

Almost 3,000 Rescued Migrants Arrive to Italy in Single Day: Coast Guard

ROME - Almost 3,000 migrants and refugees rescued in the Mediterranean Sea reached various ports in southern Italy on Monday, the authorities said. Italy's coast guard ship Dattilo arrived at the port of Palermo, the regional capital of Sicily, with 1,045 people and 10 bodies on board, according to the coast guard. Another 712 migrants reached the port of Augusta, also in Sicily, on board of two vessels from Italy and Spain's navy. Some 799 rescued people, and 4 dead migrants, were on board



of another coast guard vessel reaching the port of Reggio Calabria later in the day. Some 111 children and 81 women were among those brought to Reggio Calabria. Overall, these

migrants and refugees originated from various African countries, the coast guard stated. Further 400 people mainly of sub-Saharan origin reached the port of Vibo Valentia, also in the Calabria region, aboard of Irish ship Topaz Responder. They brought the total to 2,956 arrivals in one day. All rescue operations in the central Mediterranean are being coordinated by the Italian coast guard, which said over 2,200 people were saved, and 10 bodies found, during 16 missions on Saturday alone. (Xinhua)

London March by 100,000 Brexit Supporters Planned for Day of Historic Court Hearing

LONDON - EU announced Monday it is planning a mass march in central London next month to coincide with the start of a historic "Brexit" court hearing. The group is aiming for at least 100,000 people to take part in the march from Trafalgar Square to Parliament Square, close to where the Supreme Court will make a definitive decision on who can trigger Britain's exit from the European Union. Nigel Farage, acting leader of UKIP, will lead the

march expected on December 5. Leave.EU said it will announce further details of what will be one of the biggest demonstrations seen in the British capital for some time. The court hearing, expected to last for several days, has been called to hear an appeal by Prime Minister Theresa May's government, following a decision in the High Court last Thursday. Three judges



ruled that the parliament must be involved in the process to trigger the so-called Article 50 mechanism that will start a two-

year negotiation between London and Brussels over the terms of Brexit. In the June 23 referendum, ... (More on P4)... (20)

British Defense Ministry to Sell More Than 90 Sites as Part of \$5 Bln Investment

LONDON - British Defense Secretary Michael Fallon announced on Monday that over 5 billion U.S. dollars is to be invested to create a better defense estate for Britain's armed forces and their families. In what are the most significant changes to defense land since the second World War, 91 sites owned or managed by the Ministry of Defense (MOD) are set to be sold. Many of the sites will be used for housebuilding, creating thousands of new homes across the country.

The MOD said all money raised from the sales of the sites will be reinvested back into defense, creating areas of military expertise in specific locations around the country. Fallon said: "We have been spending billions maintaining a defense estate that doesn't meet the needs of our armed forces. This plan delivers an estate fit for our forces and their families. By putting money where it is needed, we will provide better facilities to train ... (More on P4)... (21)

Iraq Says Mass Grave of 100 Bodies Found in Town Near Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq - The Iraqi forces found a mass grave containing the remains of some 100 decapitated bodies in the newly-freed town in south of the city of Mosul, a military statement said on Monday. The troops found the mass grave at the compound of the Agriculture Collage on the western outskirts of the town of Hammam al-Alil, some 15 km south of Mosul, according to a statement issued by a military media office affiliated to the Iraqi Joint Operations Com-

mand (JOC). The bodies are believed to be the ones executed by the terrorist Islamic State (IS) militant group, the statement said, adding that forensics team will arrive to investigate the site. The Iraqi army and federal police entered the town of Hammam al-Alil on Saturday after heavy clashes with IS militants, and started later clearing operations in the town. The discovery of the mass grave comes after ... (More on P4)... (22)

US Sets Preliminary Dumping Rates on CTL Plate From 8 Countries

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Commerce Department Monday announced its preliminary affirmative determination in the anti-dumping duty (AD) investigation against imports of carbon and alloy steel cut-to-length plate (CTL plate) from eight countries, signaling that it may impose punitive duties on the products. The department made affirmative preliminary determinations in the AD investigations of CTL plate imports from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea

and China. As a result of the preliminary affirmative determination, it will instruct the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to require cash deposits based on these preliminary rates. The department launched AD and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations against imports of such products from China in April 2016, in response



to a request from ArcelorMittal USA based in Illinois and two other steel companies based in North Carolina and Illinois. Punitive duties would be imposed after both the Commerce Department and the U.S. International Trade ... (More on P4)... (23)

UN Warns of Growing Food Crisis in South Sudan in 2017

JUBA - The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on Monday warned of escalating food crisis in South Sudan in 2017, saying economic downturn and insecurity have further crippled food production and trade. FAO Representative Serge Tissot said recent assessments show that the number of severely food insecure people is currently 3.7 million people -- 31 percent of the country's estimated population and an increase of an overall 1 million people compared to the same period last year. "We are seeing an unprecedented number of food insecure people at harvest time and many ... (More on P4)... (24)

Airstrikes Kill 9 Civilians in Rebel-Held Town in Idlib

DAMASCUS - At least nine civilians were killed on Tuesday when airstrikes targeted a town in the rebel-held province of Idlib in northwestern Syria, a monitor group reported. The airstrikes targeted the Khan Sheikhun area in Idlib countryside, killing seven children and two pregnant women, the report said. The UK-based watchdog group said the death toll could likely rise due to the large number of critically wounded people, including children. The Observatory, in its report, spelled no details on the identity of the warplanes, with other activists suggesting they were Russian. The Observatory and other activists have repeatedly accused Russia of carrying deadly ... (More on P4)... (26)

Kurdish-Led Rebels Advance Against IS in Syria's Raqqa

DAMASCUS - The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) rebels continued to advance on Monday against the Islamic State (IS) group in Syria's northern city of al-Raqqa, the de facto capital of IS, a monitor group reported. Intense battles continued to rage between the SDF and the IS in the northern countryside of al-Raqqa, a day after the Kurdish-led group declared a wide-scale offensive to "liberate" al-Raqqa from the IS terrorists, according to the Syria Observatory for Human Rights. The UK-based watchdog group said the SDF has controlled over 10 villages and farmlands, the most



important of which is the town of Lakta, which the observatory said has a strategic importance. The initial aim of the SDF battle, dubbed the "Wrath of Euphrates," is to isolate the city of al-Raqqa from its northern countryside, as a prelude to dislodge IS militants from the city. The two-day battles have also witnessed airstrikes from the U.S.-led anti-terror coalition on the IS positions in al-Raqqa, according to the observatory. It said 30,000 fighters with the SDF were taking part in ... (More on P4)... (25)

Clinton and Trump Rally after Midnight, Capping off a Grueling Campaign

RALEIGH, N.C. - A confident Hillary Clinton spent her final day on the presidential campaign trail flanked by pop stars, her family and the Obamas, promising to try to heal the country if she's elected president. Across four rallies in three states, Clinton looked ahead to a potential victory, promising voters she would bring a divided country together as president and reflecting in the past tense on how ugly the campaign had been.

Donald Trump, expressing equal confidence, barnstormed across the country vowing to win Election Day, fundamentally change the country's path and make his supporters' dreams come true. Both candidates' promises culminated in a pair of rallies held in the wee hours of Tuesday morning. Speaking at 1 a.m. at North Carolina State University, Clinton shouted over the deafening cheers and foot-stomping of thousands of young ... (More on P4)... (27)

Syrian Army Says Takes Aleppo Area, Rebels Say Battle Continues



BEIRUT - The Syrian army said it had taken a strategic district of Aleppo on Tuesday, in what would be the most important advance in the divided city by Damascus and its allies in weeks, but rebels said the battle was not over. The 1070 Apartments district is located on the southwestern outskirts of Aleppo and lies alongside the government's corridor into the parts of the city that it controls. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based group that reports on the war, said government forces and their allies had seized full control of the district, calling it the most significant gain by the government in Aleppo since September. A Syrian military source said the army and allied forces were in complete control of the area and surrounding hills. They have made repeated efforts to oust rebels from the 1070 Apartments area since the summer. A military media unit run by the Damascus-allied Hezbollah carried a similar report. Hezbollah, a Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim group, is fighting in support of Damascus. But officials in two rebel groups fighting in Aleppo said the battle was still raging. Yasser Alyousef from the political office of the Nour al-Din al-Zinki group said rebels had recovered positions they had lost on Monday. (Reuters)

Nieghbor News

China-Russia Border Port Expands Entry Capacity

HARBIN - A new gate was added to a China-Russia port of entry on Tuesday, which will increase the annual entry and exit capacity of the port from 2 million to 3 million people. The gate in Heihe Port, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, includes six entry passageways covering 4,800 square meters, said an official with the provincial entry-exit inspection and quarantine bureau. Operation of the gate

will enable the port to separate inbound personnel from outbound, who will pass across the port through the original port. An important port in Heilongjiang, Heihe is only 100 meters away from Blagoveshchensk, capital of the Amur region in the Russian Far East. According to the port website, a total of nearly 300,000 people crossed the border each way in the first half year of 2016, up 8.93 percent year on year. (Xinhua)

Iran, Syria Join Hands with Russia to Settle Syrian Crisis

TEHRAN - Iranian and Syrian officials vowed to continue trilateral consultations and cooperation with Russia in a bid to defeat terrorism and find political solutions to the crisis in the Arab country, Press TV reported on Monday. Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and the visiting Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal al-Mekdad met in the capital Tehran on Monday and discussed mutual relations as well as the latest political and military developments in Syria. They also exchanged views on the recent trilateral meeting, between Iran, Russia and Syria, held in Moscow in late October. The Iranian side stressed the importance of holding more three-sided consultations and said the sides should also im-

prove their cooperation at the international level. Top diplomats of Russia, Syria and Iran met in Moscow on Oct. 28 and vowed to defend the revival of intra-Syria talks in order to facilitate a political solution to the protracted crisis in the war-torn Middle East country. All the three parties reaffirmed that there is no alternative to the settlement of the Syria crisis by political and diplomatic means. On Monday, Mekdad hailed what he called Iran's "principled" stance on the regional issues, particularly the crisis in his country. Iran stands at the forefront of the fight against terrorism and extremism, he said, adding that friendly countries to Syria must further exchange views about the political solutions to the Syria crisis. (Xinhua)

Pakistan to Engage in Joint Oil, Gas Projects with China

ABU DHABI - Pakistan's Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said Tuesday the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) focuses on infrastructure development, his country also hopes that the project could be a driver for joint oil and gas projects. "We are hopeful that Chinese oil and gas companies will invest in the energy performance sector and also in other sphere of Pakistan's business," Abbasi told Xinhua on the sidelines of the ongoing Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC). On the possibility of joint investments in liquefied natural gas (LNG), the minister said "China, like Pakistan, is an importer of LNG, but we are in discussions with Chinese

firms as they have the relevant technology to explore and export LNG." The CPEC is a pilot project under the Belt and Road Initiative. China and Pakistan have recently launched a host of projects focusing on energy and transport infrastructure. On Aug. 4, 2016, Pakistan's Finance Minister Ishaq Dar said in Dubai when he met officials of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that the world will see the ongoing construction of the CPEC not only serves both countries, but the entire Central Asian region. This shared prosperity will benefit the whole region because these infrastructure projects will be later expanded to neighboring Afghanistan and Iran, he said. (Xinhua)

Caspian-Littoral States Mull Poaching Issues in Turkmenistan

ASHGABAT - Ashgabat is hosting a regional meeting, where the draft protocol on cooperation in the fight against poaching in the Caspian Sea is being discussed, the Foreign Ministry of Turkmenistan said in a message. The authorized representatives of the Caspian-littoral states - Azerbaijan, Russia, Kazakhstan, Iran and Turkmenistan are taking part in the forum, according to the message. The sides are exchanging views on the rules

for conservation, rational use of marine biological resources and management of their joint reserves. Noting the commitment to continue the search for mutually acceptable decisions on the provisions of the above mentioned project considering the proposals of all the Caspian-littoral states, the sides are discussing possibilities of joint actions to eliminate poaching in the Caspian Sea, the message said. (Trend)