposed sanctions on three senior al-Qaida members staying in Iran, in a move to disrupt the terror group's operations and support networks.

The three members are identified as Faisal Jassem Mohammed Al-Amri Al-Khalidi, Yusra Muhammad Ibrahim Bayumi, and Abu Bakr Muhammad Muhammad Ghumayn, the U.S. Treasury Department said in a statement. They were accused of being "responsible for moving money and weapons across the Middle East," it added.

"The Islamic republic has always insisted on its determination to confront the terrorist groups and has taken necessary measures vis-a-vis its relevant international obligations," Qasemi said. *(Xinhua)*

Russian Servicemen Use New APCs in Exercises in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE - Servicemen of the Russian military base deployed in Tajikistan have reportedly used new APCs in exercises in Tajikistan for the first time.

Russian servicemen used armored personnel carriers (APCs) BTR-82A in maneuvers in the foothills of the Eastern Pamirs, Yaroslav Roshchupkin, a spokesman for the Russian Central Military District, said.

"In accordance with the rearmament plan, more than 400 vehicles and armaments, including APC BTR-82As, new modifications of tank T-72, trucks "Ural", armored combat all-terrain vehicles "Tigr", drones "Forpost", "Zastaba", "Granat" and others have gone into service of Russian military base in Tajikistan over the last two years," Roshchupkin

said. The BTR-82A is an advanced 8x8 wheeled armored personnel carrier (APC) being manufactured by Military Industrial Company of Russia for use by the armies of Russia and Kazakhstan. The first prototypes of the vehicle were unveiled in December 2009. The APC's features were demonstrated during the 15th Interpolite State Security Materiel Show at the All-Russia Exhibition Center in Moscow in October 2011. It was also displayed at the Russian Expo Arms 2011 show in Nizhny Tagil. The Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Kazakhstan accepted 30 new BTR-82A combat vehicles in December 2012. The vehicles were deployed with the military unit 25744. *(Asia-Plus)*

US to Expand Multidimensional Ties with Pakistan, John Kerry Assures Aziz

ISLAMABAD - US Secretary of State John Kerry assured Foreign Affairs Adviser Sartaj Aziz that United States is ready to improve and expand its multidimensional partnership with Pakistan.

Aziz and Kerry met on the sidelines the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Ministerial Meeting being held in Laos, where both the dignitaries also exchanged views on the regional situation with special reference to Afghanistan. According to a communiqué issued

in Islamabad, Aziz and Kerry agreed on the importance of promoting the Afghan-led reconciliation process. Editorial: Slipping Pak-US ties US Secretary Kerry appreciated Pakistan's determined efforts to eliminate terrorist groups in Pakistan's tribal belt with considerable success. "I would like to visit Pakistan in the near future to review bilateral cooperation and discuss regional issues," he said. *(Dawn)*