

In A First, White House to Release Data on Drone Strikes

WASHINGTON - The White House for the first time will release casualty figures from its controversial drone program, officials said on Monday, amid criticism that the air-strikes often kill civilians instead of the intended terror targets. Lisa Monaco, President Barack Obama's top homeland security adviser, said the administration will publish a review of its air strikes on terror targets worldwide outside of ac-



tive war zones, disclosing casualty figures for both fighters and civilians. The after a 2013 pledge by Obama to provide more transparency in its drone program that has become

a keystone in America's counter-terrorism efforts, amid criticism that the program is too opaque and frequently kills innocent civilians. "In the coming weeks, the administration will publicly release an assessment of combatant and non-combatant casualties resulting from strikes taken outside areas of active hostilities since 2009," Monaco said in remarks made during a speech at a Washington think tank.(Agencies)

Nieghbor News

Iran Test-Fires Ballistic Missiles in Military Drill

TEHRAN - Iran test-fired on Tuesday several ballistic missiles in ongoing military drill attended by the senior commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), official IRNA news agency reported. The missile drill, conducted in different parts of the country, is aimed at enhancing the deterrent power of the Islamic republic in the face of threats against the territorial integrity of Iran, the report said without further details. In October, Iran announced it ...*(More on P4)...(27)*

President Xi Calls for Structural Reform, Agricultural Modernization

BEIJING - Chinese President Xi Jinping on Tuesday called for supply-side structural reform, agricultural modernization and grain security. Xi joined a group of deputies to the National People's Congress from the Hunan Province, listening to their opinions on innovation-driven development, international productivity cooperation, supply-side structural reform and environmental protection. The president also extended his greetings to Chinese women on the occasion of the International Working Women's Day. He called ...*(More on P4)...(28)*

Power, Politics and Petro-Authoritarianism: Turkmenistan

ASHGABAT - Turkmenistan's petro-authoritarianism is likely to continue to be fuelled by a combination of its large natural gas reserves, small population and steady global demand for natural gas, writes Annette Bohr. Revenues from hydrocarbons exports are used by the leadership to finance pervasive security services and patronage networks. Corruption and general lack of transparency continue, with virtually no information available to the public on the budget and government spending. President Berdimuhamedow and his small ...*(More on P4)...(29)*

Pakistan Observes International Women's Day

ISLAMABAD - International Women's Day observed worldwide including Pakistan to pay a tribute to the women. On this occasion, Pakistan's President Mamnoon Hussain and Prime Minister (PM) Nawaz Sharif in their messages vowed to protect women's rights and provide them with equal opportunities to move in every field of life. PM Nawaz stated that the government is determined to protect the women from being discriminated. He further urged the UN agencies, civil society organizations and the media to assist the country in this regard. Mamnoon Hussain said that the inter ...*(More on P4)...(30)*

EU Still Mired in Migration Crisis

BRUSSELS - The European Union (EU) finished an unusual marathon summit early Tuesday with Turkey, which is eager to obtain EU membership, resulting in a pending deal as the two sides bargained for a promising solution to the ongoing migration crisis. Turkey needs to respond to the call from the EU as a candidate country, said the EU's foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini



ahead of the summit on Monday. Ankara has viewed the summit as a good chance to accelerate its accession process to the bloc. However, to the surprise of the EU, Turkey didn't intend to be obedient in this respect. Instead, it brought up ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Without Turkey, Europe can not Solve Migration Crisis: French Official

PARIS - Turkey's plan to stem migrant flows is "absolutely necessary" to address migration crisis and without Ankara's help, Europe is doomed to fail in handling relentless migrants flows, a French official said on Tuesday. At EU-Turkey summit in Brussels, Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on Monday offered to take back all migrants who enter Europe from Turkey as well as those intercepted in its territorial waters. In exchange, he asked to double the 3 billion euros (3.3-billion U.S. dollars) already awarded by EU to help refugees stay in Turkey, in addition to faster EU membership negotiations and ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

Migrant Sea Arrivals in EU Rise Despite Newly Deployed NATO Vessels

GENEVA - Despite the presence of NATO ships in the eastern Mediterranean, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) reported Tuesday that the influx of refugees and migrants in Europe is still growing, with 141,141 maritime arrivals recorded since the start of 2016. According to figures, 131,847 migrants have arrived on Greek shores by sea, with the remaining 9,294 reaching Italy. 444 people have died so far this year attempting to cross the Mediterranean, with most fatalities (347) recorded on the narrow eastern Mediterranean passage separating Turkey and Greece. The remaining 97 deaths are documented on the central Mediterranean route which links North Africa with Italy. IOM revealed that the three top nationalities of migrants arriving in Greece this year are Syrians (63,038), followed by ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

EU Faces 'Moment of Truth' on Migrants: UN High Commissioner

STRASBOURG - Europe is facing "a moment of truth" in its dealing with the Continent's migrant crisis, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi told the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Tuesday. Grandi added that the situation facing women was particularly grave. Addressing Parliament on International Women's Day, the UN High Commissioner reminded MEPs that "contrary to common belief, two-thirds of migrants arriving in Europe in the hope of finding sanctuary are women and children". "We need an answer that goes beyond simple humanitarian help," he said. "We can manage this crisis, but we need courageous political action focused on the future". "Some 88 percent of people arriving in Europe come ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

UN Launches Platform to Enhance Disaster Response in E Africa

NAIROBI - The United Nations (UN) agencies on Tuesday launched a platform to strengthen strategic collaboration with the private sector in disaster response across the eastern African region. Senior officials from the Kenyan government, UN agencies and the private sector attended the launch of the humanitarian private sector partnership platform (HPPP) for East Africa. In his opening remarks, the Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Interior, Joseph Nkaissery underscored the role of businesses to strengthen humanitarian interventions. "As humanitarian disasters increase tenfold in this region, it is an imperative for governments, civil society and multilateral agencies to engage more proactively with the business community," Nkaissery said. He noted that Kenya has developed vibrant policies and legislation to promote private sector involvement ...*(More on P4)...(25)*

Biden Talks about 'Nasty' US Campaign During Mideast Tour

DUBAI - U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said Tuesday that not even Ronald Reagan could win this year's Republican presidential nomination, as he lamented America's "petty, venal and mean" politics while addressing an Arab audience in a Gulf emirate ruled by sheikhs. Biden, a Democrat, said self-interested lawmakers had redrawn congressional districts to the point "where the Lord Almighty could not defeat a Republican," which he said had encouraged the rise of more radical GOP candidates. Biden told young Emiratis gathered in Dubai that such gerrymandering encourages candidates to adopt extreme positions, like saying they are going to "waterboard people ... and indiscriminately carpet-bomb" - an oblique ...*(More on P4)...(26)*

Outlook Horoscope

Aries (Mar. 22-Apr.20)

You might feel like you're floating in an imaginative bubble and time is standing still. However, your inflated balloon could pop today when the Pisces Solar Eclipse rattles your 12th House of Escapism. You already realize big changes are looming on the horizon, but their arrival is accelerated now. You must meet your current obligations while you still have the chance.

Taurus (Apr.21-May 20)

You can be so overwhelmed by your imagination today that your associates may think you've lost touch with reality. But the Pisces New Moon Eclipse energizes your 11th House of Networking, stimulating your need to be with like-minded people. Your friends and coworkers will take you more seriously if you don't ramble on endlessly about your visions.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Managing all the uncertainty at work might be a challenge today, but don't just throw your hands up in frustration and walk away. Although the Pisces Solar Eclipse confuses your 10th House of Career, you can rely on your intuition to find an opportunity in the fog. Paradoxically, the facts will only lead you astray because the rules of the game are likely to change.

Cancer (June 21-July 20)

You could be obsessing about the idea of an exotic vacation, and it would be a shame to waste the current opportunity without attempting to realize your fantasy. At this point it doesn't matter whether you can afford to take time off from work or if the costs are beyond your budget. The Pisces New Moon Eclipse electrifies your 9th House of Vision.

Leo (July 21-Aug. 21)

You appear so self-sufficient most of the time that it's difficult to get help when you need it. Your coworkers might be hesitant to offer assistance while constraining Saturn squares the Pisces Solar Eclipse occurring in your 8th House of Shared Resources. Although you would appreciate some support today, you don't like the idea of anyone thinking that you're desperate. Thankfully, it's not too late.

Virgo (Aug. 22-Sep 22)

Everyone seems a lot less reliable today as the Pisces Solar Eclipse fogs your 7th House of Partners. You expect one thing to occur, but something else appears out of left field. You could become anxious if you're too rigid in your approach to the day. Being less self-critical now also enables you to relax your judgment of others. Developing a flexible attitude is a smart strategy to get you through these uncertain times.

Libra (Sep 23-Oct. 22)

A healthier diet and a more disciplined exercise plan usually sounds like a sensible idea, but you might lack the commitment necessary to make it work. Nevertheless, the imaginative Pisces New Moon Eclipse activates your 6th House of Habits, motivating you to begin a new regimen to improve your well-being. Fortunately, your sincere intentions empower you to start a new routine that has a lasting positive impact.

Scorpio (Oct.23-Nov.22)

A romantic fantasy may be exactly what the doctor orders today, even if you don't actually say a word about it for the sake of propriety. The magical Pisces Solar Eclipse flows through your 5th House of Love and Creativity, potentially inspiring a wonderful experience. Don't be concerned if the pleasure takes place only within your imagination since it still can have real implication.

Sagittarius (Nov.23-Dec.20)

You are wise to keep your feelings to yourself today as the disorienting Pisces New Moon Eclipse electrifies your 4th House of Roots. Even if you must head out into the world, your emotions are best left at home now. Sharing your private life at work might not be your smartest move if you want to be taken seriously. But don't slip into denial by shutting yourself off from your heart.

Capricorn (Dec.21-Jan19)

A close friend or associate might do something that is totally out of character today, but don't let someone else's behavior become the main focus of your day. Although the Pisces Solar Eclipse unsettles your 3rd House of Communication, you have your own agenda to follow and can't waste time untangling other people's motives. If you're compulsively curious, be direct and ask them what's going on.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb.18)

Your visionary ideas tempt you with many ways to increase your income as the dreamy Pisces Solar Eclipse enlightens your 2nd House of Personal Resources. But financial planning won't necessarily lead to fiscal rewards because you might be misled by your own idealism now. Be smart and consider every inspiration that comes to mind, but don't put all your eggs in one basket.

Pisces (Feb.19-Mar.20)

There is no limit to what you can imagine now, but there's also nothing to be gained by rushing into anything monumental just yet. The New Moon Eclipse polarizes your creative sign today, offering you a new lease on life. You're at the edge of a spiritual journey, but your diaphanous thoughts will eventually solidify into reality. Don't fall victim to a false sense of urgency.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-62.

Across: 1. Flora, 6. Kiss, 10. Within, 14. King, 15. Make do, 16. Ark builder, 17. Muse of love poetry, 18. A soft sheepskin leather, 19. A mold for setting concrete, 20. Pleasant in personality, 22. Vipers, 23. Type of dog, 24. Anagram of "Islet", 26. A ring that seals, 30. Make cool, 32. Daisylike bloom, 33. Husks, 37. Decree, 38. Front parts of human legs, 39. Western tie, 40. Making plump, 42. in = aware, 43. Andean animal, 44. A woman chaperon, 45. Chin indentation, 47. Slice, 48. Comes from trees, 49. Funny woman, 56. Found on most heads, 57. Tinted, 58. Criminal, 59. Beige, 60. Feudal worker, 61. Wingless bloodsucking insect, 62. Not us, 63. An upright in a wall, 64. SSSS.

Down: 1. Kind of school, 2. Attraction, 3. Winglike, 4. Catches, 5. A state police officer, 6. Scrawny one, 7. Newbie (slang), 8. Iridescent gem, 9. A branch of biology, 10. Incapable of failure, 11. Hangman's knot, 12. Waterproofed canvases, 13. Units of resistance, 21. Cashew or almond, 25. Type, 26. Spike, 27. Largest continent, 28. Immediately, 29. Tympani, 30. Fine dinnerware, 31. Suspended, 33. Leveling wedge, 34. Person, place or thing, 35. Secluded valley, 36. Fizzy drink, 38. Grabs, 41. Santa's helper, 42. Surrounds a fingernail, 44. Clunker, 45. Manager, 46. France's longest river, 47. Handed over, 48. Sharpen, 50. Dethrone, 51. List of options, 52. God of love, 53. French for "We", 54. Schnozzola, 55. Anagram of "Seek".

Yesterday's Solution: adage, agenda, beet, blank, career, chick, click daddy, danger, distribute, doubt, drain, driver, durable, eternal, extend, flavor, former, frail, glass, guard, hatch, joust, lawn, leather, level, peel, pickles, piece, preservation, quart, rile, seesaw, tact, tear, wean.

Word search grid with words: GAGEND, DURABLE, DAFFICKLES, DRHRLCLEVELBA, IDAATKEXHTWTV, SDNITCATREBWO, TDALNCTEARLJR, RRFNQAHNANAOD, IIOPGREDDANUA, BVRILEROALKSD, UEMEAEEROGKATD, TRECSRSEESAWY, EPRESERVATION.