France to Agree Aerospace Deals with Saudi Arabia

PARIS - France and Saudi Arabia are to agree big aerospace contracts when French Prime Minister Manuel Valls visits the kingdom on Tuesday, sources close to the matter said on Sunday.

Valls is on a tour of several Middle Eastern countries which began on Saturday in Cairo with the signing of a deal with Egypt to sell two helicopter carriers.

One source said that important contracts would be agreed with Saudi Arabia and another source said that there would be a military contract with Airbus Helicopters.

Saudi Arabia has shown

reaped initial gains.

more than four years.

tary actions.

IS targets.

government.

Russia's Military

Intervention in Syria

Reaps Initial Gains

DAMASCUS - Russia's recent military

combatting the Islamic State (IS) has

Russia's bombing campaign in Syria,

which began on Sept. 30, has strength-

ened the Syrian government, laying

the foundation for a dialogue with all

countries concerned to come up with

solutions that could drag Syria out of

the internal conflict that has lasted for

According to Russia Today, Russia

started its bombing campaign in Syria

with a goal to provide air support to

the government troops in fighting vari-

ous terrorist groups, primarily the IS.

Russian air strikes hit 55 Islamic State

group targets in Syria in the past 24

hours, the defense ministry said Satur-

day, as Moscow ramped up its military

Russia's air force has attacked a total of

112 targets since the start of the mili-

On Thursday, Syrian government

troops launched large-scale ground

offensives under the cover of Russia's

repeated air strikes. At the same time,

Russia launched 26 cruise missiles

from the Caspian Sea and destroyed 11

yrian political analyst Osama Dan-

nura said Russia's involvement in the

Syrian conflict has upset the initial

planning of Western powers that have

their minds bent on toppling the Assad

The West's strategic shortcomings

were demonstrated by the disastrous

500 million-U.S.-dollar program to

EU Officials Postpone

Visit to Turkey after

Attacks in Ankara

BRUSSELS - European Commission First

Vice-President FransTimmermans and

Commissioner Johannes Hahn postponed

a tour to Turkey slated on Sunday, on re-

quest of the Turkish authorities to respect

the nation's three days of mourning after

The announcement was made by the com-

The EU officials' visit was scheduled to

continue negotiations over a draft action

plan on tackling refugee crisis proposed

by European Commission President Jean-

Claude Juncker to Turkish President Re-

The European Commission said it hoped

to be able to reschedule the visit for next

"We extend our sincere condolences to the

families of the victims and wish a speedy

recovery to those injured. Our sympathy

goes to the Turkish people and authori-

EU High Representative for Foreign Af-

fairs and Security Policy Federica Mogh-

erini, and Commissioner Johannes Hahn

had expressed the condolences to the fami-

Mogherini and Hahn on Saturday said in a

statement that the EU "stand by all people

in Turkey who work together to counter

violence and terrorism," noting that EU's

partnership and engagement with the

Turkish authorities and Turkish society is

lies of the victims on Saturday.

ties," said the commission press release.

the deadly attacks in Ankara.

cepTayyipErdogan on Oct. 5.

Wednesday.

mission here on Sunday.

train and ...(More on P4)...(18)

campaign in the war-torn country.



chasing flexible assault naval vessels like the Mistral helicopter carri-

interest recently in pur- ers sold to Egypt as well as multi-purpose Fremm frigates. However, negotiations are so far not

underway. The country is also interested in spy satellites made by French defense group Thales, which has flagged hopes of winning a big contract with Riyadh.

France meanwhile hopes

next-generation pean pressurized reactors made by the statecontrolled nuclear group

France agreed to sell the Mistral helicopter carriers to Egypt after cancelling a deal with Russia over Moscow's role in the Ukraine crisis.

French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said in Cairo on Saturday that the Mistral deal with Egypt was worth about 950 million euros (\$1.1 billion), including modifications and training. The two vessels are expected to be delivered in February and March.(Reuters)

Iraq

ANKARA - Forty-nine rebels of the outlawed Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) were killed in the military operations in southeastern Turkey and northern Iraq on Saturday and Sunday, a Turkish military state-

bers were killed during air raids on Saturday in southeastern Lice town of Diyarbakir and 35 PKK members were killed on Sunday during the air raids in Metina and Zap regions in northern Iraq, according to the statement issued by the General Staff of the Turkish

Shelters, caves and arms used by rebels were destroyed during the military operations in eastern and southeastern Turkey and northern Iraq on Saturday and Sunday, the statement

Over 2,000 PKK militants have been killed since July in over 4, 300 operations of Turkish security forces, Turkish Interior Minister SelamiAltinok said.

The Turkish authorities have declared security

ment said.

added.

...(More on P4)...(19)

49 PKK Rebels Killed in Turkey,

zones or military forbidden zones in 231 regions of 22 provinces, the semi- official Anadolu Agency quoted Altinok as saying. A total of 255,000 police officers and 130,000 soldiers will be deployed to secure the early elections on Nov. 1, the minister said. PKK declared

A total of 14 PKK mem-Armed Forces.

US, Russia Hold talks on Safe Flight Operations over Syria

WASHINGTON - Defense officials from the United intervention in the Syrian war in the form of airstrikes and missile attacks States and Russia held a aimed both at supporting the governvideo conference Saturday to discuss safe flight operament of President Bashar Al-Assad in tions over Syria, the Pentagon confirmed.

'The discussions were professional and focused narrowly on the implementation of specific safety procedures," said the Pentagon in a statement.

The statement said progress was made during the 90-minute video conference, adding that the United States agreed to another discussion with Russia in the near future. The latest round of military contacts came nine days after defense offi-



cials of the two countries held their first round of talks on airstrikes in Syria. To avoid air accidents over Syria during their airstrikes against the extremist group

the Islamic State (IS), the United States and Russia were currently engaged in talks aimed at ensuring "deconfliction" of air operations in Syria.(Xinhua)

US, EU Monetary Policies to Diverge: **ECB**

LIMA - The monetary policies of the United States and the European Union (EU) may remain fundamentally different for the foreseeable future, head of the European Central Bank (ECB) said.

This difference could be explained by the contrast between the recovery in the United States and a still fragile return to growth in the European bloc, ECB Governor Mario Draghi said here on the sidelines of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Annual Meetings in Lima.

Acknowledging that the EU faces "significant" downside risks, the ECB governor said late Friday that "our monetary policies do present paths that are very different. I would say fundamentally diverging paths for the future".



He added that these downside risks were characterized by a slowdown in developing economies, appreciation of the euro and the fall in commodity prices, particularly oil.

"Developments surrounding slower growth in emergingmarket economies are posing renewed risks to the euro-area outlook," Draghi explained. Furthermore, he warned that should these risks persist, the eurozone might have to resort to adjustments in its quantitative easing policy to see it through. The EU will consider any instruments available to it, particularly adjusting the size and duration of the asset-purchase program, he said.

He also called for the eurozone area to embark on a reform package to improve its ability to resist and adapt to global economic shocks. (Xinhua)

Israel Orders Boost of Paramilitary to Face off Continuous Violence

JERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered a massive boost of border police reservists in Jerusalem and across mixed Jewish and Arab cities, amid Israel's efforts to quell the spreading violence throughout the country.

The office of the prime minister said in a statement on Saturday night that Netanyahu authorized the mobilization of 13 border police companies in the upcoming week, in addition to three that have already have been mobilized over the weekend.

The amount of extra guards of the paramilitary unit could reach up to 1,300 to 2,000 more, the Times of Israel website reported. The Ynet news website reported that the forces would spread throughout Jerusalem and around mixed Jewish and Arab

The move came after a week of spiraling violence between Israelis and Palestinians.

Four Israelis died in stabbing attacks in the past week and more than 10 Palestinian died, some in protests with Israeli security forces in the ...(More on P4)...(20)

3 Ex-PMs Join Forces in **Britain's Battle for Europe** LONDON - Leaving the

next year.

nessman Lord Stuart Rose,

one time executive chair-

man of the high street re-

tailer Marks and Spencer.

European Union would cost every British family 3,000 pounds (4,600 U.S. dollars) a year, it was claimed Sunday, as a new campaign to stay in was announced with three former prime ministers in the forefront.

Former Labor prime ministers Tony Blair and Gordon Brown and Conservative Sir John Major are putting their political differences aside to campaign for Britons to vote Yes to continued membership of the EU in a planned national referendum.

The new "Britain Stronger in Europe Campaign" has attracted some of the best known names including business leaders, the country's former top trade union chief, celebrities and high ranking people in art, culture and educa-

The launch of the campaign is the first big salvo



gets under way, even Times newspaper, Rose branded those wanting though Prime Minister Britain to quit the EU as David Cameron has yet to set a date for what will "living in fantasy land," be the first national vote claiming they were driven on EU membership since by "bravado not patriot-1975. Cameron is committed to fixing a date be-Agreeing that the EU is fore the end of 2017, but it could be called as early as

not perfect, Rose said the strength of the British economy is at stake. He said: "The EU is the The new campaign group is to be chaired by busi-

largest free trade area in the world with more than 500 million consumers," he said, adding that 45 ...(More on P4)...(21)

Nieghbor News

Iran Tests new Long-Range Missile

TEHRAN - Iran an- missile programme. nounced Sunday it had successfully tested a new domestically produced long-range missile, which it said was the first that could be guided all the way to targets. The defence ministry posted pictures of the launch of the missile, named Imad, on its website but no details were given about its maximum range or other capabilities.

"This is Iran's first longrange missile that can be guided and controlled until hitting the target," Defence Minister HosseinDehghan was quoted as saying.

launch comes months after some Iranian officials voiced concern that the Islamic republic's recent nuclear deal with world powers could place limits on its tions.(AFP)

A United Nations Security Council resolution adapted a few days after the nuclear agreement bars Iran from developing missiles "designed to carry nuclear warheads" "We don't seek permission from anyone to strengthen our defence and missile capabilities," Dehghan said.

Iran has said its missiles would never carry a nuclear warhead as it has no plans to develop atomic weapons, but military officials have insisted on expanding the country's missile programme.

The deal reached with Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States aims to limit Iran's nuclear programme in return for lifting international sanc-

Pakistani Jets Kill 22 Terrorists in North Waziristan

ISLAMABAD - Pakistani avoid aerial bombing, fighter jets have killed 22 terrorist in North Waziristan tribal region, the military said on Sunday. The major operation against the Taliban and other militant groups has been intensified in North Waziristan, bordering Af-

ghanistan. Nearly 3,000 militants have been killed and over 90 percent areas have been cleared since the offensive had been launched in June last year. "In aerial strikes 22 terrorists were killed and six of their hideouts destroyed in area close to Pak-Afghan border ahead of DattaKhel late last night," an army statement said.

The remnant Taliban fighters have fled to the rugged mountains to

according to the military officials. The fighter jets are now focusing on the mountains to clear the remaining pockets of the Taliban.

Security officials said that many Pakistani Taliban militants have also crossed into Afghanistan and now operate from there. The military launched the long-anticipated major offensive in North Waziristan in June last year against the Pakistani Taliban, who were blamed for most of the attacks in Pakistan.

The army chief General Raheel Sharif, who visited the region last month, said the operation codenamed "Zarb-e-Abab" is almost in its final stage. (Xinhua)

China to Set Up Database for Nanjing Massacre Files after UNESCO Listing

NANJING - China will set up a special database and upgrade the protection of documents regarding the Nanjing Massacre after files on the atrocity were listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Regis-

A number of domestic archives will jointly establish the database, which will be open to the public at home and abroad, said a source with the Second Historical Archives of China on Sunday.

The database can help people learn more about the historical calamity caused by war, said the

Lasting more than six weeks, from December 13, 1937 until January of 1938, the Nanjing Massacre saw the deaths of 300,000 Chinese civilians and unarmed soldiers after the city fell into the hands of the Japanese. On Friday, 11 sets of

Nanjing Massacre files, including film, photographs and text taken and written between 1937 and 1948, were listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register, despite Japan's protest.

There are a large amount of archives on the slaughter from the aggressor, victims and third parties, said Guo-Biqiang, a researcher with the Second Historical Archives of China. The amount and variety of the documents were unmatched compared ...(More on P4)...(22)

Uzbekistan Invites Indian Cos at Int'l Investment Forum lished three Free Eco-

NEW DELHI - As many as 80 Indian companies from various sectors including textiles, pharmaceuticals, finance, chemicals and fertilizers have been invited by the Uzbekistan government at an International Investment Forum on November 5-6 in capital Tashkent to implement the vision of stronger Indo-Uzbek economic partnership as well as India's growing ties with Central Asia following PM NarendraModi's visit to all five countries in the region last July. Uzbekistan has estab-

dian companies will be given first preference, an Uzbek government official told ET. Tashkent is pushing to implement vision enunciated during PM Modi's visit to the country which was first stop in his tour to Central Asia and Russia. The objective of the In-

nomic Zones where In-

ternational Investment Forum is to facilitate interface between the leading enterprises of Uzbekistan and strategic foreign investors capable of ensuring mod ...(More on P4)...(23)

stronger than ever at all levels. The explosions on Saturday rocked a train station in central Ankara where several unions, civic society organizations and pro-Kurdish People's Democracy Party were due to hold a rally protesting conflict between the state and Kurdish militants in southeast Turkey. Death toll of the twin plasts has risen to 95 so far.(Xinhua)