

## U.S. Starts Withdrawing from Syria-Turkey Borderline Amid Anticipated Turkish Campaign

DAMASCUS - The United States on Monday pulled out forces from observation points in northeastern Syria along the borderline with Turkey amid threats by Ankara to launch a military campaign against the U.S.-backed Kurdish forces, a war monitor reported.

The U.S. withdrew forces from observation posts at Tel Abyad and Ras al-Ain in northeast Syria and withdrawal comes at a time the Turkish government has been threatening a military campaign against Kurdish militias in northern Syria, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. On Saturday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan unleashed his strongest



warning yet, threatening to launch a military operation against the U.S.-backed Kurdish militia groups in northeastern Syria.

The Kurdish-controlled areas contain also U.S. troops.

In August, the U.S. and Turkey agreed to have

joint patrols into designated Kurdish areas near the Turkish border as a prelude to imposing a safe zone.

In his speech on Saturday, Erdogan said the deal with the U.S. to secure the border with Turkey was faltering. Meanwhile, the Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) said in a statement Monday that the U.S. didn't live up to its pledges to defuse the tension with Turkey despite the "flexibility" the Kurdish militia has shown regarding the U.S.-Turkish understanding to create a safe zone in northern Syria.

The SDF said that the Turkish campaign will undermine the SDF war on ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

## Neighbor News

### Kazakhstan Aims to Develop Investment Co-op with Germany

Investment cooperation is among most important areas of economic ties between Kazakhstan and Germany development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan told Trend. Thus, according to the data of National Bank of Kazakhstan, the gross inflow of direct investment from Germany to Kazakhstan during the period from 2005 to 3H2018 amounted to \$4.4 billion, which is 1.6 percent of total flow of investments to Kazakhstan.

In turn, the gross out-

flow of investments from Kazakhstan to Germany exceeded \$250 million, the source in the ministry said.

"Over 90 percent of German investments to Kazakhstan accounts for non-raw materials sector, including processing industry, chemical sphere, construction materials manufacturing, transport and agricultural complex," the source said.

The source further stated, that during last four years two countries realized over 2-billion-euro ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

### Israel Sees 28-Pct Increase in Carcinogens Pollution

JERUSALEM - Israel's Ministry of Environmental Protection reported on Monday that there was a 28-percent increase in 2018 in emissions of substances known or suspected to be carcinogenic compared with 2017. The data was published in an annual report written by the ministry's Pollutant Release and Transfer Register, a database of pollutants released to air, water, and soil by factories.

According to the report,

which includes the 570 highest pollution sources in Israel, the sharp increase in the emissions of carcinogens is caused by waste incineration, which accounted for 60 percent of total emissions of these substances in Israel in 2018.

The ministry launched an enforcement action against two major landfills in southern Israel.

"These figures highlight the need for dramatically reducing landfill rates, promoting ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

### Brexit: No Postponement this Time, Johnson Warns French President

LONDON - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has warned Emmanuel Macron that there would be no postponement of Brexit, stressing that this is the "last chance" to get a deal, Downing Street spokesperson reported on Sunday.

The head of the British government told the French president during a telephone conversation that "the EU should not believe, wrongly, that the UK would remain in the EU after 31 October." Boris Johnson reiterated

that he would not request again to postpone Brexit, even though a recent law passed by the British Parliament obliges him to do so if an agreement with the EU is not reached.

This law was described as an "act of surrender" by Johnson, who believes it weakens the British position in Brexit negotiations.

"The UK has made a large offer, an important one, but it is time for the (European) Commission to show a willingness



to compromise," the Downing Street source said.

"If this is not the case, the United Kingdom

will leave without an agreement. The law of capitulation and its authors are undermining ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

### Report Says South Sudan fails to Provide War Victims Justice



JUBA, South Sudan - South Sudan's government is failing to provide justice for victims of atrocities committed during the country's five-year civil war, Amnesty

International asserted in a new report Monday. A lack of political will to hold warring parties accountable for crimes including rape and torture has allowed for

widespread impunity, said the report based on 47 interviews with people working in or with the justice sector. It cited a justice system that lacks independence, with prosecutors following orders from above and judges risking being fired if they act against government interests.

"Imagine being witness to the killing of your family, surviving gang rape and, after all that, having your home looted," Amnesty International regional director Joan Nyanyuki told The Associated

Press. If the government is serious about peace, it is obligated under international law and the peace agreement signed last year to provide avenues for justice, she said.

South Sudan is emerging from a conflict that killed almost 400,000 people and displaced millions. A power-sharing agreement provides for measures including the establishment of a hybrid court but the government has tried to stall it, the report said. ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

### Germany Warns EU of Refugee Wave Bigger Than 2015 If It Fails to Take Action

BERLIN - German Interior Minister Horst Seehofer warns that Europe may soon face a refugee crisis "even greater" than the one that hit the continent in 2015 if the European Union fails to develop the "strength" to contain the rising numbers of refugee arrivals.

"We must do more to help our European partners with controls on the EU external borders. We have left them alone for too long," the minister told German newspaper, referring to Greece, Turkey, Spain and Italy.

"If we don't, we will once again see a refugee wave like in 2015 - maybe even greater than four years ago," he added. Seehofer also warned that in case Europe fails to find the "strength" to solve this problem" it could see a "loss of control" in the face of such a crisis.

In a separate interview with the Welt am Sonntag newspaper, ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

### PM Imran Launches 'Ehsaas-Saylani Langar Scheme' In Islamabad

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan on Monday inaugurated the Ehsaas-Saylani Langar Scheme, one of the projects of the government's flagship Ehsaas Programme that aims to combat hunger throughout the country, in Islamabad.

The scheme, which has been launched in coordination with the Saylani Welfare Trust, one of Pakistan's biggest welfare organisations, is aimed at providing free hygienic food to the poor.

Speaking to the media on the occasion, Ehsaas Programme's head and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Poverty Alleviation Dr Sania Nishtar said that the government intends to open 112 soup kitchens in the first phase of the scheme, which would be completed in a year.

"The soup kitchens will provide food to 600 people in the capital on a daily basis," she said.

Nishtar said that the premier had instructed that the food at the soup kitchens must be hygienic and provided to people in ample proportions "with respect".

"The prime minister has instructed that no person should go to bed hungry. This [Ehsaas Langar] programme has been launched in accordance with his wishes," she said.

"As you know that this is a huge task and the government cannot do this alone. So we are signing an agreement with Saylani Trust welfare organisation, that enjoys a very good reputation and together we will open 112 Ehsaas-Saylani Langar Khaney all over the country.

"You will be happy to know that this soup kitchen has been established within 10 days and we are positive that we will be able to open 112 soup kitchens within a short period of time." (Pakistan Today)

### President of Uzbekistan to Participate in Summit of Turkic Council in Azerbaijan

TASHKENT - The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev will visit Azerbaijan in October, where he will take part in the 7th summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States, as stated by First Deputy Chairman of the Senate of the Parliament of Uzbekistan Sadyk Safaev, Trend reports citing the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.

Mirziyoyev will visit Azerbaijan for the first time as the head of Uzbekistan.

The 7th summit of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States will be held on October 14-15 in Baku. A busi-

ness forum will also be organized as part of the summit.

Earlier Trend reported that on September 14, the President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev ratified the Nakhichevan agreement on the establishment of a Cooperation Council for Turkic Speaking states. Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States is an international organization uniting modern Turkic states. Its main goal is the development of comprehensive cooperation between them.

Prior to this, four states were members of the council: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey. (Trend)

### UK's Johnson Urges Return of U.S. Diplomat's Wife Over Fatal Crash

LONDON - British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Monday he wanted a U.S. diplomat's wife who was involved in a fatal car crash to return to Britain and it was wrong that she had used diplomatic immunity to leave the country.

"I hope that Anne Sacoalas will come back and will engage properly with the processes of law as they are carried out in this country," Johnson said in a television interview, adding the issue was being raised with the U.S. ambassador in London. "If we can't resolve it, then of course I will be raising it myself personally with the White House."

Harry Dunn, 19, died in August after a road collision near RAF Croughton, an air force base in Northamptonshire in central England that is used by the United States. (Reuters)

### Chinese Medical Team to Morocco Holds Free Clinic in Casablanca

RABAT - Chinese medical team to Morocco on Sunday carried out a free clinic in Morocco's largest city Casablanca, which is the fifth of its kind since 2015.

The medical team selected 12 doctors of different specialties, including orthopedics, pediatrics, gastroenterology, obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, ophthalmology, ENT (ear, nose and throat) and endocrinology, to offer free medical services to over 100 Chinese people living or working in Morocco. A lecture themed «Diet and Digestive Diseases» was also held during the day. (Xinhua)

### Putin Turns 67, Takes Birthday Break in Siberian Mountains

MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin has spent the weekend in southern Siberia's mountains.

Photos and video released by the Kremlin on Monday showed Putin walking forested mountains in the Tuva region that borders Mongolia. Putin turned 67 on Monday.

Russia's nature-loving, action-man president has visited the area several times over the past few years, walking up the mountains, fishing



and swimming in the area's pristine rivers and lakes.

The video broadcast by Russian television showed Putin walking up the slope and pausing to look at the

Yenisei River below and the surrounding mountains.

Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu, the region's native, accompanied Putin on the trip. (Ap news)

### Tunisian Election Gives Few Clues to Shape of Next Government

TUNIS - Tunisia faced political deadlock on Monday after Sunday's election delivered a fragmented parliament and no obvious path to forming a government that must urgently address chronic economic and fiscal problems.

Sunday's exit polls showed the moderate Islamist Ennahda as the largest party, but its modest projected vote share means it would need to bring many other parties into any workable coalition. Official results are not expected until Tuesday.

"The task will be very difficult and

complicated to reach an agreement to form a government," said Yamina Zoglami, a senior Ennahda official. Several of Ennahda's rivals have already said they will not join a government it leads, and Tunisians are confronting the prospect of protracted negotiations and the possibility of another election if no coalition can be agreed.

The parliamentary vote comes amid a separate presidential election in which one of the two candidates who advanced to next Sunday's runoff vote is being held in detention on ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

### Cambodia PM Threatens to Deploy Troops If Opposition Leaders Return

PHNOM PENH - Cambodia's prime minister threatened on Monday to deploy the military if leaders and supporters of the disbanded main opposition party return from exile next month in what he would regard as an attempted coup d'etat.

At least 30 opposition activists have been arrested this year and accused of plotting to overthrow the government before the planned return from self-exile of Sam Rainsy, founder of the dissolved Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), on Nov. 9.

In a ceremony in the capital, Phnom Penh, Prime Minister Hun Sen said Rainsy's return would be an incursion by forces seeking to overthrow his government.

Rainsy has called for an uprising against the longtime leader. Hun Sen said that if opposition leaders and supporters returned, such declarations would mean that "the army must begin to deploy and use weapons of all kinds."

"Attack wherever they are seen, there is no need to wait for an arrest warrant or not," he said. "Supporters are arrested whenever they are seen."

Last year, Hun Sen extended his rule of more than three decades in an election in which his ruling party won all the seats in parliament. The CNRP had been disbanded months before the election by the Supreme Court, following the 2017 arrest of party leader Kem Sokha. (Reuters)

### Iran Confirms Arrest of Russian Journalist

TEHRAN - Iran has confirmed the arrest last week in Tehran of a Russian journalist, saying the case was a matter of a visa violation.

Government spokesman Ali Rabiee told reporters that Yulia Yuzik's case is under «quick review» by authorities and wasn't related to matters concerning the «counter-espionage» department. The Russian Embassy in Tehran said on Friday that Yuzik flew into Tehran the previous Sunday and that Iranian officials seized her

passport at the airport for unknown reasons. She was arrested from her hotel room on Wednesday.

The Russian foreign ministry summoned the Iranian ambassador to Moscow to explain Yuzik's arrest.

Yuzik, who has worked for several prominent Russian publications and has reported from Iran, posted photographs from her trip on Instagram last week, saying she loved being in Iran. (Asharq AL-awsat)