

US Election Falls to New Low in Third Debate

NEW YORK - The third and final U.S. presidential debate has tossed the ongoing election to its new low, as Republican nominee Donald Trump and his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton traded personal attacks relentlessly late Wednesday to draw voters.

Despite the tiresome war of words, the showdown in Las Vegas seemed to be the only one of the three presidential face-offs in which the two candidates focused more on policies rather than each other's personality and history.



However, this is not assuring news for many after the two previous

rounds of boisterous chair-hurling. As expected, in face

of the pervasive public anxiety about their country's direction, the two

candidates' responses to policy-related questions were hardly construc-

tive or convincing, and did not last long before policy exchanges were turned into nasty insults that even the moderator felt intolerable.

In a jaw-dropping trading of charges, the two nominees accused each other of being a puppet of Russia.

The climax came when Trump refused to tell whether he would accept the outcome of this election. For all its seriousness, the U.S. presidential debates have given place to a deplorable soap opera that no one would feel amusing. (Xinhua)

EU Wraps Up Two-Day Summit, Seeking to Solve Thorny Issues of Migration, Trade, Russia

BRUSSELS - Leaders from the 28 member states of the European Union (EU) on Friday wrapped up a two-day summit in Brussels, seeking to stem flows of irregular migrants, settle a stalled trade deal with Canada, and mount pressure on Russia.

CURBING FLOW OF MIGRANTS

At the first session of the summit, the leaders' discussion focused in particular on external border controls and deals with African countries to reduce the number of ille-

gal migrants. Hailing the entry into force of the European Border and Coast Guard Regulation on Oct. 6, the EU countries committed themselves to continuing to deploy staff and equipment to the new institution. In a concluding document of the discussion, the leaders called



for "a swift adoption" of a revised Schengen Borders Code to enforce systematic controls on

all travelers crossing EU external borders. Meanwhile, the leaders asked the ...*(More on P4)...*(22)

ISIL Using Civilians as Human Shields in Fighting Against Iraqi Troops: UN Official

GENEVA - The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights warned on Friday that fighters from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL, are using civilians as human shields. According to the information released Friday by the UN Human Rights Office, ISIL forced some 200 families out of Samalia village to walk to Mosul on October 17 and on the same day, 350 families fled Najafia village in Nimroud sub-district, towards Mosul, highlight-

ing ISIL's apparent policy of preventing civilians from escaping to areas controlled by the Iraqi security forces.

The office said it is also examining reports that at least 40 civilians were shot dead by ISIL in one of the villages outside Mosul.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein said in a written statement that his office had verified information regarding several incidents since ...*(More on P4)...*(23)

Turkey, Iraq Agree "in Principle" on Ankara's Involvement in Mosul

ANKARA - Turkey and Iraq have reached an agreement in principle that could eventually allow a Turkish role in the military operation to retake Mosul from the Islamic State (IS) militants, U.S. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter said in Ankara on Friday, private broadcaster CNN Turk reported.

The details of Ankara's possible role in the operation have not been shaped yet as they also await confirmation from Baghdad, Carter said after talks

with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. "That will have to obviously be something that the Iraqi government needs to agree on and I think there's an agreement there in principle," he added.

"But now we're down to the practicalities of that... and that's what we're working through," Carter said. Tensions recently increased between Turkey and Iraq due to a statement by the Iraqi government which said ...*(More on P4)...*(24)

Yemen Ceasefire Ends as UN Urges Renewal

SANAA - The UN envoy for Yemen called on Sunday for an extension of ceasefire as a truce just ended with air strikes and ground fighting raging in the Middle East country. Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed urged all parties to extend the truce at least for another 72 hours to create conditions for reviving stalled peace talks and reaching a permanent ceasefire.

"The Yemeni people deserve to live in peace and get all their fundamental rights and all parties should bear responsibility

to protect them," he said. The current 72-hour truce expired at 23:59 local time (2059 GMT) Saturday.

"Despite reported violations from all parties since the truce took effect midnight last Wednesday, relief aid reached the affected areas and UN employees were able to move better in those areas which previously



were inaccessible," Ould Cheikh said in a press release hours after the truce expired.

The just-ended three-day

truce began on Wednesday midnight between the dominant Shiite Houthi rebels and exiled ...*(More on P4)...*(25)

Turkish Says its Artillery Aiding Iraq Kurds

KHAZER, Iraq - The Latest on developments in Iraq where Iraqi forces and their allies launched a major offensive this week to retake Mosul, the country's second-largest city from the Islamic State group.

Turkey's prime minister says Turkish artillery has begun aiding Kurdish forces in their operation to liberate the town of Bashiqa, northeast of Mosul, from the Islamic State group.

Speaking to reporters Sunday, Binali Yildirim said Kurdish peshmerga forces "requested support from our soldiers at the Bashiqa base" and that Turkish tanks and artillery were now aiding them.

Relations between ...*(More on P4)...*(26)

Campaign Manager: Trump Would be Willing to do another Debate

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump's campaign manager says the GOP presidential nominee is willing to do another debate against Hillary Clinton.

"The debates are a very unique opportunity for all of America to see these candidates side by side. And I wish there were more debates," Kellyanne Conway said in an interview with John Catsimatidis on Sunday.

"I think Donald Trump would challenge Hillary Clinton to another debate for a very simple reason: Unless you are a money donor, you are not going to have much access to Hillary Clinton out on the stump now," she continued. "So, to give people a free opportunity to see them side by side and have them really ...*(More on P4)...*(28)

British PM Calls Regional Leaders to Downing Street for Post-Brexit Meeting

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May called Sunday the leaders of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to Downing Street for talks aimed at strengthening ties.

The behind-closed-door meeting will take place on Monday, and will be the first joint gathering May has chaired since becoming prime minister.

It will take place against a post-Brexit backdrop that could pose a threat to the survival of Britain.

This week Scotland's First Minister Nicola Sturgeon paved the way for a possible re-run of an independ-



ence referendum. Wales First Minister Idris Jones will head to London aware of a keynote speech this weekend at the annual conference of Plaid Cymru, the Party of Wales.

Plaid's leader Leanne Wood raised the question of Wales fast-forwarding its ambitions for independence if Scotland goes it alone. Although Welsh independence has been a ...*(More on P4)...*(27)

Nine Migrants Die Crossing Mediterranean Sea, Ten Missing, over 1,000 Rescued

ROME - More than 1,000 migrants crossing Mediterranean Sea to Europe landed Italy Saturday after being rescued by the European Union rescue team and the Italian Red Cross in a 24-hour operation.

However, bodies of nine people were found in the sea and ten others were still missing, according to local media reports.

The migrants reportedly came from Syria, Libya and other African nations

including Nigeria and Ghana.

On Friday, some 800 migrants were rescued from a wooden barge crossing the Mediterranean when some 20 boats were stopped by the Irish Navy. The Irish vessel LE Samuel Beckett rescued more than 700 migrants during a search and rescue operation off the coast of Tripoli, Libya. Italy's interior ministry said on Friday that over 146,500 migrants had landed in the country since the beginning of this year. (Xinhua)

Nieghbor News

Iran Dismisses UN Rights Report as Politically-Motivated

TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Ministry on Saturday dismissed the recent report by the United Nations special rapporteur on the rights situation in the country as "politically-motivated," Press TV reported.

The report has been compiled by the outgoing UN special rapporteur Ahmed Shaheed based on a political approach and in line with the goals of certain powers, Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bahram Qasemi said on Saturday.

Such reports "will not only fail to improve the human rights in the

world but will also have no result save undermining human rights promotion at an international level," Qasemi said.

In his latest report, Shaheed reiterated allegations of violation of human rights situation in Iran.

The Iranian spokesman added that basically the appointment of special rapporteur on human rights situation in Iran was "unjustifiable, meaningless and destructive" as the Islamic republic is committed to legal and religious principles as well as international obligations. (Xinhua)

Nawaz will be Responsible if 'Third-Power' Steps in after Protest: Imran

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has said that only Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif will be responsible if a 'third power' steps in as a result of the PTI's November 2 lockdown of Islamabad. The party has said the upcoming protest is for the premier's resignation or accountability following Panamagate.

Speaking to journalists on Sunday in Islamabad, the PTI chief said, in a reference to Nawaz Sharif, that only "one person will be responsible if democracy is derailed."

He did not mention which force or institution would be derailing democracy following the protest but clarified that, "We [PTI] are not doing

this to bring in a 'third power'."

"Why is a protest happening? Nawaz Sharif isn't presenting himself for accountability," he added.

"Protest is the PTI's democratic right. The government will have to bear a severe loss if it tries to stop us."

Speaking further, Imran Khan accused the government of defaming the Army.

Pakistan's 'royal family' behind high-level 'security breach'

The PTI chief alleged that the premier's daughter Maryam Nawaz's media cell was involved in a 'leak' of information from a recent high-level meeting on national security. (Monitoring Desk)

Turkmenistan Aims to Increase Export of Oil Product

ASHGABAT - Commissioning of a new oil terminal with a capacity of 540,000 tons near Turkmenistan's border with Afghanistan, anticipated in the nearest future, will allow Turkmenistan to increase exports of oil products, said the message of Turkmen Oil and Gas Complex.

According to the message, Turkmenistan's Turkmenneftegazstroy state oil and gas construction concern is finishing the construction of a terminal for acceptance, storage and shipment of oil products in the south-eastern part of Ymamnazar checkpoint of the Atamyrat district in Lebap region in Turkmenistan. Installation of

automated SCADA system, which is designed to monitor the processes of acceptance, storage and shipment of oil products, is being carried out.

In addition, pumping equipment for pumping oil products from railway tanks has been installed. Works on laying the foundation of the railway leading to the terminal are also finished.

The terminal will be located on an area of 276,400 square meters and will consist of four sections: administrative section, sections of adoption and storage of oil products and section of pumping of oil products into tanker trucks on the border area. (Trend)

Uzbekistan Reforming Judicial System

TASHKENT - Uzbek acting President Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed a decree on "Measures on further reforming of the judicial system, strengthening of the guarantees of reliable protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens".

According to the document, the main criteria of state policy in the judicial sphere are to ensure independence of the judiciary, strengthen the guarantees of reliable protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens.

The decree includes the requirement of strict compliance with the consti-

tutional norms and the previously adopted legislative acts on the independence of the judiciary and the inevitability of punishment for interfering in the judiciary activity.

The decree approves the regulations envisaging the appointment (election) of judges for initial five-year period and ten-year period, and in the future - for a termless period of tenure.

A number of changes will be made in criminal law, criminal procedure, civil procedure and other legislation April 1, 2017. (Trend)