



Communications  
Security Establishment

Centre de la sécurité  
des télécommunications

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED INFORMATION SUBJECT TO NDA

TLP:AMBER

**SRP**

**SECURITY REVIEW PROGRAM**

## ASSESSMENT

SRP-2017-35661190

Revision 1

August 2017

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Canada

## FOREWORD

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## REVISION HISTORY

Revision	Amendments	Date
1	First release.	August 11, 2017

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

This document examines the risk factors inherent in the use of \_\_\_\_\_ and provides recommended mitigations.

## 1.1 OUTCOME

Risk factors vary substantially depending on the operating context of \_\_\_\_\_ equipment. Consequently, the sensitivity of \_\_\_\_\_ equipment deployments falls into two categories: those that result in low to moderate residual risk and those that result in high residual risk. Telecommunications Service Providers (TSPs) considering procuring and deploying this equipment should consult the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) to obtain an assessment with advice and guidance on risk mitigation measures that can supplement the proposed architecture.

## 1.2 POLICY DRIVERS

This document is issued in support of the Government of Canada (GC) \_\_\_\_\_ and is intended to facilitate compliance \_\_\_\_\_ by characterizing the risk associated with the technologies discussed herein.

## 1.3 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

To better understand the purpose, scope, and requirements of the Security Review Program (SRP), the following documents should be read in conjunction with this document:

- CSE's *ITSG-33 IT Security Risk Management: A Lifecycle Approach* [1]<sup>1</sup>;
- Canadian Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee's (CSTAC's) *Security Best Practices for Canadian Telecommunications Service Providers* [2]; and
- CSTAC's *Enhanced Risk Mitigation—Addressing Sensitive (Core) Network Equipment and Unacceptable Managed Services* [3].

<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets indicate reference material. A list of references is located in the Supporting Content section.

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 DEPLOYMENT

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<sup>2</sup> Figure taken from reference [6]

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### 3 ASSESSMENT

The SRP is concerned with threats that result from the use of products  
These threats relate to

After an analysis of a generic deployment scenario and consideration of past SRP judgements on equipment sensitivity – and with the recommended mitigations outlined in Section 4 –

The remainder of this section summarizes this assessment.

#### 3.1 SCOPE

The equipment under assessment consists of the  
deployed in

This report does not analyze the specific risks

that originate from

threat assessment.

This system is included in the

#### 3.2 CANADIAN SECURITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

As defined in [3], network equipment can be classified as either core-network equipment or peripheral-network equipment.

However, the assessment also considers situations in which may be placed in peripheral network locations or for which the adoption of risk mitigations measures can decrease risk levels.

#### 3.3 THREAT AGENT

The SRP bases this assessment on the risk posed by a  
threat agent as

threat agent. CSE's IT Security Risk Management: A

### 3.4 THREAT ANALYSIS

#### 3.4.1

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## 4 RECOMMENDED MITIGATIONS

The mitigations will address the risk factors affecting the

### 4.1

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#### 4.2

The following mitigations will address the risks incurred by the introduction of the

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## 5 SUMMARY

### 5.1 CONTACTS AND ASSISTANCE

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this assessment, or would like to propose alternate security mechanisms, please contact your SRP representative.

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## 6 SUPPORTING CONTENT

### 6.1 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Term	Definition
CSE	Communications Security Establishment
GC	Government of Canada
TSP	Telecommunications Service Provider
VLAN	Virtual Local Area Network

### 6.2 REFERENCES

Number	Reference
1	Communications Security Establishment. <i>IT Security Risk Management: A Lifecycle Approach (ITSG-33)</i> , December 2014.
2	Canadian Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee. <i>Security Best Practices for Canadian Telecommunications Service Providers</i> , 6 March 2014.
3	Canadian Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee. <i>Enhanced Risk Mitigation – Addressing Sensitive (Core) Network Equipment and Unacceptable Managed Services</i> , February 2013.
4	
5	
6	

# TRANSMITTAL SLIP / NOTE D'ENVOI

To / À <b>DIR</b>		Classification <b>SECRET//CEO</b>	
From / De <b>ADP</b>		File / Dossier <b>900-13-2</b>	
Drafting officer / Rédacteur <b>Strategic Policy</b>		Date <b>2018 10 01</b>	
Subject / Sujet			
Action / Donnez suite		Priority / Priorité	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signature <input type="checkbox"/> Comments / Commentaires <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval / Approbation <input type="checkbox"/> Information		<input type="checkbox"/> Routine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> Immediate / Immédiate	
		<b>31575</b>	
Record of Consultation/Approval Rapport de consultation/d'approbation		Comments / Commentaires	
a/Chief, PDC DG, PFR 1.10.18 2018.10.01 31575 CSIS / SCRS OCT 01 2018 Policy & Foreign Relations		Consulted Consulté Yes Oui No Non X PROCESSED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVACY ACT AND/OR ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA PROTECTION DES RENSEIGNEMENTS PERSONNELS ET/OU DE LA LOI SUR L'ACCÈS À L'INFORMATION	



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**Thursday, September 27, 2018**

**4:45 PM to 5:30 PM**

**269 Laurier Avenue West**

**16th Floor, TS SCIF**

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## Ministerial Briefing (Minister Goodale)

Thursday, September 27, 2018  
4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

269 Laurier Ave. West, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Secure Boardroom 16B-4200

## Breffage ministériel (Ministre Goodale)

Le jeudi 27 septembre 2018  
16h45 à 18h00

269 av. Laurier Ouest, 16<sup>e</sup> étage  
Salle de réunion sécurisée 16B-4200

### AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR

ITEM POINT	SUBJECT SUJET	PARTICIPANTS	DURATION DURÉE
1			4:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m. (45 min.)

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5:30 p.m.  
6:00 p.m.  
(30 min.)

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2018-10-05

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**From:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**  
**Attachments:**

EXECUTIVE MEDIA SUMMARY / SOMMAIRE EXÉCUTIF DES NOUVELLES 2018-10-01  
Executive Media Summary\_2018-10-01.docx

**Classification:** Unclassified  
**Classification:** Non-classifié  
**Restriction / Restriction d'accès:** NR / AR  
**File Number / No. de dossier:**

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## EXECUTIVE MEDIA SUMMARY / SOMMAIRE EXECUTIF DES NOUVELLES

Monday, October 01, 2018 / le lundi, 1er octobre 2018

07:30 / 7h30

### Top Stories / Faits-saillants

**U.S. security officials question Canada's ability to test Huawei risks.** Senior officials overseeing U.S. cyberintelligence expressed strong skepticism over Canada's recent declaration that it possesses sufficient safeguards to address the risk of cyberespionage through devices made by Chinese telecom equipment maker Huawei. Top officials from the cyberpolicy office of Defence Secretary Jim Mattis, the FBI and the U.S. State Department's Office of the Co-ordinator of Cyber Issues convened in Washington last week to discuss cyberthreats, according to Pierre Paul-Hus, the Conservative Party's national-security critic, and Christopher Parsons, a research associate at the Munk School's Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto, who both attended the high-level meetings. Mr. Paul-Hus said he asked the U.S. officials whether they agreed with Scott Jones, the head of Ottawa's Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, who in a Commons Committee on Sept. 20, dismissed the need to follow the U.S. and Australia in barring Huawei from a role in the networks that will connect the next generation of smartphones. Mr. Jones told the House of Commons standing committee on public safety and national security that the federal government has a robust system of testing facilities for Huawei equipment and software to prevent security breaches - one he suggested is superior to those of some of Canada's allies. "I asked the question [about Huawei] and gave the example of Scott Jones and they started to laugh when Canada says we can manage this company. They just started to laugh and said 'no we can't,'" Mr. Paul-Hus said in an interview with The Globe and Mail. Mr. Paul-Hus said the Americans were adamant that the Canadian and British approach to test Huawei equipment rather than ban it is inadequate to uncover potential back doors in the Chinese firm's gear. Canada's **Communications Security Establishment**, the spy agency responsible for protecting the country from cyberattacks and espionage, has set up what are called "white labs" that are paid for by Huawei. Technicians test equipment at the labs for back doors and capabilities that can be built in that could allow Chinese hackers to covertly intercept data or disable communications networks....Huawei, the world's largest maker of telecommunications equipment and the No. 3 smartphone supplier, has been shut out of the giant U.S. market as well as Australia because of national-security concerns. Japan is also studying whether to impose regulations to reduce the security risks from using network equipment from Chinese manufacturers including Huawei. Under Chinese law, companies must "support, co-operate with and collaborate in national intelligence work" as requested by Beijing, and security experts in the United States and Canada warn that equipment produced by firms such as Huawei could be compromised on behalf of China's ruling party...Canadian providers BCE Inc., Telus Corp. and Rogers Communications Inc. all use Huawei equipment in their cellular networks. The Globe reported in May that Huawei has established a vast network of relationships with leading research-heavy universities in Canada to create a steady pipeline of intellectual property that the company is using to underpin its market position in 5G. Globe and Mail (No public link available/lién public non-disponible)

**'Privacy is not absolute'; Alarm Raised 'Five Eyes' allies want 'backdoor' on tech devices.** Canada joined its intelligence allies recently in demanding that technology companies co-operate with law enforcement agencies in allowing access to encrypted communications, like Facebook and text messages, heating a long-simmering controversy. **"Encryption is critical to safeguarding our cybersecurity, privacy and the digital economy. However, it has also created gaps for law enforcement and national security agencies,"** said Scott Bardsley, the press secretary for Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale, in an emailed statement.

Goodale's office declined an interview request. Bardsley said the allies want to **"explore shared solutions with industry while protecting our cybersecurity and respecting individuals' rights and freedoms."** In 2015, a paper in the Journal of Cybersecurity compared these kinds of requirements to leaving a house key under the doormat. It's convenient if someone forgets their key, but it also seriously compromises the overall safety of the people living in the house. Postmedia (Edmonton Journal, National Post, Saskatoon Star Phoenix, Montreal Gazette, Ottawa Citizen, Calgary Herald, Windsor Star, Regina Leader-Post, London Free Press, Vancouver Sun) (No public link available/liens public non-disponibles)

**The balance between countering terrorism and free speech.** An opinion piece by Phil Gurski states: "In 1964, U.S. Supreme Court justice Potter Stewart came up with a now famous comment that has become a meme (not that there were memes back in 1964). During a threshold case on obscenity he stated, 'I shall not today attempt further to define the kinds of material I understand to be embraced within that shorthand description ['hard-core pornography'], and perhaps I could never succeed in intelligibly doing so. But I know it when I see it. 'I know it when I see it. Does that only apply to pornography? Or can it apply to terrorist propaganda? Back in May or June of 2018 (but just made public recently), federal Crown prosecutors for the first time used the terrorism-propaganda provision of the Criminal Code in an attempt to remove content from the internet. The law allows the government to order social media companies to take down material and report the parties responsible for putting it up in the first place. The move is interesting but rife with challenges. When it comes to terrorist propaganda it should be obvious that some material is more clearly 'terroristic' than others. And here's more to think about: CSIS, the RCMP, and other investigative bodies need to know who is involved in extremist activity and monitoring online postings is part of that task. Leaving extremist material up is often an important part in building a case to take to court. The government is thus stuck between a rock and a hard place. As a former intelligence analyst, I am conflicted. My understanding of the threat necessitated having access to what people were reading and viewing. At the same time, the organization I worked for-CSIS-was created to stop acts of terrorism and interdict those responsible for it. So do we let the material to stay or do we flag it for removal? Good questions. Hill Times (No public link available/liens public non-disponibles)

## United States / États-Unis

**The United States and Canada reached a last-minute deal to salvage the North American Free Trade Agreement on Sunday**, overcoming deep divisions to keep the 25-year-old trilateral pact intact. The deal came after a weekend of frantic talks to try and preserve a trade agreement that has stitched together the economies of Mexico, Canada and the United States but that was on the verge of collapsing. After more than a year of tense talks and strained relations between **President Trump** and **Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** of Canada, negotiators from both sides came to a resolution just ahead of a midnight deadline set by the White House. The 14th-hour agreement was punctuated by a frenetic Sunday, with Canada's leaders teleconferencing throughout the day with top American officials in Washington. Mr. Trudeau convened a 10 p.m. cabinet meeting in Ottawa to brief officials on the deal, as **Jared Kushner**, one of Mr. Trump's closest advisers, and **Robert E. Lighthizer**, the president's top trade negotiator, hashed out the final details. Mexico's under secretary of foreign trade, **Juan Carlos Baker**, was expected to present the texts of the agreement to the Mexican senate just before midnight. In a joint statement, Mr. Lighthizer and Canada's foreign affairs minister, **Chrystia Freeland**, said the new deal "will give our workers, farmers, ranchers and businesses a high-standard trade agreement that will result in freer markets, fairer trade and robust economic growth in our region." The trilateral deal will no longer be called Nafta, they said, but

will be named the "United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement." On Monday morning on Twitter, Mr. Trump called the agreement a "great deal for all three countries." New York Times, Associated Press, Washington Post

#### United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

MI6's assistance to **Vladimir Putin** during his rise to power, including ensuring that **Tony Blair** attended social events with him, is now regretted, its former head has admitted. **Sir Richard Dearlove**, who was chief of the **Secret Intelligence Service** from 1999 to 2004, said that in the run-up to the Russian presidential election in 2000 he had been approached by a senior KGB officer in London asking for MI6's help. The officer asked if Mr Blair, when he was prime minister, would be willing to attend the premiere of **Sergei Prokofiev's War and Peace opera at the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg alongside Mr Putin**. "We had a long discussion in London whether Tony Blair should accept the invitation or not and we decided on balance that this was an unusual and unique opening and we accepted the invitation," Sir Richard told the Cliveden Literary Festival. When asked later if there were regrets within the service at having "burnished" Mr Putin's reputation, Sir Richard said that he was "sure now there is significant regret". "But bear in mind that we went through a period when our relationship with Russia was rather positive," he added. "Little things then started to intervene and little things became big things. Sir Richard said that he was now reluctant to refer to Mr Putin, who was previously a KGB officer, as "an intelligence officer because I see that as a noble profession". He said that the attempted killing of Sergei Skripal in Salisbury in March suggested a "crisis" in the Russian intelligence service. The Times

#### Australia, New Zealand / Australie, Nouvelle-Zélande

An Australian-based religious sect leader who heads a **group allegedly linked to the Chinese Communist Party** has told local followers to be guided by Beijing's policies "in everything we do". **Xin De Wang**, leader of a wealthy Hobart-based **Tantrayana Buddhism** sect that claims millions of followers worldwide, recently became president of a new Tasmania branch of the **Australian Council for the Promotion of Peaceful Reunification of China**. The group, which denies persistent claims by China experts that it is linked to the CCP, is a key force for Chinese influence and was until recently headed nationally by billionaire property developer and political donor **Huang Xiangmo**. *The Australian* has obtained translations of Master Wang's regular Hobart community radio broadcasts, in which he appears to **endorse CCP policies, including "Qiaowu", which uses expats and overseas "religious resources", to advance China's influence**. The Australian

A man giving evidence in the Supreme Court terror trial of his brother and cousin told police when he was arrested that his own **encrypted Telegram handle was "the ShiaSlayer"**. **Hamza Abbas**, **Abdullah Chaarani** and **Ahmed Mohamed** are charged with conspiring to prepare for a terrorist act over an alleged plot in Melbourne's CBD during the 2016 Christmas period. **Ibrahim Abbas**, the brother of Hamza and cousin of Mr Chaarani, was arrested with the three accused on December 22, 2016. Mr Ibrahim Abbas told the court last week that he wanted to carry out a terror attack with high casualties - "the bigger the better". Prosecutors played Mr Ibrahim Abbas' police record of interview to the jury this morning. Mr Abbas told police he had been banned from Facebook several times for posting Islamic State pictures and had belonged to a Telegram encrypted messaging group using the handle "the Shia Slayer". The Australian

#### Global/Global



**Germany's state prosecutor has ordered the arrest of six men charged with forming a far-right terror group known as "Revolution Chemnitz."** The men are accused of planning attacks on migrants in eastern Germany. Some 100 police officers raided several properties in the German states of Saxony and Bavaria early on Monday morning as part of an investigation into a far-right terror group called "Revolution Chemnitz," named after the eastern German city that was the scene of recent far-right demonstrations following the killing of a German man, allegedly involving migrants. The six men arrested, aged between 20 and 30, are suspected of forming a terrorist organization under the leadership of 31-year-old Christian K. who was arrested on September 14. According to Germany's state prosecutors, the men had planned to attack "foreigners" and people who did not share their political views. Deutsche Welle

**Less than half of Macedonia's electorate turned out to vote on whether their country's name should be changed as part of a deal with Greece.** That hasn't fazed the prime minister, who's vowed to push ahead with the plan. Despite low voter turnout, **Macedonian Prime Minister Zoran Zaev has declared Sunday's referendum on changing the country's name to North Macedonia a "democratic success."** Electoral officials said more than 90 percent backed the renaming deal, but only around 35 percent of the electorate cast ballots — well short of the 50 percent threshold needed to make a poll legally valid. However, the referendum was neither legally binding, nor was it required under the so-called Prespa agreement with Greece on changing the country's name. Deutsche Welle

A German court on Monday approved the extradition of an **Iranian diplomat** accused of running a **European-wide network of spies** which planned to bomb an Iranian opposition rally. The court approved the European arrest warrant of Asdollah Assadi, ruling that diplomatic immunity does not apply him as he was outside his host nation. Assadi is a diplomat based in Vienna, Austria, but was arrested in the German city of Aschaffenburg. The National (UAE)

**Qatar** hacked more than 1,200 Americans—including friends of President Donald Trump—European counterterrorism officials, Arab leaders, international football stars and Bollywood actresses, according to legal documents, technical reports and **former CIA operatives**. This is believed to be the biggest hack ever uncovered. It stretches across four continents — North America, Europe, Africa and Asia — and spread across four years, beginning in 2014. It invaded the private lives of more than 1,000 of Qatar's perceived enemies. Al Arabiya

Prime Minister Imran Khan will soon appoint a new head of the **Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)** after the incumbent chief of the country's premier spy agency is set to retire this month. There were reports that **Lt-General Naveed Mukhtar**, the outgoing Director General ISI, would retire on October 1. However, military sources suggested that was not correct. According to the sources, the current DG ISI has still a few days left in the office. They, however, confirmed that he would retire sometimes this month. Express Tribune

A book by former Military Intelligence Bureau deputy chief Lieutenant General Wong Yen-ching describes how **China infiltrated the nation's military and society**. State-run China Central Television (CCTV) on Sept. 15 accused **Taiwanese intelligence of using honey traps** to build ties with Chinese students studying in Taiwan and obtain information on Chinese state secrets. The Ministry of National Defense has called the allegations baseless, and lawmakers and academics have accused China of being the one attempting to infiltrate another nation's society. Taipei Times

**Social Media Activity/Activité sur les médias sociaux**



## Twitter

### NATIONAL SECURITY / SÉCURITÉ NATIONALE

journo dale

Dubé is worried that CSIS is spying on anti-pipeline activists. McCrimmon reads that the government defends the right to protest, and that SIRC said their activities did not cross the line. #QP

journo dale

Linda Duncan reads the same again in English. McCrimmon reads that they are undoing the old C-51, and points to C-59. #QP

### CYBER SECURITY / CYBERSÉCURITÉ

SCMagazine

Android password managers not as secure as desktop counterparts

Hannahkuchler

Mark Zuckerberg and Sheryl Sandberg's Facebook accounts were both among the up to 50m that were compromised in the security breach.

Anildash

Press will report "50 million Facebook accounts compromised". Given that it was potentially complete account access, and the ways data are shared, and the fact that Instagram shares FB logins, it's probably more accurate to say "Every" Facebook account has likely been hacked.

CBC Business

CIBC experiencing outage, customers can't log in to banking services [cbc.ca/news/business/...](http://cbc.ca/news/business/...)

CBC News Alerts

More @CBCNews on security breach that let hackers steal Facebook account 'access tokens,' which would theoretically allow them to take over other users' accounts: [cbc.ca/1.4842815](http://cbc.ca/1.4842815)

Reuters Tech News

BREAKING: Facebook says on September 25 it found security issue affecting almost 50 million accounts \$FB

Reuters Tech News

MORE: Facebook has yet to determine whether these accounts were misused or any information was accessed; company's shares down \$FB

The Associated Press

Facebook says it recently discovered a security breach affecting nearly 50 million user accounts, [apne.ws/26uu7OF](http://apne.ws/26uu7OF)

CBC News Alerts

Facebook is now holding a media briefing on the breach, via conference call. CBC's @mattbraga is listening in, follow him for the latest details of how the breach happened and what it means.

**From:**

**To:**

**Subject:**

**Attachments:**

Daily Media Summary and World News Review - 2018-10-03.docx  
Daily Media Summary - 2018-10-03.docx World News Review\_2018-10-03.docx

**Classification:** Unclassified

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« RÉVISÉ EN VERTU DE LA LOI SUR LA  
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**Daily Media Summary / Revue de presse quotidienne**  
**October 3 2018 / le 3 octobre 2018**

MINISTER / MINISTRE

SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT / SÉCURITÉ ET EXÉCUTION DE LA LOI

BORDER ISSUES / ENJEUX FRONTALIERS

CYBER AND TECHNOLOGY / CYBER ET TECHNOLOGIE

MILITARY ISSUES / ENJEUX MILITAIRES

PUBLIC SERVICE / FONCTION PUBLIQUE

LEGISLATION AND POLICIES / LÉGISLATION ET POLITIQUES

OTHER / AUTRES

INTERNATIONAL / INTERNATIONALE

**Read all about it: new books from former GG Johnston, an HT columnist, and on a former minister** (...) Hill Times columnist Phil Gurski's new book, *An End to the War on Terrorism*, hit bookshelves in August. The 30-year veteran of the Canadian intelligence community's new book is his fourth, and calls for a renewed look at the War on Terror—a term Mr. Gurski says he takes issue with. In it, Mr. Gurski, who spent 15 years at the **Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)**, explores ways the government and society can better combat terror, an issue that he is uniquely positioned to investigate. "I really wanted to write a book that's very accessible," Mr. Gurski told *The Hill Times*. "I wanted to share the views of a former practitioner [as] opposed to the views of an academic." "There's so few of us in Canada that used to work for **CSIS** or the RCMP that have actually gone public and reflected on what we did for many, many years. That alone makes me a bit of a rarity," he said. South of the border, books from former intelligence officers are plentiful, but north of the border the retired **CSIS** officers have tended to keep their lips tight, said Mr. Gurski. *Hill Times* (Neil Moss)

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**MINISTER / MINISTRE**

**Housing solution needed; Asylum seekers housed in hotels will have their stays extended four weeks**

The hotel rooms were reserved in August as a temporary solution that was supposed to last until as late as Sept. 30, with a more detailed, long-term approach for temporary housing of irregular migrants to be released in the interim. The hotel rooms in Toronto were reserved to allow city officials time to assist these asylum seekers to find housing solutions as they normally do for those who use municipal shelters," said Jordan Crosby, issues manager for Border Security Minister Bill Blair. "We are now in the process of extending the hotel rooms in the GTA for an additional 4 weeks while we continue to work with the city of Toronto to determine the next steps." Approximately 40 per cent of shelter occupants in the GTA are refugees and the City of Toronto says 15 to 20 new asylum seekers continue to arrive at shelters every



day. Ontario has asked the federal government to work with municipalities and provide "full funding" for temporary housing and for the "growing cost of social services," according to a statement from the province. NDP immigration critic Jenny Kwan said she does not understand how four cabinet ministers are now involved in managing the irregular migrant issue and yet no real plan for housing - including who will pay for it - has yet been worked out. The hope was to have this ready to roll out at the end of Sept. 30, but so far only five families have taken part in a pilot of this program in Chatham-Kent. The government says it will study the effectiveness of this pilot, but it remains unclear whether it will be expanded. Canadian Press (Kingston Whig Standard) (2018-10-02)

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## SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT / SÉCURITÉ ET EXÉCUTION DE LA LOI

### **Cyber czar says Canada has 'layers' to protect against potential Huawei threat**

The federal government's top cybersecurity official says Canada has "layers" of protections to deal with potential security threats, as he pushed back against claims Canada could be exposed to espionage if China's Huawei is not barred from next generation 5G wireless networks. Scott Jones, the head of the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, told a Toronto audience on Tuesday that federal and private sector analysts have the capacity to work together to stave off all manner of threats. "A lot of details aren't known by folks, and all the different layers we've put into the security model. And so that's something that we are trying to bring a little bit more visibility towards," Mr. Jones said after delivering a keynote speech at a cybersecurity conference. In September, The Globe and Mail revealed the federal government has, for five years, secretly been running security tests on telecommunication equipment sold to Canadian corporations by Huawei. The Chinese company, the world's largest maker of telecommunications equipment and the No. 3 smartphone supplier, helps pay for these tests in "white labs," where independent analysts look for any hidden interception capabilities built into that equipment. Mr. Jones said he was limited in how much he could say publicly, but said the labs are only "a single element" in the process. Washington has been putting pressure on Canada, Britain and New Zealand to join the United States and Australia in banning Huawei from supplying equipment for the Canadian 5G network, the next generation of telecom gear. The countries are part of the Five Eyes intelligence sharing alliance. On Monday, The Globe reported that senior U.S. Globe and Mail

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## BORDER ISSUES / ENJEUX FRONTALIERS

### **Syrian refugee stranded in airport for 7 months arrested by Malaysian authorities**

A Syrian man who had been living in the transit area of Kuala Lumpur airport since March has been arrested by Malaysian authorities. Hassan Al Kontar, 36, became stranded in the airport when he was turned away from a Turkish Airlines flight in March, causing him to overstay his Malaysian visa. Since then, a group of Canadians in Whistler B.C., has been trying to sponsor his application to come to Canada, and publicly lobbying Ahmed Hussen, Canada's minister of immigration, refugees and citizenship. Al Kontar, who is from Dama, Syria, worked as an insurance marketing manager in the United Arab Emirates from 2006 to 2017. He was arrested on Monday, Malaysia's New Straight Times newspaper reported. CBC News

### **Watchdog: US unprepared for 'zero tolerance' immigration**

Immigration officials were not prepared this summer to manage the consequences of a "zero tolerance" policy at the Southwest border, which resulted in the separation of nearly 3,000 children from their parents, Homeland Security's watchdog said in a report made public on Tuesday. The resulting confusion along the border led to misinformation among separated parents who did not know why they had been taken from their children or how to reach them, longer detention for children at border facilities meant for



short-term stays, and difficulty in identifying and reuniting families. And backlogs at ports of entry may have pushed some into illegally crossing the U.S.-Mexico border, the report found. While the Trump administration had been widely criticized for the policy, the criticism previously came mostly from political opponents and not from independent, nonpolitical investigators. Investigators with Homeland Security's Office of the Inspector General compiled the report after speaking with about 50 immigration employees, plus 17 detainees and parents who had been separated from their children and later released. They also reviewed documents and data. Homeland Security is the umbrella department for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. A separate inspector general report on the conditions at border patrol facilities found that despite some being unclean, detainees had proper access to food, bathrooms and clean bedding. The report found no issues with temperatures inside the facilities, though migrants often complain of freezing temperatures. [St. John's Telegram](#)

#### **Airport held an emergency exercise**

A full-scale emergency exercise was held this morning at Erik Nielsen Whitehorse International Airport. It was organized by airport rescue firefighters and other emergency partners. The two-hour simulation included personnel and vehicles from the Whitehorse Fire Department, RCMP, Canada Border Services Agency, Emergency Medical Services and support from the Departments of Community Services and Justice. Rescue personnel responded to a simulated aircraft crash. They tested their skills and inter-operability in the event of a large-scale disaster. [Whitehorse Star](#)

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## **CYBER AND TECHNOLOGY / CYBER ET TECHNOLOGIE**

### **Un logiciel espion néfaste frappe au Québec**

Le redoutable logiciel qu'utilisent plusieurs régimes autoritaires a été détecté pour la première fois au pays. La cible, un opposant saoudien réfugié au Québec, devait rencontrer la GRC mardi soir. Pegasus, du groupe israélien NSO, permet à des États ou des groupes très fortunés d'accéder à tout le contenu d'un iPhone à distance, et même d'écouter les conversations de son utilisateur. Un groupe de chercheurs de l'Université de Toronto, le Citizen Lab, a détecté l'attaque contre Omar Abdulaziz le mois passé. Ces spécialistes de l'espionnage en ligne traquent depuis 2016 les traces de Pegasus, vendu à plusieurs pays connus pour l'espionnage illégitime de la société civile, dont l'Arabie saoudite. Justement, Omar Abdulaziz, installé au Québec depuis 2009, a obtenu le statut de réfugié politique en 2013. Depuis des années, il publie un bulletin de nouvelles satiriques critiquant le régime saoudien. [TVA Nouvelles](#) (Journal de Montréal, Journal de Québec)

### **Update: Hackers demand bitcoin ransom in cyberattack on big Canadian restaurants**

A Canadian company that owns many popular restaurant chains has been told to pay ransom in bitcoin to retrieve data that hackers claim to have stolen. On Monday, Recipe Unlimited - formerly Cara Operations - said it was hit with a "malware outbreak" that's affecting operations at a "limited number" of its restaurants including brands Swiss Chalet, Harvey's, Milestones, Kelseys, Montana's, Bier Markt, and East Side Mario's. Several locations have temporarily closed as a result. Following the cyberattack on Friday, a ransom letter popped up on computers at multiple restaurants owned by the company, some employees said. "All of our computer systems crashed," said a worker on shift at the time at an affected location. "The ransom note appeared under the file, 'read me' in a WordPad format. We were all really in a state of shock." [CBC News](#)

### **Canada's new cyber security strategy will be based on 5 principles: Senior official**

A senior Canadian government official has given a conference of infosec pros a peek at the coming updated federal cyber security strategy without divulging many details, including whether police and intelligence agencies will get more money and how Ottawa will encourage small and medium businesses to take information security more seriously. Flexibility to meet changing cyber threats and collaborating with the provinces and the private sector were constant themes in the keynote speech Tuesday by

Colleen Merchant, director general of national cyber security at Public Safety Canada to the annual SecTor conference in Toronto. [IT World Canada](#) (2018-10-02)

### **How The Government of Canada is Improving Cyber-Security**

Canada, just like every other country, company and individual in the world, is a target of cyber-crime and nation-state based attackers. The Government of Canada however is not sitting idly by and has an active strategy to defend its networks. In a keynote address at the SecTor security conference here on Oct. 2, Scott Jones, Head of the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security at the Canadian Security Establishment (CSE), outlined the key steps being taken by the Government of Canada and how individuals and organizations around the world can benefit from the same approach. "Every day the CSE blocks hundreds of millions of malicious activities directed at the Government of Canada, including up to one billion reconnaissance scans for vulnerabilities and over 25 million attempts to install malware on government networks," Jones said. "We decided to break the cycle and make it harder for people to discover our vulnerabilities." [eWeek](#) (2018-10-02)

### **The unreliability of scary hacking statistics from the dark web**

A bevy of news stories and researchers will tell you that hackers sell personal data for frighteningly small amounts of money on the dark web. According to a new report from Terbium Labs, those statistics might be well-intentioned but are almost certainly not helpful to understanding the issue. Why it matters: Reports about how much money credit cards cost in criminal markets don't tend to use consistent definitions — there's no way to draw any meaning from a report last year saying card information costs \$5 and one today saying it costs \$10. [Axios](#) (2018-10-02)

### **Israeli spyware used against Saudi Arabian dissident in Canada — report**

A Saudi dissident living in Canada was likely spied on by Israeli phone-hacking technology, according to a Monday report. The Herzliya-based NSO Group uses its controversial Pegasus spyware program to turn smartphones into listening devices. It has been accused of selling the technology to countries, including Saudi Arabia, who use it to spy on dissidents, journalists, and others. The Citizen Lab, a group of academics from Toronto University, said it has "high confidence" that the Israeli technology was used to spy on 27-year-old Omar Abdulaziz, an outspoken Saudi dissident who sought asylum in Canada. [Times of Israel](#); [Haaretz](#) (2018-10-02)

### **Facebook says investigating if security flaw impacted Workplace app users**

Facebook Inc (FB.O) said it was investigating if a security breach that it revealed last week had impacted users of its corporate chat app, Workplace. The company's shares were down 2 percent at \$159.26. The social media giant had said hackers stole digital login codes that could have allowed them to take over nearly 50 million user accounts. The company, however, said it was yet to determine whether the attackers misused any accounts or stole private information. [Reuters](#) (2018-10-02)

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## **MILITARY ISSUES / ENJEUX MILITAIRES**

### **Military helicopters returning for more exercises in Cornwall on Tuesday**

Cornwall will once again be the site of another military helicopter training exercise on Tuesday, similar to the special forces exercise that took people by surprise and even caused some minor property damage in April. The Department of National Defence (DND) has confirmed that they will be low-altitude flight exercises taking place between 3 p.m. and 3 a.m. on Tuesday. "(The flights will consist) of various approaches and flights in proximity to buildings and infrastructure," explained Ashley Lemire, DND spokesperson. "The skills honed during this training will ensure personnel maintain the highest level of readiness and operational proficiency should the CAF be called upon to support law enforcement agencies in a Canadian city. Urban flight training by CAF aircraft is carefully planned and closely controlled for public safety. The military will be CH-146 Griffons, which are a versatile single-rotor helicopter, and CH-147F Chinooks which are massive tandem-rotor helicopters used for heavy lifting."

These are the same models that were flown in the exercise in Cornwall in April. That exercise caused quite a kerfuffle in Cornwall because residents were not given any prior warning that it would be happening. The military had advised the Cornwall Police, the City of Cornwall and the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, but no one had then warned the public. Cornwall Standard-Freeholder (2018-10-02)

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## **PUBLIC SERVICE / FONCTION PUBLIQUE**

### **Budget watchdog to study cost of replacing Phoenix pay system**

Canada's parliamentary budget watchdog is wading into the ever-rising price tag for the Phoenix pay crisis with a new study of the cost to replace it. Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) Yves Giroux agreed to undertake the study at the request of Conservative MP Kelly McCauley as part of the work the office has underway this year. In a letter to McCauley, Giroux said the search for a Phoenix replacement, launched in August, is still in the consultation phase. He said his office will start by closely monitoring any development of the project, and will seek information from departments to "help prepare a timely cost estimate as concrete information becomes available." It's unclear whether Giroux will be doing a detailed costing of the new system - including its planning, design, implementation and the migration of data from the error-prone Phoenix system to the new one - or whether he will make an estimate based on what a similar "HR-to-pay" system costs in the private or public sectors. iPolitics (2018-10-02)

### **PSAC, other unions oppose private sector modernization of heating and cooling plants**

The Public Service Alliance of Canada is banding together with several other unions in a campaign to oppose the contracting out of five heating and cooling plant operations in the National Capital Region, which provide service to about 100 buildings, including the Parliamentary Precinct, through about 14 kilometres of underground tunnels. The unions say the Government of Canada is in the process of choosing a corporate consortium to design, finance, build, maintain and operate the plants on a 30-year contract. The contract is being postured as a public-private partnership (PPP). Currently, public service workers, including members of PSAC, operate some of the heating plants. Ottawa Citizen (2018-10-02)

### **PSAC president wants four largest contract negotiations finished by the new year**

Public Service Alliance of Canada national president Chris Aylward, representing about 140,000 federal public servants, said he's cautiously optimistic about the negotiations, but admitted the two sides are still far apart. PSAC served notice to bargain to the Treasury Board on April 12 for four of its groups: Education and Library Science (EB), Program and Administrative Services (PA), Operational Services (SV), and Technical Services. Together, they represent more than 87,000 members. Bargaining dates have been set for October, November, and December, said Mr. Aylward, but it took a bit of persuading with Mr. Brison and Steven MacKinnon (Gatineau, Que.), the parliamentary secretary to the minister of public services and procurement, to make it happen, according to Mr. Aylward. Common group issues include getting 10 days of paid domestic violence leave, said Mr. Aylward. PSAC also wants to extend the parental leave top-up from 37 weeks to the 63 weeks now available after recent legislative changes to the Canada Labour Code in the 2017 budget bill came into effect last December. PSAC also recently launched its Here for Canada national campaign, which highlights the strain caused by the Phoenix pay system. So far, 18 of the 27 core federal public service groups, which have Treasury Board as their official employer, have served notice to bargain, meaning their current contract is effective until a new one is struck. Meanwhile, about 100 members of the Union of Taxation Employees (UTE), Canada Revenue Agency employees that are a part of PSAC, rallied outside Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's (Papineau, Que.) Ottawa office to protest Phoenix last week. The national PSAC branch isn't for or against any particular pay system, as long as it's one that pays members correctly. Hill Times

### **Seamus O'Regan: if we want Canadians to talk about mental health, public figures have to too**

An opinion piece states: "This week is Mental Illness Awareness Week. I want to challenge all Canadians to raise awareness and understanding of mental illness, and to take action. It's a time to encourage



conversations that, quite frankly, would not have taken place 10 years ago. Supporting good mental health is not just a campaign that happens one week in October, or one day in January, or just in one social media post; good mental health must be a priority year-round. It must be part of our daily lives. We've got to look after one another. And as leaders and public figures, we are expected to set an example for Canadians. If we are to encourage them to open up and talk about mental health, we need to be part of that conversation. Veterans, and all Canadians, are finally talking openly about mental health and mental illness. The worst thing we can do now is to stop listening. We've come so far. We need to keep going. And we need to keep the spotlight on this conversation. We need to do everything we can to encourage good mental health. This week, and beyond, join me in this conversation on mental health. Because when Canadians decide they need help with mental illness, it can be the most important decision of their lives. And we need to be there for them." Hill Times

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## LEGISLATION AND POLICIES / LÉGISLATION ET POLITIQUES

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## OTHER / AUTRES

### **U.S. NATO rep veers off Trump's script, praises Canada's contributions to alliance**

U.S. President Donald Trump's representative to NATO is leaving some daylight between herself and her boss on the thorny political matter of Canada's monetary contributions to the alliance. "Canada is doing so many things that are very important," Kay Bailey Hutchison said in an interview airing Tuesday on CBC News Network's Power & Politics. Trump has berated NATO members repeatedly for failing to spend enough on defence. In 2014, NATO countries committed to spending two per cent of their gross domestic products on defence by 2024. Canada's defence spending was estimated at 1.36 per cent of GDP in 2017 and is only expected to rise to 1.4 per cent by 2024. CBC News (2018-10-02)

### **Ottawa offre 1,5 million aux victimes du séisme et du tsunami en Indonésie**

Le Canada versera une aide d'urgence de 1,5 million de dollars à la suite du séisme et du tsunami qui ont frappé l'Indonésie vendredi dernier, une catastrophe qui a fait plus de 800 morts. L'aide canadienne doit répondre aux besoins immédiats des collectivités touchées par le désastre, notamment en ce qui a trait à l'eau potable, à la nourriture, aux abris, aux premiers soins et aux soins de santé de base. « Cette aide d'urgence ira directement aux partenaires humanitaires de confiance qui sont sur le terrain et qui travaillent dans les collectivités ayant un urgent besoin d'aide. », a indiqué dans un communiqué la ministre du Développement international, Marie-Claude Bibeau. Radio-Canada (2018-10-02)

### **Alleged victim of Fenwick MacIntosh leery of his return to Canada**

Bob Martin says he's started looking over his shoulder again after years of relative calm. That's because, as CTV News first revealed on the weekend, Martin has learned the man alleged to have sexually assaulted him years ago has been released from a prison in Nepal. Little information is being released about where in Canada 75-year-old Fenwick MacIntosh plans to go. Martin says the news of MacIntosh's early release from prison was a bit of a shock to him. In March of 2015, MacIntosh was sentenced to seven years in a prison in Nepal for sexually molesting a 15-year-old boy. Sources tell CTV News that MacIntosh has been released and ordered out of the country, because of his age and health concerns. CTV News (2018-10-02)



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## INTERNATIONAL / INTERNATIONAL

### Survivors Desperate For Food, Fuel, Water

The city of Palu - battered by last week's earthquake and tsunami - was now a place of fear, looters, lawlessness and a slow and difficult aid effort that has made food, fuel and water hard to come by. Iffa Elia, her parents and younger sister joined the exodus Monday heading to the airport. They were looking for any flight, anywhere. Yet only 24-year-old Iffa made it out of Palu this time. The rest of the family must decide whether to try again or to make do in what is left of their home. The desperation and dashed hopes of those seeking to flee Palu are palpable as Indonesia struggles to cope with a crisis whose full extent is not yet clear. Canadian Press (Edmonton Journal; Calgary Herald; London Free Press; Saskatoon Star Phoenix; Regina Leader-Post; Windsor Star; Ottawa Citizen; Vancouver Sun; National Post) (2018-10-02)

### China – not North Korea – is our biggest threat to peace, South Koreans say

(...) In the survey, released on Tuesday by the Institute for Peace and Unification Studies (IPUS) at Seoul National University, 46 per cent of respondents viewed China as "the most threatening country to peace on the Korean peninsula", a dramatic increase from 2016, when 17 per cent said China was the most threatening. Only 33 per cent viewed North Korea as the country posing the biggest threat, well down on 64 per cent last year and the first time it had been eclipsed by China since the survey began in 2007, the institute said. The poll of 1,200 men and women aged 19 to 74 was conducted by Gallup Korea between July 12 and August 3. China "does not want inter-Korean reunification", according to 91 per cent of respondents, compared with 90, 88 and 53 per cent for Japan, Russia and the United States respectively. IPUS senior researcher Choi Gyu-bin suggested the figures stemmed from the dispute over the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) system, an American anti-ballistic missile defence system deployed in South Korean territory since 2016. South China Morning Post

### Seoul: North Korea estimated to have 20-60 nuclear weapons

A top South Korean official told lawmakers that North Korea is estimated to have up to 60 nuclear weapons, in Seoul's first public comment about the size of the North's secrecy-clouded weapons arsenal. Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon told parliament Monday the estimates on the size of North Korea's nuclear arsenal range from 20 bombs to as many as 60. He was responding to a question by a lawmaker, saying the information came from the intelligence authorities. The National Intelligence Service, South Korea's main spy agency, couldn't immediately comment. Cho may have unintentionally revealed the information. Postmedia (Whitehorse Daily Star; Ottawa Sun; Toronto Sun; Winnipeg Sun; Vancouver Province; Edmonton Sun); Associated Press (New York Post); Japan Times (2018-10-02)

### Proposed rule change worries some about radiation regulation

The EPA is pursuing rule changes that experts say would weaken the way radiation exposure is regulated, turning to scientific outliers who argue that a bit of radiation damage is actually good for you - like a little bit of sunlight. The government's current, decades-old guidance says that any exposure to harmful radiation is a cancer risk. And critics say the proposed change could lead to higher levels of exposure for workers at nuclear installations and oil and gas drilling sites, medical workers doing X-rays and CT scans, people living next to Superfund sites and any members of the public who one day might find themselves exposed to a radiation release. The Trump administration already has targeted a range of other regulations on toxins and pollutants, including coal power plant emissions and car exhaust, that it sees as costly and burdensome for businesses. Supporters of the EPA's proposal argue the government's current model that there is no safe level of radiation - the so-called linear no-threshold model - forces unnecessary spending for handling exposure in accidents, at nuclear plants, in medical centres and at other sites. Associated Press (National Post) (2018-10-02)

### NCIS special agent shared classified information with her terrorist suspect lover, prosecutors say

Leatrice Malika De Bruhl-Daniels was warned to keep her distance from Nadal Diya. They met in Dubai in 2016. She was a special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service working at the U.S.

Consulate; he was a Syrian national trying to get a tourist visa to the United States. According to court documents, she reached out to contacts at the State Department and Department of Homeland Security and learned that Diya was the target of both a Department of Homeland Security probe and an FBI counterterrorism investigation. National Post; CNN (2018-10-02)

#### **Pentagon: Packages that may contain ricin found on grounds**

A Pentagon spokesman says authorities found at least two packages suspected of containing ricin, a poison made from castor beans. Spokesman Chris Sherwood said the FBI was investigating and few details were available. He said the packages had been found Monday at a delivery facility that is on the Pentagon grounds but not inside the main building that includes the offices of the defence secretary. Sherwood said the packages were addressed to a person at the Pentagon. He would not reveal the name. Ricin is part of the waste "mash" produced when castor oil is made. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, if it is made into a partially purified material or refined, ricin can be used as a weapon capable of causing death under certain circumstances. Associated Press (National Post; Global News; Washington Post); CNN; Washington Examiner; FOX 10 (2018-10-02)

#### **« Encore un peu de temps » pour vaincre le groupe État islamique en Syrie**

Lors d'une conférence de presse à l'issue d'une rencontre avec son homologue française Florence Parly, M. Mattis a déclaré: « Nous sommes toujours engagés dans un combat difficile ». « Ne vous trompez pas », a-t-il ajouté. « L'EI a imposé, mais d'une certaine façon ils ont renforcé leur centre au moment où ils ne contrôlent plus que 2% des territoires qu'ils contrôlaient auparavant ». « Dans les mois qui vont suivre la défaite finale de l'EI, nous continuerons à créer les conditions de sécurité qui l'empêcheront de se réinstaller », a-t-il assuré. Prenant à son tour la parole, Florence Parly a elle aussi estimé qu'en Syrie « le travail n'est pas tout à fait terminé ». « Nous resterons impliqués aussi longtemps que la coalition restera impliquée au Levant », a-t-elle ajouté. « Nous savons combien la lutte contre le terrorisme est une lutte difficile, de longue haleine. Des progrès sont réalisés dans la reconquête des territoires qui avaient été contrôlés par Daech, mais il faut continuer de nous assurer que cette lutte contre le terrorisme se poursuit de façon efficace ». Agence QMI (Journal de Québec; Journal de Montréal; TVA Nouvelles) (2018-10-02)

#### **At least 13 killed in suicide bombing at Afghan election rally**

A suicide bomber struck an election rally in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province on Tuesday, killing at least 13 people and wounding more than 30, a provincial official said. The attack, the first since campaigning began last week ahead of the elections for the lower house of parliament, underscored the widespread violence gripping the country 17 years after the U.S.-led invasion toppled the Taliban. The vote is scheduled for Oct. 20 but it's unclear if balloting will go ahead in areas controlled by the Taliban. Tuesday's attack took place in Nangarhar's district of Kama as supporters of Abdul Naser Mohmand gathered in the afternoon to back his campaign as an independent candidate in the elections. According to Attahullah Khogyani, spokesperson for the provincial governor, some of the wounded were in critical condition, which added to concerns the death toll could rise further. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, but both the resurgent Taliban and Afghanistan's Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) affiliate are active in Nangarhar. CBC News; New York Times; Hindustan Times (Agence France-Presse); BBC News (2018-10-02)

#### **DHS Secretary: No Sign China's Trying to Undermine Midterm Vote**

There's no current evidence that China is attempting to undermine or alter the outcome of the 2018 midterm elections, Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said Tuesday, pulling back a claim President Donald Trump made last week at the United Nations. There's "currently no indication that a foreign adversary intends to disrupt our election infrastructure" Nielsen said during a Washington Post cybersecurity summit, though she noted that could change before the November vote. Chinese influence operations tend to be focused on spreading positive information about China and battling back criticism, she said, in contrast to Russia's 2016 efforts to sow chaos and undermine democratic processes. "In the case of China, it's part of a more holistic approach to influence the American public in favor of China," Nielsen said. NextGov (2018-10-02)

#### **Indonesia accused of mishandling tsunami warnings**

The Indonesian government has defended itself against accusations it issued inadequate safety warnings as a powerful earthquake triggered a tsunami that killed at least 844 people. The 7.5 magnitude earthquake hit Sulawesi island on Friday causing three-meter-high (10 foot) waves to surge over parts of its northwestern shore, with groups of people caught on the coastline, apparently unaware of the danger. Experts underscored the difficulties of predicting tsunamis and raising safety alerts across Indonesia's vast archipelago of over 17,000 islands and 261 million people, but others pointed to a lack of government coordination and funding. Online criticism from Indonesians centered on allegations that the country's meteorology and geophysics agency (BMKG) canceled the tsunami alert too early. [CNN](#) (2018-10-02)

#### **Number of U.S. diplomats doubled in Syria as Islamic State nears defeat: Mattis**

The number of U.S. diplomats in Syria has doubled as Islamic State fighters near a military defeat, Defense Secretary Mattis said on Tuesday. The U.S.-led coalition, along with local partners, has largely cleared the militant group from Iraq and Syria but remains concerned about its resurgence. "Our diplomats there on the ground have been doubled in number. As we see the military operations becoming less, we will see the diplomatic effort now able to take (root)" Mattis said. He did not give a specific number. [Reuters](#) (New York Times) (2018-10-02)

#### **Trump's NATO envoy warns Russia that U.S. could 'take out' new missile system**

In pointed remarks Tuesday, a top U.S. official warned Russia that it must stop the development of a new missile system that could potentially carry nuclear warheads, or else the U.S. could step in and take it out. "It is time now for Russia to come to the table and stop the violations," U.S. Ambassador Kay Bailey Hutchison told reporters in Brussels, on the eve of a meeting between U.S. Defence Secretary Jim Mattis and his NATO counterparts. Hutchison was referring to what the U.S. says are violations of the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), which bans medium-range missiles capable of hitting Europe or Alaska. The U.S. and Russia celebrated its 30th anniversary in Geneva in 2017. [Associated Press](#) (National Post); [Washington Post](#) (The Star); [Wall Street Journal](#) (2018-10-02)

#### **Britain's cyber security chief warns of Russian interference**

Britain's cyber security chief says Russian hackers are targeting the country's telecommunications systems, media and energy networks. Ciaran Martin's stark warning comes after Prime Minister Theresa May on Monday said Russia was "weaponizing information" and meddling in elections to undermine the international order. Martin, in prepared remarks released before a speech on Wednesday, says "Russian interference, seen by the National Cyber Security Center over the past year, has included attacks on the U.K. media, telecommunications and energy sectors." [Associated Press](#) (National Post) (2018-10-02)

#### **Did Trump's ambassador to NATO threaten Russia with pre-emptive strikes?**

The U.S. ambassador to NATO set off alarm bells Tuesday when she suggested that the United States might "take out" Russian missiles that U.S. officials say violate a landmark arms control treaty. Although Ambassador Kay Bailey Hutchison's comments were somewhat ambiguous, arms control experts said they could be interpreted to mean a pre-emptive strike against Russian missiles. Such a move could lead to nuclear war. An official familiar with Hutchison's thinking later said she did not mean a pre-emptive strike. Still, the comments drew a furious response from the Russian Foreign Ministry. [Washington Post](#) (The Star) (2018-10-02)

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# World News Review • Revue mondiale des actualités

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Noon/Midi

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### **Senators' Russia probe, with toughest test ahead, unlikely to end this year**

The Washington Post, Karoun Demirjian, 2018 10 03

Washington - The Senate Intelligence Committee's investigation of Russian interference in U.S. politics, begun just days after Donald Trump took office, is unlikely to end this year, according to people involved with the probe who say its challenging final phase risks jeopardizing the bipartisan cooperation that has evaded other congressional panels examining related matters. The 15-member committee has been an atypical oasis of functionality in a Congress that routinely splinters along party lines when questions are raised about the political implications of Russia's plot to influence the 2016 election and any role Trump's associates may have had in those efforts. The continued harmony is due, in part, to the commitment of Sens. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) and Mark R. Warner (D-Va.), the panel's chairman and vice chairman, to keep the process collaborative - and their calculated decision early on to postpone directly assessing whether Trump's campaign conspired with Moscow. That work will not begin until after November's high-stakes election, which could result in Democrats retaking majorities in Congress. Officials insist the timeline is not intended to let lawmakers avoid having to address a divisive issue before the midterms. In a brief interview, Burr promised the committee would



release additional findings at some point this month, as it has periodically upon reaching conclusions about election security and the quality of the intelligence community's assessment about Russia's activities in 2016. The committee's next preliminary reports are expected to address the Obama administration's response to the Russian threat and the role social media companies played in the dissemination of disinformation. "We hope in the next two weeks to give everybody a status update," Burr told The Washington Post recently. "We'll be very specific on where we are and where the path forward is." But leaders are no longer confident they can wrap up their interviews, much less their final report, by the year's end.

#### **4 arrests linked to 'Unite the Right'**

The Washington Post, Paul Duggan, 2018 10 03

Washington - Four California men, all alleged members of an organized hate group, were arrested Tuesday and charged with violating a federal rioting law in connection with last year's white-supremacist rally in Charlottesville that erupted in deadly mayhem. Authorities described the suspects as members of a militant, racist and anti-Semitic group known as the Rise Above Movement, based in Southern California. The four were arrested by FBI agents and charged with one count each of violating a federal rioting statute and conspiring to violate it. Each offense is punishable by up to five years in prison. Calling the men "serial rioters," Thomas T. Cullen, the U.S. attorney for the Western District of Virginia, said the Rise Above group "organizes, trains and deploys to various political rallies not only to espouse" hateful ideology "but also to engage in acts of violence against folks who are taking a contrary point of view." Cullen called the suspects "righteous targets for federal prosecution," adding that "this wasn't, in our view, the lawful exercise of First Amendment rights." Referring to the Aug. 12, 2017, rally, he said the men "came to Charlottesville in order to commit violent acts." The four were identified as Benjamin D. Daley, 25, and Thomas W. Gillen, 34, both of Redondo Beach, Calif.; Michael P. Miselis, 29, of Lawndale, Calif.; and Cole E. White, 34, of Clayton, Calif. A criminal complaint alleges they carried out multiple assaults against counterprotesters during the Charlottesville demonstration. It was unclear Tuesday whether they are being represented yet by lawyers.

#### **FBI confronts a minefield in background investigation**

The Washington Post, Staff reporters, 2018 10 03

Washington - FBI leaders are warily trying to navigate their way through the politically charged background-check investigation into Supreme Court nominee Brett M. Kavanaugh, as the bureau seeks to protect itself now - and after the midterm elections - from what could be fierce congressional criticism, according to people familiar with the matter. The White House has given the FBI until Friday to provide the results of a week-long inquiry into allegations that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted female students while in high school and college - accusations he has angrily denied. Officials said the FBI could finish before Friday, particularly as senators clamor for information ahead of an expected first procedural vote on his confirmation this week. FBI agents have completed a first batch of interviews of four individuals closest to the alleged events, and the White House has given the bureau a green light to conduct some further interviews, according to the people familiar with the matter. On Tuesday, the FBI moved beyond those initial four people, interviewing Tim Gaudette, a Georgetown Preparatory School classmate of Kavanaugh. Gaudette's attorney, Kenneth Eichner, said an FBI interview took place but declined to comment further. Gaudette's home was the site of a July 1, 1982, party that Kavanaugh references on his calendar and has become the focus of lawmakers' concerns. FBI agents have also interviewed Mark Judge, a key Kavanaugh high school friend who has denied any knowledge of a teenage gathering like the one described by Kavanaugh's first accuser. In the interview, Judge also denied recent allegations leveled by Julie Swetnick, saying he had no knowledge of anything like what she had claimed - that he, Kavanaugh or other male friends

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tried at house parties to get girls drunk in order to take advantage of them, according to two people familiar with the interview.

**US special agent shared classified info with terror suspect lover, prosecutors say**  
CNN, Zachary Cohen, 2018 10 03

Washington - An alleged forbidden romance with a suspect in a terrorism probe has landed a special agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service behind bars on charges related to obstructing a federal investigation and sharing classified information. Special agent Leatrice Malika De Bruhl-Daniels was warned by contacts at the US State Department and the Department of Homeland Security to "stay away" from Nadal Diya, a Syrian national who was trying to obtain a tourist visa to the US, according to newly released court documents. Instead, she became romantically involved with Diya despite learning he was part of a DHS probe and an FBI counterterrorism investigation being run out of Houston, an affidavit from an FBI special agent says. According to prosecutors, Bruhl-Daniels met Diya in June 2016 while she was working at the US Consulate in Dubai and eventually not only told him about the investigations but also warned him he would be arrested if he traveled to the US. The Maryland native is facing a federal obstruction charge in Houston and will have a detention hearing on Wednesday in Alexandria, Virginia, according to the court docket and documents obtained by CNN.

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**G.O.P. Presses To Vote in Days On Kavanaugh**

The New York Times, Sheryl Gay Stolberg, 2018 10 03

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican leaders pressed on Tuesday to wrap up the confirmation of Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, seizing on word from the F.B.I. that it would complete its investigation into allegations of sexual assault and sexual misconduct as early as Wednesday. "We'll have an F.B.I. report this week, and we'll have a vote this week," an emphatic Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the majority leader, told reporters after the Republicans' weekly policy luncheon. But Mr. McConnell's promise was as much about bluffing as it was about confidence, giving the nomination an air of inevitability even as five undecided senators will determine Judge Kavanaugh's fate. Those five -- the Republicans Susan Collins of Maine, Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Jeff Flake of Arizona, and the Democrats Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota and Joe Manchin III of West Virginia -- are refusing to tip their hands. The push for a quick vote on Judge Kavanaugh came as the Senate and the White House waited for the F.B.I. to finish its work. President Trump, who has made stocking the federal judiciary with committed conservatives like Judge Kavanaugh a signature of his White House tenure, expressed qualified optimism on Tuesday, noting that this was the seventh time the nominee had undergone a background check. "I think that Judge Kavanaugh is doing pretty well -- it seems to me -- over the last 24 hours," Mr. Trump told reporters on the South Lawn of the White House. "A lot is going to depend on what comes back from the F.B.I., in terms of their additional -- No. 7 -- investigation."

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**Ricin Suspected in Mail Sent to Trump and Pentagon Officials**

The New York Times, Helene Cooper, 2018 10 03

WASHINGTON -- Federal authorities said on Tuesday that they had intercepted multiple packages suspected of containing ricin, a lethal substance, addressed to President Trump and at least two top Pentagon officials. In a statement on Tuesday night, the Secret Service said a "suspicious envelope" addressed to Mr. Trump was received at a facility outside the White House on Monday. All threats directed towards the president, or any Secret Service protectee, are treated seriously and fully investigated," the statement said. The Secret Service did not specify that the envelope contained ricin, but said agents were "working jointly with our law enforcement partners to fully investigate this matter." Earlier on Tuesday, the Pentagon put its

mail under quarantine after multiple packages suspected of containing ricin were found at a Pentagon mail facility on Monday. They were turned over to the F.B.I. on Tuesday. Sarah Huckabee Sanders, the White House press secretary, referred all questions about the suspicious envelope to the Secret Service, which said it was "not received at the White House, nor did it ever enter the White House." A Defense Department official said the packages at the Pentagon mail facility were addressed to Defense Secretary Jim Mattis and Adm. John Richardson, the chief of naval operations. The official was not authorized to discuss sensitive details of the continuing investigation and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

### **With an eye on Russia, U.S. pledges to use cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO**

Reuters, 2018 10 03

BRUSSELS - The United States is expected to announce in the coming days that it will use offensive and defensive cyber capabilities on behalf of NATO if asked, a senior Pentagon official said, amid concerns about Russia's increasingly assertive use of its cyber capabilities. The 29-nation NATO alliance recognized cyber as a domain of warfare, along with land, air and sea, in 2014, but has not outlined in detail what that entails. "We will formally announce that the United States is prepared to offer NATO its cyber capabilities if asked," Katie Wheelbarger, the principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, told reporters during a trip to Europe by U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis. Wheelbarger said the United States will keep control of its people and capabilities but use them in support of NATO if asked. She added that it was a part of a British-led push to increase NATO's cyber capabilities. In a recent summit, member nations said NATO would create a cyberspace operations center to coordinate NATO's cyber activities. NATO has also talked about integrating individual nations' cyber capabilities into alliance operations. Last year, officials said the United States, Britain, Germany, Norway, Spain, Denmark and the Netherlands were drawing up cyber warfare principles to guide their militaries on what justifies deploying cyber attack weapons more broadly. In Europe, the issue of deploying malware is sensitive because democratic governments do not want to be seen to be using the same tactics as an authoritarian regime. Senior Baltic and British security officials say they have intelligence showing persistent Russian cyber hacks to try to bring down European energy and telecommunications networks, coupled with internet disinformation campaigns. U.S. intelligence officials have found that in the campaign leading up to the 2016 U.S. presidential election, Russian hackers breached the Democratic National Committee and leaked confidential information.

### **Pompeo to travel to N. Korea Oct. 7, meet Kim**

Yonhap News Agency, 2018 10 03

Washington - U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will travel to North Korea next week to meet with its leader, Kim Jong-un, the State Department said Tuesday. Pompeo will visit Pyongyang Sunday as the U.S. pushes to dismantle the regime's nuclear weapons program and set up a second summit between President Donald Trump and Kim. At their first summit in Singapore in June, Kim agreed to work toward "complete" denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in exchange for security guarantees from the U.S. Negotiations between the two sides have since stalled as the U.S. demands concrete steps toward denuclearization and the North insists on first declaring an end to the 1950-53 Korean War. The three-year conflict ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty, leaving the sides technically at war. Pompeo will be making his fourth trip to Pyongyang after an earlier visit in August was called off by Trump over what he called a lack of progress in denuclearization. "These conversations are going in the right direction and we feel confident enough to hop on a plane to head there and continue the conversations," department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told a regular news briefing. "Our policy has not changed. Things stand firmly in place, such as the sanctions ... remain in place." Pompeo met with his North Korean counterpart, Ri Yong-ho, on the sidelines of the United



Nations General Assembly in New York last week. The State Department announced afterward that the secretary had accepted Kim's invitation to visit Pyongyang. Days later, in an address to the U.N. General Assembly, Ri slammed the U.S. for continuing to pressure the regime with sanctions and declared there was "no way" the North would give up its nuclear program before seeing trust-building steps from the U.S.

#### **Pompeo to visit N. Korea again at weekend despite negative signals**

Reuters, Lesley Wroughton and David Brunnstrom, 2018 10 03

Washington - U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will travel to North Korea at the weekend for denuclearization talks with the country's leader Kim Jong Un, the State Department said on Tuesday, calling this "forward progress," despite negative signals from Pyongyang. Pompeo will also travel to Japan, South Korea and China from Oct. 6-8, and will be in North Korea on Sunday local time, or Saturday in U.S. Eastern Time. "I think it shows forward progress and momentum that the secretary is making his fourth trip back in less than a year," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told a briefing, referring to the Pyongyang stop. "Of course, we have quite a ways to go but we look forward to the next steps in this conversation." Pompeo's visit comes ahead of a planned second summit between Kim and President Donald Trump. The invitation to return to Pyongyang was made during a meeting with North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho on the sidelines of their United Nations General Assembly last week. Nauert said the stops in Japan, South Korea and China were intended to brief counterparts on the Pyongyang talks. She said he would meet Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Foreign Minister Taro Kono in Tokyo and President Moon Jae-in and Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha in Seoul, while in Beijing he would meet counterparts to discuss "bilateral, regional and global issues." At an unprecedented June meeting with Trump, Kim pledged to work toward denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, but his actions have fallen short of Washington's demands for a complete inventory of its nuclear weapons and irreversible steps to give up an arsenal that potentially threatens the United States.

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#### **United Kingdom • Royaume-Uni**

##### **Release of hate preacher 'could worsen both Islamist and far-right extremism'**

The Independent, Lizzie Dearden, 2018 10 03

London - The release of hate preacher Anjem Choudary could worsen extremism among both Islamists and the far right, experts have warned. Choudary was jailed for inviting support for Isis in 2016 but is expected to be imminently freed under tight licence conditions aiming to prevent the revival of his banned extremist group al-Muhajiroun. The government vows that MI5 will be watching the cleric "like a hawk" but there are fears that his release will invigorate his supporters, and far-right groups like the English Defence League (EDL). The Faith Matters counter-extremism network warned that Choudary was part of a "dance of hate where the only ones to profit have been the extremists". Forecasting an increase in far-right activity around his release, which has already been seen with the launch of petitions and planned protests, the group said: "It may also embolden enablers of Islamist extremism who continue to promote a 'them and us' mentality that seeks to mentally marginalise British Muslims from mainstream society." Choudary and his followers were active from the early 2000s, aiming to convert people to Islam and radicalise Muslims with leafleting, stalls, talks and protests across the country. Muslim councillors and MPs were among their targets as they promoted the idea of a clash of civilisations between Islam and the West. Choudary, a former solicitor, frustrated the security services by treading a careful line to keep his incendiary speeches just outside British terror legislation while gaining media coverage with provocative protests. Al-Muhajiroun and its



renamed affiliates were eventually banned as terrorist groups and Choudary himself has been listed as a "specially designated global terrorist" by the US State Department

#### **Skripal spy's award is for Ukraine job**

The Times, Marc Bennetts, 2018 10 03

London - The Russian colonel named as one of the suspects in the Salisbury poisonings was awarded his country's top military honour by President Putin for spiriting Ukraine's former leader to safety during its 2014 revolution. According to a report by the Dossier Centre, a London-based investigative group, Colonel Anatoliy Chepiga was given the Hero of Russia award for his role in saving Viktor Yanukovich. A Russian special forces unit escorted the pro-Russian Mr Yanukovich in a top secret mission ordered by Mr Putin. "Chepiga was there, he guarded him," said Sergei Kanev, the author of the report by the Dossier Centre, which is funded by the exiled Kremlin critic Mikhail Khodorkovsky. Mr Kanev told The Times that his source was a GRU military intelligence officer who was disillusioned with Mr Putin's rule. Journalists from the Bellingcat website last week identified Colonel Chepiga as one of the two GRU agents who flew into Britain in March to try to kill Sergei Skripal, a former Russian double agent, with the nerve agent novichok. He and his daughter Yulia survived.

#### **Unarmed police officer tried to 'rugby tackle' Westminster attacker**

The Independent, Lizzie Dearden, 2018 10 03

London - A police officer who tried to save PC Keith Palmer during the Westminster attack has told how Khalid Masood looked him "directly in the eye" during his rampage. PC Nick Carlisle was one of the unarmed Metropolitan Police officers posted at gates outside the Houses of Parliament on 22 March last year. He told inquests into the victims' deaths that he was alerted to the attack on hearing a loud bang when Masood crashed his car into railings after fatally running over four victims on Westminster Bridge. PC Carlisle heard a report of a possible explosion over his radio and could see the grey 4x4 smoking metres away. Giving evidence at the Old Bailey, he described a crowd of people surging away from the bridge, shouting and screaming. "A man wearing a suit in his 40s shouted men with knife stabbing people, men with knives," the officer said. "As soon as he said that I was drawn to the attacker just behind. "He looked me directly in the eye. He was coming through a crowd of people. He was not interested in members of the public. He was coming to kill police officers." PC Carlisle said that as one of his colleagues reacted by shouting "shut the gate", PC Palmer urged the crowd to "come in here". CCTV footage previously played to the court shows Masood running through the gate at speed and starting to stab PC Palmer - the first officer he reached - immediately. PC Carlisle said he had backed away by about 10 metres when he turned to see the terrorist attacking his colleague. "I ran forward intending to issue a rugby tackle, shoulder barge," he said. "He came at me with knives up. I was very close."

#### **MoD under fire for giving jet deal to US**

The Times, Lucy Fisher, 2018 10 03

London - The Ministry of Defence is pursuing plans to sign a multimillion-pound contract for spyplanes from a US company without an open competition. Gavin Williamson, the defence secretary, confirmed that the UK was going ahead with talks to acquire airborne early-warning and control-system planes, known as "Awacs", developed by Boeing and the Australian air force. The announcement, made before a meeting of Nato defence ministers tomorrow, was in defiance of calls from the Commons defence select committee for a competition for the new jets. Britain wants to replace its current surveillance aircraft, a fleet of E3-D Sentry planes, which guide jets in dogfights and bombing raids, amid claims that only one of the six aircraft was operational this summer. The MoD says that buying a proven "off the shelf" aircraft will be better value for money, quicker and less risky than procuring a new, untested model. The move to

press ahead without allowing European companies with bigger footprints in Britain to compete for the contract has elicited a backlash. John Spellar, a Labour member of the defence select committee, said: "I have serious concerns that the government has not launched a proper competition and, equally, is giving contracts regularly to Boeing without consideration of the impact on Britain's defence industry capability. The Ministry of Defence seems to be running roughshod over the government's prosperity agenda." Julian Lewis, the Tory chairman of the committee, said this year that it would be "particularly inappropriate" to award Boeing the contract after it campaigned to levy burdensome US tariffs on airliners built by Bombardier, which would have threatened thousands of jobs in the UK.

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## **Australia, New Zealand • Australie, Nouvelle-Zélande**

### **Top spy working to bring business in from the cold**

The Australian Financial Review, Lisa Murray, 2018 10 03

Canberra - Australia's top spy is enlisting the help of boardrooms to resolve tensions between the business and intelligence communities amid concern the government's tougher line on China over the past two years has threatened the country's biggest trading relationship. In his first interview since being named last year as director-general of the soon-to-be-established Office of National Intelligence, Nick Warner told the Power issue of The Australian Financial Review Magazine that he has already hosted a handful of gatherings with the country's top business people. The briefings follow two years of heightened tensions between business and the national security establishment and come as Mr Warner is at the centre of the biggest overhaul to Australia's intelligence apparatus in 40 years. "It's not my job to defend Australian policy but it's my job to explain how we see the world and what assessments we're putting to the government," said Mr Warner in an interview at his office in Canberra. "Undoubtedly our strategic environment is changing in dramatic ways. It's becoming more challenging, and arguably it's becoming more complicated, and arguably it's becoming more dangerous." Duncan Lewis, director-general of security at the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation, confirmed he has also hosted a series of boardroom briefings to better inform the corporate sector about ASIO's national security assessments. Another intelligence agency, the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD), is also working with companies on strategies to deal with cyber security threats. Mr Lewis said Australia's top companies "touch many if not most of the sinews of Australia". "They have a very deep reach so it's very important to work cooperatively with them. Of course, boards are sitting on top of enterprises that have enormous vulnerability as well, so it's my obligation to inform them when I see vulnerabilities appearing," he said, adding it was a "two-way street".

### **Theft of military tech 'a visa issue'**

The Australian, Primrose Riordan, 2018 10 03

Canberra - Former chief scientist Ian Chubb has demanded that Defence justify its proposed demands for "draconian" search and seizure powers targeting Australian universities and provide concrete examples amid concern about Chinese military technology theft. Professor Chubb said previous changes to laws, which he was involved in negotiating, had achieved the right balance in protecting national security and encouraging cutting-edge research. The former Australian National University vice-chancellor said if there were concerns about technology transfer, that should be a matter for immigration officials. "We talk about foreign nationals in our research enterprises and our view was that is an immigration issue. That's a visa issue," Professor Chubb said. "If you don't want somebody from some country wanting to work in nuclear physics then you don't give them a visa for that, and you make sure your visa

arrangements are such that you know where they want to work and what they are coming out here to study." Chief scientist from 2011 to 2016, Professor Chubb chaired the group that negotiated the latest update of defence technology and research controls in 2015. "Defence would have to be able to show not that they have suspicion that in 10 years something might be bad but that in fact the way it's now operating is [a problem]," he said. In a submission to a new review of those controls that has infuriated the university and research sector, the Department of Defence laid out demands for search and seizure powers in universities and scrutiny of foreign passport holders conducting tech research in Australia.

### **Internet giants join security law revolt**

The Australian, Greg Brown, 2018 10 03

Sydney - Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon have joined an alliance with civil libertarian groups to campaign against new laws that would force the technology -giants to hand over customer information and assist national -security agencies in targeting terrorists and pedophiles. The Communications Alliance and DIGI — who represent the multinational companies — have joined forces with the Alliance for a Safe and Secure Internet in pushing back against the Morrison government's encryption legislation, saying it was part of their "collective civic duty". The revolt against the government's proposed laws was -attacked last night by senior government sources, who accused the tech giants of "having it both ways" after being consulted for months over the design of the encryption bill, which would force companies to share -customer information and encrypted conversations. A Google spokesman last night confirmed the company was backing the campaign to scupper the bill, which is due to be reviewed by the parliamentary joint committee on intelligence and security, led by Liberal MP Andrew Hastie. "We can confirm that we are members of DIGI and are therefore supportive of DIGI joining the Alliance for a Safe and Secure internet," the Google spokesman said.

### **Return of IS wannabe**

Daily Telegraph, Ellen Whinnett, 2018 10 02

Beirut - A Sydney schoolboy jailed in Lebanon after being caught trying to cross into Syria to become a foreign fighter has been deported to Australia. Ishaq Ul Matari, of Blacktown, was deported from Lebanon in June after being released from prison in Beirut after serving -almost nine months in jail. The 19-year-old was -arrested in October last year by Lebanese Security Forces, who alleged he was -attempting to become a foreign fighter or a suicide bomber. He was convicted in a military tribunal in the capital Beirut of being a member of the terror group Islamic State, and sentenced to a one-year prison term. The Daily Telegraph can reveal Australian Border Force officials interrogated Ul Matari at the airport as he left Australia, but let him go after he said he was not intending to join the jihad, and they found no incriminating evidence on his phone. But Ul Matari told Lebanese intelligence agents who interrogated him that he had become radicalised by reading about Islamic State online. He named websites Jihadology and Bestcare, intelligence sources said. He also told the Lebanese officials he was detained for two hours at Sydney Airport on August 19 last year. However, he was allowed to fly after he told officials he was going to Lebanon to study sharia law. He was arrested two months later in Tripoli in northern Lebanon after local authorities monitored his online activity. "He told his father he wanted to become a member of Islamic State and wanted to establish the caliphate," an intelligence source said. But his father had forbidden it.

### **Alliance gives new encryption laws a big fail**

The Australian Financial Review, Andrew Tillet, 2018 10 03

Canberra - Technology giants, telcos, consumer advocates and civil libertarians have united to condemn the Morrison government's proposed laws to make it easier for spy agencies to snoop on phones and other electronic devices, warning they will compromise online security for all



Australians. Calling themselves the Alliance for a Safe and Secure Internet, the industry and consumer and human rights groups are criticising the government for failing to consult with stakeholders and trying to rush the changes through Parliament. "This Bill stands to have a huge impact on millions of Australians, so it is crucial that lawmakers reject this proposal in its present form before we sleepwalk into a digital dystopia," said the alliances' spokeswoman Lizzie O'Shea, who is a board member of Digital Rights Watch. "As a group, we are so concerned by the Bill we feel it is our collective civic duty to use our voices to make sure the public is aware of the alarming legislation the federal government is attempting to rush through Parliament with its Assistance and Access Bill." Under the proposed powers, police and security agencies will be able to ask or force any provider of communications services and devices in Australia to install software or equipment, build a "technical capability" to embed on a suspect's device, assist in accessing devices or services, and conceal covert activity. The penalties include fines of up \$10 million for companies that refuse to facilitate access to secret data and communications and 10 years' jail for individuals who refuse to tell investigators their password to unlock a device. While the government insists the laws will not require tech companies and telcos to include "backdoors" so investigators can break encrypted communications, experts believe provisions that allow agencies to install spyware will leave devices vulnerable to hacking.

#### **Shorten commits: I'll keep home affairs intact**

The Australian, Rachel Baxendale, 2018 10 03

Sydney - Bill Shorten says he's not into "change for change's sake", committing to keep the home affairs super-ministry pending advice from security agencies. As The Australian reported yesterday, the Opposition Leader will stare down a push from Labor Left colleagues and key unions wanting to dismantle the Department of Home Affairs and go to the election with a commitment to keep the national security super-agency intact. The department was created last year through a merger between parts of the department of immigration and border protection, attorney-general's department, and departments of infrastructure and regional development, prime minister and cabinet, and social services. While no official policy has been taken to his frontbench, Mr Shorten has privately canvassed the issue and is understood to be insisting Labor in government would not break up the department, as called for by the party's Left. Mr Shorten pledged a "bipartisan view" on national security when asked whether he would keep the Department of Home Affairs if elected. "We're the opposition, we're not going to interfere with the government's administrative arrangements from opposition on home affairs," Mr Shorten said. "If the system is working, of course we'll keep it. "If the security agencies say we need to look at improvements, then of course we will." Mr Shorten said he did not know whether he would have merged departments to form the home affairs ministry if he had won the 2016 election. "But the point about it is, in all seriousness, we're not into change for change's sake," Mr Shorten said.

#### **China warned on aggression**

The Australian, Primrose Riordan, 2018 10 03

Canberra - Australia has warned Beijing that the use of "intimidation or -aggressive tactics" was "destabilising and potentially dangerous" following reports a Chinese navy destroyer launched an "unsafe" challenge to a US warship in the South China Sea. In the latest conflict between the US and China, the Pentagon revealed that a Chinese warship had issued a challenge to the -guided missile destroyer USS -Decatur as it sailed within 12 nautical miles of the Gaven and Johnson reefs in a freedom-of-navigation operation. With tensions between the -nations worsening, a decision by US Defence Secretary Jim Mattis to abandon a planned visit to Beijing was followed by a statement by Defence Minister Christopher Pyne last night warning against aggression in the region. In a further deterioration in -relations, Beijing also refused a -request



for a US warship to make a port call at Hong Kong and cancelled plans for its naval chief to visit the Pentagon. The dispute between the -Pacific giants escalated yesterday as China's claims over the disputed waters come under increasing pressure, with Australia taking part in new multilateral naval -exercises in the region. Mr Pyne this week announced that the Bersama Lima exercises involving Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, New Zealand and Britain would be partly conducted in the South China Sea. Australia last week confirmed it was also planning with France naval exercises in disputed waters. Asked about the Chinese naval challenge, Mr Pyne said the -reports were "concerning". "We would view any use of -intimidation or aggressive tactics as destabilising and potentially dangerous," he said.

### **Alarm bells over proposed encryption laws**

Australian Associated Press, Rebecca Gredley, 2018 10 03

CANBERRA - A broad range of industry and legal experts are sounding alarm bells over proposed federal laws forcing tech giants to hand over encrypted information to security agencies. The so-called Alliance for a Safe and Secure Internet is accusing the government of rushing the legislation, claiming it was introduced to the lower house last month without adequate industry consultation. "We should all be worried because this legislation doesn't only target criminals, it puts every Australian at risk," its spokeswoman Lizzie O'Shea said on Wednesday. The group includes organisations such as Australian Communications Consumer Action Network, Human Rights Law Centre, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association, Digital Rights Watch and Amnesty International. They have united against the proposed laws believing the government was reluctant to listen to cyber security specialists, technology experts and leaders from civil society organisations. "This bill stands to have a huge impact on millions of Australians, so it is crucial that lawmakers reject this proposal in its present form before we sleepwalk into a digital dystopia," Ms O'Shea said.

### **Terrorist confessed 'after cop bashing'**

The Australian, Tessa Akerman, 2018 10 03

Sydney - A Melbourne terrorist who made frank and chilling admissions of a plan to chop people to death with machetes and set off explosive suicide vests told a court yesterday that he made the confession after being "brutally bashed" by the arresting police and kept awake for 30 hours. Ibrahim Abbas pleaded guilty in February to being part of a conspiracy to plan a terror attack and is currently giving evidence as a key prosecution witness in the terror trial of his brother Hamza Abbas, 23, his cousin Abdullah Chaarani, 27, and an acquaintance Ahmed Mohamed, 25. The three men have pleaded not guilty to the charge of conspiring to plan a terrorist attack in Melbourne's CBD over the Christmas period in 2016. Yesterday prosecutors played Abbas's record of interview to the jury where he laughed at footage of the four men visiting Federation Square and allegedly planning a terror attack. "We're trying to be careful what we say," Abbas, 24, told the interviewing officers. "Cause it'd be pretty stupid for someone to hear us talkin' about our plans." Abbas then sniggered and said he was laughing at the way he was walking on the video. "I got that, I don't know what it's called, just funny," he said. Abbas told police his goals for the attack were to cause chaos, destruction, fear and bloodshed.

### **To Enter New Zealand, Reveal Passwords**

The New York Times, Charlotte Graham, 2018 10 03

Travelers entering New Zealand who refuse to disclose passwords for their digital devices during forced searches could face prosecution and fines of more than \$3,000, a move that border officials said Tuesday made the country the first to impose such penalties. "We're not aware of any other country that has legislated for the potential of a penalty to be applied if people do not divulge their passwords," said Terry Brown, a New Zealand Customs spokesman. Border officials, he said, believe the new fine is an "appropriate remedy" aimed at balancing

individuals' privacy and national security. In New Zealand -- as in many other countries, including the United States -- customs officers were already legally permitted to search cellphones and other digital devices as they would luggage, and to seize devices for forensic examination if they were believed to contain evidence of criminal activity. But the law did not previously compel travelers to open their devices for inspection, either by entering a password or using biometric data like thumbprints or facial scans. As of this week, travelers who fail to unlock their devices risk prosecution and potential fines of 5,000 New Zealand dollars, about \$3,295. The law applies to both foreign visitors and returning New Zealand citizens.

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## **Afghanistan • Pakistan**

### **Suicide Bomber Targets Election Rally In Nangarhar; 14 Killed**

TOLO News, 2018 10 03

Kabul - An suicide bomber detonated his explosives at an election campaign rally of a parliamentary candidate in Nangarhar province on Tuesday afternoon. Local officials said the incident took place in Kama district where a candidate, Nasir Mohmand, was hosting dozens of people to explain his plans. Provincial governor's spokesman Attaullah Khogyani said the explosion was a suicide bomb blast which left seven people dead and 25 others wounded. The provincial public health director Najibullah Kamawal however said at least 14 people were killed and 30 others were wounded in the explosion. The UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) expresses its concern around the level of violence early in the campaigning period for the 20 October parliamentary elections, including intimidation and attacks against candidates, their agents and supporters. The Mission condemned the attack that killed at least 14 civilians and wounded a further 42 when a suicide attacker struck at a campaign rally in Nangarhar. Since campaigning formally commenced on 28 September, there have been several attacks resulting in the killing of a candidate and three security guards of another candidate, as well as the shooting of a further candidate's agent and son, the commission said. UNAMA said it urges all actors to halt all violence and intimidation against candidates and voters. "I am outraged by attacks deliberately targeting civilians seeking to exercise their basic right to participate in elections," said Tadamichi Yamamoto, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan.

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## **Africa • Afrique**

### **South African phones targeted by notorious 'governments only' spyware (Canada)**

Mail & Guardian Online, Simon Allison, 2018 10 02

South Africa - Journalists warned to be extra-vigilant with their digital security. Electronic devices infected with Pegasus, a notorious spyware program sold only to governments, have been discovered in South Africa. The spyware, developed by Israeli cyber warfare firm NSO Group, has been used to target journalists and human rights activists across the world. In a report titled 'Hide and Seek' which was released on Monday, Citizen Lab — a Canada based internet watchdog — identified 45 countries in which infected devices have been traced, after scanning the internet for servers associated with Pegasus spyware. It also identified multiple instances of cross-border surveillance. Twelve African countries, including South Africa, are on the list. The others are: Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Rwanda, Togo,

Tunisia, Uganda and Zambia. In a statement to Citizen Lab, NSO Group said: "Our product is licensed to government and law enforcement agencies for the sole purpose of investigating and preventing crime and terror. Our business is conducted in strict compliance with applicable export control laws." It added that there are "multiple problems" with the Citizen Lab report, and that the list of 45 countries is inaccurate. In response to the report, the Committee to Protect Journalists, an non-governmental organisation advocating for the rights of journalists, issued a safety advisory: "The spyware gives the attacker the ability to monitor, record, and collect existing and future data from the phone. This includes calls and information from messaging applications and real-time location data. The spyware is able to remotely activate the camera and microphone to surveil the target and their surroundings ... Journalists will likely only know if their phone has been infected if the device is inspected by a tech expert." Pegasus works on phones running Android, BlackBerry OS, and iOS operating software. It can be installed simply by clicking on a link, which is often designed to look like a message from a source or a breaking news story. In the Columbia Journalism Review, Avi Ascher-Shapiro, a New York-based technology and foreign affairs journalist said, "The threat this poses to journalists can't be overstated: A Pegasus operator can quietly transform a cellphone into a surveillance hub, tracking the reporters movements, identify sources, even potentially impersonate that journalist in the digital world."

### **African Countries Struggle to Contain Terror Groups - Report (Canada)**

AllAfrica (Voice of America), Ibrahim Ahmed, 2018 10 03

Amid a decline in terror incidents worldwide in 2017, African countries struggled to prevent the expansion of terror groups in parts of the continent, according to a U.S. State Department report on terrorism. "African countries expanded their efforts to develop regional counterterrorism solutions while they struggled to contain the expansion of terrorist groups, affiliates, and aspirants involved in attacks or other activities in 2017," according to the report, released last week. Experts offer different explanations as to why terror groups have been able to expand in the continent. Jacob Zenn, a terrorism expert with the Washington-based Jamestown Foundation, said he believes that when it comes to ideology and development, the former should be given more attention. "When it comes to extremism, intolerant religious teachings need to be countered. If not, jihadists would exploit intolerance and encourage people to express grievances through violence," Zenn said. "Thus, countering the ideology must be paramount. "Naturally governing better is important, too, but in most cases that will be a long process and tackling jihadist groups is an imminent concern," he added.... Jonathan Sears, a researcher with Centre FrancoPaix, University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada, argues that part of the problem has also been the apparent shortcomings in the provision of public services to the population in central Mali, which allowed militant groups such as al-Qaida and Islamic State to exploit people's grievances. "Where there is a lack of state public service provision, [these] so-called terror groups are providing some services, which strengthen their links within the population," Sears told VOA.

### **Augmentation de l'aide accordée à la Force du G5 Sahel**

La Presse de Tunisie, 2018 10 03

Tunis - Un appui de 60 millions de dollars, sous la forme d'une aide bilatérale octroyée à chaque pays du groupe, était initialement promis... AFP — Les états-Unis vont «très significativement» augmenter leur contribution à la force antijihadiste du G5 Sahel, a affirmé hier la ministre française des Armées, Florence Parly, lors d'une conférence de presse conjointe avec son homologue américain, Jim Mattis, en visite à Paris. Selon Mme Parly, le secrétaire américain à la Défense lui a assuré que «l'aide que les états-Unis ont l'intention d'apporter à la force conjointe du G5 Sahel serait très significativement augmentée par rapport à ce qui avait été initialement prévu». «Nous sommes persuadés que l'amélioration des conditions de sécurité







Undisclosed dateline - It's been five years since four attackers made their way into Westgate, a popular shopping mall in the rich Westlands area of Nairobi, and unleashed a coordinated attack that left 71 people dead. Some of those deaths resulted from friendly fire as the small group of terrorists took advantage of Kenyan security agencies' confused response. After the attack, videos emerged of members of some security agencies looting shops in Westgate during the siege. The attack, for which Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility, struck a brutal blow against Kenya's important tourist industry. Five years on, the threat is somewhat reduced. Al-Shabaab remains undefeated. But there are several indications that Kenya, as well as several of its neighbours, such as Djibouti, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia, have made important gains against the terror group and its local sympathisers. My field studies indicate that the Kenyan police have been successful in curtailing communication and cross-border travel by local sympathisers and Somali militants. This is significant for two reasons. First, attacks like Westgate were almost certainly coordinated by militants who'd trained in Somalia and returned to Kenya. And second, hundreds of Kenyans have joined the group inside Somalia. Kenya's security forces must nevertheless remain vigilant. This is especially true because Al-Shabaab remains powerful and stable within Somalia. There's always a risk that the group will once again turn its sights on Kenya if policing and security slacken. Al-Shabaab, a border problem. After Westgate, Kenya was rocked by two more large attacks in the vulnerable border areas near Somalia. On 2 December 2014, gunmen crept into a labourers' camp in Mandera and killed 36 people. On 2 April 2015, militants launched a large-scale attack on Garissa University College. The attack left 150 dead, the highest number of casualties ever inside Kenya. Since then, the border areas have become far safer, although attacks still occur. There are several reasons for this. Kenya increased spending on security. It also increased border controls, and implemented a devolution process delegating power to the region and local levels. ... Maintaining the progress. Kenya's leaders need to maintain unity and enhance both the payment of security forces and the trust between community and the police. Progress has been made, but it needs to be continuously advanced, strengthened and consolidated. Stig Jarle Hansen, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

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## Americas • Amériques

### **Missing FARC leaders say Colombia peace process "has been destroyed"**

Colombia Reports, Adriaan Alsema, 2018 10 02

Bogota - Missing FARC leaders "Ivan Marquez" and "El Paisa" reaffirmed their commitment to peace in Colombia on Monday, but said that the country's ongoing peace process "has been destroyed." The two FARC leaders, who fled their reintegration compound last month amid alleged fears they faced imminent arrest, wrote Congress that "our main concern is how to get Colombia's peace out of the abyss of failed agreements." Marquez and el Paisa explicitly accused the United States government and Prosecutor General Nestor Humberto Martinez of "sabotaging peace between the former guerrillas and the state. According to the FARC leaders, "at least three acts of foolishness pushed the hope woven in Havana into the taciturn abyss of failed peace processes: legal insecurity, modifications to the original text of the agreement and non-compliance with essential aspects of the Agreement."

### **Venezuela: Military judge who indicted "political prisoners" has sought refuge in Colombia**

CE NoticiasFinancieras, 2018 10 03

Bogota - Venezuelan military judge Luz Mariela Santafé Acevedo, who has sued several "political prisoners" in Venezuela, entered Colombia on Tuesday in search of refuge, the

Colombian press said. "In the last hours, the Venezuelan Judge Luz Mariela Santafé Acevedo, who was in charge of prosecuting several civilians, among them students and political prisoners, who in 2017 led protests against President Nicolás Maduro, state broadcaster RCN announced. According to the RCN, "the Venezuelan officer arrived alone in the Colombian territory, seeking refuge, due to the social and economic situation that the neighboring country lives."

### **They reject blockade against Cuba in final day of debate in the UN**

CE NoticiasFinancieras, 2018 10 02

Managua - The Nicaraguan chancellor, Denis Moncada, condemned the criminal blockade against Cuba and all its extraterritorial measures and ramifications: Managua rejects any coercive economic measure to try to break the will and spirit of freedom and sovereignty of peoples and governments. As he said in the general debate, the use of unilateral coercive economic measures as a selective political instrument to change governments illegally is unacceptable. "This year we will vote again against the unjust blockade," he said. He also expressed solidarity with Venezuela and condemned the attempt to assassinate Nicolás Maduro and the threat of military intervention in that South American territory. Belarusian Foreign Minister Vladimir Makei warned of how sanctions, economic coercion and political isolation find a solid foundation in the foreign policy tools of many countries. We have all witnessed decades of economic, commercial and financial blockade policies applied against a freedom-loving Cuba, such actions are not only contrary to UN resolutions, but also charge a high price in the social and economic development of that country island, he said.

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## **Asia • Asie**

### **New trump trade pact 'Poses Threat to China (Canada)**

South China Morning Post, Lee Jeong-ho, Keegan Elmer and Zhou Xin, 2018 10 03

Beijing / Washington - A special clause in the new US-Mexico-Canada free-trade deal gives Washington a near-veto over any attempt by Canada or Mexico to agree to a similar pact with a "non-market economy", in what analysts have said is a major threat to China's position in the global trading system. The United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), finalised on Sunday to replace the 24-year-old North America Free Trade Agreement, stipulates that any of the three parties to the deal has the right to be informed about any negotiations on a free-trade agreement with a "non-market economy" at an early stage, and can review any such deal signed by another member. If one of the three signs a free-trade deal with a non-market country, either of the other two has the right under Article 32.10 to terminate the trilateral USMCA with six months' notice and form their own bilateral deal on the same terms. Despite repeated Chinese demands that they do so, the US and European Union have refused to classify China as a "market economy" a technical distinction in the World Trade Organisation framework that would reduce the ability of Washington and Brussels to impose trade sanctions on Beijing. Although the new stipulation which was not included in the trade deal between the US and South Korea agreed last month does not name any specific country, analysts understand it to be aimed at China. With the power to review and then impede or effectively veto a possible free-trade deal between China and Canada or Mexico, the US can block potential "backchannels" for Chinese products to enter American markets, and gain a significant -advantage in weakening Beijing's negotiating power in future trade talks. The clause would effectively end any talks between Canada and China - Ottawa's second-largest trading partner after the US - on a possible free-trade deal.

### **North Korea has 20-60 nuclear weapons: minister**

Korea Times, 2018 10 03

Seoul - A top South Korean official told lawmakers that North Korea is estimated to have up to 60 nuclear weapons, in Seoul's first public comment about the size of the North's secrecy-clouded weapons arsenal. Unification Minister Cho Myoung-gyon told parliament Monday the estimates on the size of North Korea's nuclear arsenal range from 20 bombs to as many as 60. He was responding to a question by a lawmaker, saying the information came from the intelligence authorities. The National Intelligence Service, South Korea's main spy agency, couldn't immediately comment. Cho may have unintentionally revealed the information. His ministry said Tuesday Cho's comments didn't mean that South Korea would accept North Korea as a nuclear state, suggesting Seoul's diplomatic efforts to rid the North of its nuclear program would continue. The South Korean assessment on the North's arsenal is not much different from various outside civilian estimates largely based on the amount of nuclear materials that North is believed to have produced. Many foreign experts say North Korea are likely running additional secret uranium-enrichment plants. The North entered talks with the United States and South Korea earlier this year, saying it's willing to negotiate away its advancing nuclear arsenal. Nuclear diplomacy later stalled due to suspicions over how sincere North Korea is about its disarmament pledge, but U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo is to visit Pyongyang this month to set up a second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

### **Chinese and US warships in near miss**

South China Morning Post, Kristin Huang, Teddy Ng, 2018 10 03

Beijing - A Chinese destroyer nearly collided with an American warship in the disputed South China Sea after making what the United States described as an "unsafe and unprofessional" manoeuvre in an attempt to make it leave the area. The US described the move by the destroyer as unsafe because it moved within 41 metres of the American ship. The Chinese vessel then moved to prevent a collision. US Pacific Fleet deputy spokesman Nate Christensen said the ship "approached USS Decatur in an unsafe and unprofessional manoeuvre in the vicinity of Gaven Reef in the South China Sea". "The destroyer conducted a series of increasingly aggressive manoeuvres accompanied by warnings for Decatur to depart the area," Christensen said. The Chinese defence ministry said in a statement yesterday that the Decatur had ventured into Chinese waters on Sunday, and its navy had to send a Luyang-class destroyer to warn it off. "The Chinese vessel took quick action and made checks against the US vessel in accordance with the law, and warned it to leave the waters," the ministry said. The Decatur's actions were provocative and China would "resolutely protect its territorial sovereignty," it said. Chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said America's actions would undermine regional stability. The US ship, a guided-missile destroyer, passed through waters off the disputed Spratly Islands on Sunday, sailing within 12 nautical miles of the Gaven and Johnson reefs during a 10-hour patrol. Twelve nautical miles is the commonly accepted limit for territorial waters. Beijing claims all of the Spratly chain as its own but -Vietnam, the Philippines and Taiwan have competing claims, while the US has been conducting "freedom of navigation" exercises in the waters.

### **N.K. media don't mention foreign minister's contacts with U.S., Japan in New York**

Yonhap News Agency, 2018 10 03

Seoul - North Korea's official newspaper on Tuesday carried a report on its foreign minister's activities on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York last week but didn't mention his meetings with his American and Japanese counterparts. The Rodong Sinmun, the organ of the North's ruling Workers' Party of Korea, reported that Foreign Minister Ri Yong-ho met with his counterparts from various countries and ranking U.N. officials during



the trip to New York. The newspaper mentioned almost all nations Ri had contact with -- China, Russia, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Sweden, Venezuela, The Ivory Coast, Algeria, Cuba, Burundi, Norway and Brazil. It also noted Ri met with the U.N. undersecretary general in charge of political affairs and the chief of the United Nations Children's Fund. "In the meetings, Minister Ri Yong-ho discussed ways to improve bilateral relationships with those countries and enhance cooperation on the U.N. stage," said the newspaper. But it did not mention Ri's meetings with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono in New York on Sept. 26. Pompeo revealed after his meeting with Ri that he agreed to visit North Korea in October, while Kono said he held talks with the North's top diplomat for 20 minutes. Indeed, the North's Korean Central News Agency said in the morning that Pyongyang will not hope for an end-of-war declaration if the U.S. does not want it, adding that the issue should not be used as a "bargaining chip" in denuclearization talks.

### **Canada revokes Myanmar leader's honorary citizenship**

Associated Press, 2018 10 03

Yangon - Canada's parliament formally stripped Aung San Suu Kyi of her honorary Canadian citizenship for complicity in the atrocities committed against Myanmar's Rohingya. Aung San Suu Kyi became the first person to have her honorary Canadian citizenship revoked on Tuesday. The Senate voted unanimously to strip Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's civilian leader, of the symbolic honour bestowed on her in 2007. The upper house's move follows a similar unanimous vote in the House of Commons last week. A United Nations fact-finding mission reported last month Myanmar's military has systematically killed thousands of Rohingya civilians, burned hundreds of their villages, and engaged in ethnic cleansing and mass gang rape. It called for top generals to be investigated and prosecuted for genocide. The Senate has also followed the lead of the Commons in recognising that the crimes against humanity committed by the Myanmar military against the Rohingya constitute a genocide. "We must recognise this atrocity for what it is," said Senator Ratna Omidvar, who introduced the motion to revoke Aung San Suu Kyi's citizenship on Tuesday. "It is genocide. We must call it as it is." Aung San Suu Kyi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her fight for democracy in Myanmar. "At that point, she was a champion for change and human rights ... The world pinned its hope on her as the shining light and hope for a democratic and peaceful Myanmar," said Omidvar. "As we all now know, that was not to be." Omidvar said Aung San Suu Kyi has denied the atrocities, restricted access to international investigators and journalists, defended the military, and denied humanitarian aid for the Rohingya.

### **Warrants not needed to neutralize Reds – Duterte**

Manila Bulletin, Genalyn Kabiling, 2018 10 03

Manila - President Duterte has ordered government troops to neutralize communist rebels engaged in atrocities, saying there was no need to present any court warrant. The President said the government was "not into crime prevention" but "neutralization" since the insurgents were committing rebellion "24 hours a day." "We are not into a crime prevention. It's neutralization -- then we can solve the problem," the commander-in-chief said before an assembly of the 803rd Brigade of the Philippine Army at the Camp Juan Ponce Sumuroy in Catarman, Northern Samar. Duterte authorized the government security forces to "shoot first" if the rebels fight back and endanger the lives of the troops. He told the troops not to worry, saying he would support those performing their duty. Duterte, who has called off the government's peace talks with the communist group, argued that the rebels have done nothing but commit murder, extortion and arson. He said once people join the rebel group and carry a firearm, they were "committing the crime of rebellion 24 hours a day" and just looking for an encounter with the troops. The President also urged the military to step up their intelligence gathering to locate the armed communist rebels. He reminded them to remain alert and use the



"buddy" system to avoid any attack by NPA sparrow units. He also pledged anew to support the troops, saying he would rather go to jail than let them rot in prison.

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## Middle East • Moyen-Orient

### Idlib agreement paves way to diplomatic solution in Syria

The National (UAE), Joyce Karam, 2018 10 03

Washington - The agreement to avert an offensive on Syria's Idlib represents a major step towards a negotiated solution to the conflict and away from the regime's military push to recapture all lost territory, a senior opposition official told The National. In a rare instance of optimism, Hadi Al Bahra, a member of the Syrian negotiations commission said there is consensus among all international parties to wrap up the war's military phase. If the Idlib agreement remains in place, Mr Al Bahra expects the current map to hold. As it stands, President Bashar Al Assad's regime and its Iranian and Russian allies control the western coast, middle and south of the country; the US and the Syrian Democratic Forces the east; Kurdish forces remain entrenched in the north east and Turkey-backed rebels in Afrin and Idlib. Meanwhile, ISIS cling to three pockets on the border with Iraq. The agreement is a win-win situation for all the actors involved, said the official. "It kept the lines of the de-escalation zone unchanged, and secured the opposition control, with the Turkish army as a guarantor," he told The National on Monday in an interview in New York, where he attended the UN General Assembly. The agreement - set to create a demilitarised buffer zone to separate government and rebel forces, with Turkish and Russian soldiers patrolling the zone - ramped up US-EU and UN-led talks on Syria. Asked about US presence in Syria, Mr Al Bahra said Washington is not claiming they will remain indefinitely. However, he added, a successful political process would ultimately lead to the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Syria. Washington recently linked its troop presence to Iranian fighters in Syria, saying it wouldn't leave before Iran does.

### Israeli spyware used against Saudi Arabian dissident in Canada — report

Times of Israel, Staff Report, 2018 10 03

Jerusalem - A Saudi dissident living in Canada was likely spied on by Israeli phone-hacking technology, according to a Monday report. The Herzliya-based NSO Group uses its controversial Pegasus spyware program to turn smartphones into listening devices. It has been accused of selling the technology to countries, including Saudi Arabia, who use it to spy on dissidents, journalists, and others. The Citizen Lab, a group of academics from Toronto University, said it has "high confidence" that the Israeli technology was used to spy on 27-year-old Omar Abdulaziz, an outspoken Saudi dissident who sought asylum in Canada. The hacking came at the same time as an escalating spat between Canada and Saudi Arabia after Ottawa criticized Riyadh's human rights record. In response Saudi Arabia expelled Canada's ambassador. According to Citizen Lab, Abdulaziz, a frequent critic of Saudi Arabia human rights abuses who fled to Canada and now studies in Quebec, had his phone infected after clicking on a link masquerading as a tracker for a package he ordered, but was actually a Pegasus exploit link. "Pegasus would have allowed the operators to copy Abdulaziz's contacts, private family photos, text messages, and live voice calls from popular mobile messaging apps. The operators could have even activated his phone's camera and microphone to capture activity, such as conversations, taking place in his home," the group said in its report. Pegasus infects individuals by sending them text messages tempting them to click an attached link. When an unwitting target clicks the link, Pegasus is downloaded onto the device and infects it. The software can track calls and contacts, collect passwords, read text messages and emails, record calls, and trace the whereabouts of the user.

### **Report: Saudi Arabia Used Israeli Cyberweapons to Target Dissident in Canada**

Haaretz, 2018 10 03

Jerusalem - Agents apparently linked to the Saudi regime used spy technology from Israeli firm NSO Group Technologies to eavesdrop on a Saudi dissident in Canada, according to a report on Monday. The Citizen Lab research group said it had "high confidence" that NSO's Pegasus software had been used this summer to eavesdrop on a 27-year-old Saudi exile, Omar Abdulaziz. According to the report, which was picked up by Canadian daily The Globe and Mail, the aim was to access the iPhone of Abdulaziz, who lives in Montreal and has been a prominent critic of the Saudi government on social media. Any such use of eavesdropping technology by a foreign government would constitute illegal wiretapping, Citizen Lab Director Ron Deibert told the daily. The case comes against the backdrop of a diplomatic crisis between Ottawa and Riyadh, following criticism in August by Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Chrystia Freeland over the jailing of women's rights activists in Saudi Arabia. She also called for their release. Saudi Arabia called the minister's comments a violation of its sovereignty and in response suspended diplomatic and trade ties with Canada. Riyadh also brought home thousands of Saudi university students who had been studying in Canada. In July, Citizen Lab researchers issued a warning that misleading messages about protests in Saudi Arabia were being used to target cellphones, including that of a regional Amnesty International researcher. Last month, the University of Toronto research group claimed that at least 36 governments were making use of NSO's services. It also claimed there was a high degree of probability that Saudi Arabia was among them. Suspected Pegasus software infections were found in Canada, Britain, France and Morocco, in addition to Turkey, Lebanon, Egypt, Qatar and Bahrain, Citizen Lab said.

### **Shin Bet thwarts planned Hamas terror attacks against Israeli targets**

Jerusalem Post, Anna Ahronheim, 2018 10 03

Jerusalem - Israel's Shin Bet internal security agency announced Wednesday that it foiled efforts by Hamas to carry out terrorist attacks against Israeli targets under the direction of operatives from the Gaza Strip. According to the agency, 21-year-old Issa Shalaldeh and 20-year-old Omar Mas'ud were arrested on suspicion of being recruited by Hamas' military wing in the Gaza Strip to carry out terror attacks against Israelis and also for aiding in the transfer of terror funds. The two, who were activists in the Hamas student group at Bir Zeit University, are also suspected of undergoing various military trainings. They were charged with having links with terror elements and being members of a terror organization. During the investigation, 24-year-old Hazem Hamayel was found to have contacted a Hamas official by using a fictional Facebook profile. The Hamas official is said to have taught him how to organize a terror attack. According to the Shin Bet, senior members of Hamas' military wing in the Gaza Strip established a cell composed of Hamas operatives in the Gaza Strip and West Bank in 2015 in order to recruit more operatives to carry out terror attacks against Israelis. The cell specifically targets Palestinian students from the fields of engineering and technology as they would have the know-how to manufacture explosives. "The activity of the terrorist infrastructure in Gaza, along with additional Hamas activity from the Gaza Strip (such as the "West Bank headquarters") is an inseparable part of Hamas' attempts to undermine security stability in the West Bank, Israel and the Gaza Strip," read a statement released by the Shin Bet.

### **Shin Bet says it arrested 3 members of Hamas terror network in West Bank**

Times of Israel, Jacob Magid, 2018 10 03

Jerusalem - The Shin Bet security service announced Wednesday that it had arrested three Palestinians in the West Bank that been recruited by a network of Hamas military wing members in the Gaza Strip to carry out attacks beyond the Green Line. Their cell is alleged to have been established in 2015 and has been devoting particular efforts to recruit engineering students at Birzeit University outside Ramallah, who could be useful in executing attacks and

transferring "terror funds." The security agency said it has arrested dozens of the network's other members since its founding, but that recently the network has stepped up its activity in the West Bank. The Shin Bet arrested three Palestinians from the West Bank during July and August who were indicted on various terror charges in September. Two of them — 21-year-old Issa Shalalda and 20-year-old Omar Ma'soud — were active in the Hamas-affiliated Islamic bloc at Birzeit University. According to the Shin Bet, the pair underwent military training during their recruitment. The third member indicted was Hazem Hamayel, a resident of the northern West Bank. The 24-year-old is alleged to have attempted to carry out a terror attack after being in contact with a Hamas official in Gaza who used a Facebook account under a fake identity. "The activity of the terror infrastructure in Gaza, along with additional Hamas activity from the Gaza Strip, is an inseparable part of Hamas's attempts to undermine stability in the West Bank, Israel and the Gaza Strip," the Shin Bet said in a statement. In June, the Shin Bet revealed that its agents uncovered a large and highly active Hamas terror cell operating out of the Palestinian city of Nablus earlier this year that was allegedly planning to conduct a number of bombings and shooting attacks in Israel and the northern West Bank.

#### **Iraq elects Kurdish Barham Salih as president**

The National (UAE), Mina Aldroubi, 2018 10 03

Baghdad - Iraq's parliament elected veteran politician Barham Salih on Tuesday as the country's eighth president. In a vote long delayed by political wrangling, Mr Salih of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) ran against the Kurdistan Democratic Party's (KDP) candidate Fuad Hussein. Mr Hussein withdrew moments before the announcement was made, at the request of KDP leader Massoud Barzani, a party official told The National. "The head of the KDP, Massoud Barzani, requested that Dr Hussein withdraw from the presidency nomination," Janghis Awakaly, a KDP official told The National. Mr Awakaly said the reason behind this decision was to protect Kurdish unity. According to an informal power-sharing arrangement dating back to the 2003 US-led invasion, senior government roles are divided between the predominant ethno-sectarian groups - with the prime minister being a Shiite Arab, the speaker of parliament a Sunni Arab, and the president a Kurd. But Kurdistan's two main parties have been unable to agree on a nomination for the president, in a state of indecisiveness that threatened their usually united front in regards to Baghdad. The KDP nominated Mr Hussein, a former chief of staff to former Kurdish President Barzani who got 90 votes in the first round. The PUK named former Iraqi deputy prime minister Mr Salih as their choice, who got 165 votes in the first round, asserting that the post should be held by one of its members. Mr Hussein, 69, is a Shiite Kurd - a favourite to win support from members of the Shiite-majority in Baghdad. But, Mr Salih, a 58-year-old moderate, has served in both administrations, once as Iraqi deputy premier and Kurdish prime minister.

#### **Police raid French Muslim centre over terror links**

The National (UAE), Federica Marsi and Paul Peachey, 2018 10 03

Beirut / London - French counter-terrorist police on Tuesday raided a Muslim centre with close ties to the Iranian regime and recovered weapons in an operation prompted by suspicions over its leadership's links to terrorist organisations. Authorities froze the assets of the Zahra centre in the northern coastal city of Dunkirk, three other organisations and four of its officials, including a prominent Shiite leader who has met with senior members of the Iranian government. Eleven people were arrested in the early morning police operation. French interior minister Gerard Collomb said that three of those detained were arrested for possession of illegal weapons, but did not clarify what was found. He said a prayer room at the centre was being closed. The raid of the centre and a dozen homes came on the day that the French authorities increased the pressure on Tehran with a series of further financial sanctions against key figures linked to a failed bomb plot on an opposition rally near France on June 30. Authorities said that the centre's



leaders "pronounced support for several terrorist organisations and in favour of movements advocating ideas contrary to the values of the republic". Zahra head Yafia Gouasmi has been photographed with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad the former Iranian president, and the centre has long been in the cross-hairs of the French security forces. It was previously raided in 2009. Mr Gouasmi told French television that the weapons found during the raid on Tuesday were for the security of the centre. Mr Gouasmi, 68, an Algerian, was also well-known to the authorities and was arrested in the city in 1984, on suspicion of plotting the assassination of anti-regime backers in France and smuggling arms between France and Belgium, according to media reports.

### **Idlib deal a step forward but Syria quagmire far from resolved**

The National (UAE), Kareem Shaheen, 2018 10 03

Beirut - The warnings over a humanitarian crisis in Syria's Idlib province, the last redoubt of the opposition fighting to overthrow President Bashar Al Assad, were dire. More than three million civilians, many of them internally displaced as Mr Al Assad and his Russian and Iranian allies' relentless advance through the country forced their surrender, were trapped. A planned offensive promised to send perhaps hundreds of thousands fleeing towards the Turkish border, a fresh refugee crisis that would have dwarfed many that came before. So when Moscow and Ankara announced a deal that would postpone the campaign, sparing Russia the fallout of yet another humanitarian catastrophe instigated by its forces and its ruthless ally in Damascus, and Turkey a fresh refugee influx, the world breathed a collective sigh of relief. But such a respite for Idlib's civilians will give way to trepidation, as the regional and international powers entangled in Syria wrestle with halting steps to advance a more permanent solution to a crisis that over seven and a half years has killed half a million people and upended the Middle East's regional order. Despite the halt in fighting, the battlefield remains complex, and the status quo is unlikely to remain in place for long amid the shifting landscape, but western powers have few options and almost no leverage to force a political transition. As if to underline the uncertainty, a video of Bahrain's foreign minister Khaled Al Khalifa and his Syrian counterpart Walid Al Mouallem provoked controversy due to the Gulf States public disavowal of the Assad regime and its alliance with arch-rival Iran.

### **France Seizes Iran Intelligence Services Assets in Response to Bomb Plot**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Staff Report, 2018 10 03

Tehran - The French government announced Tuesday that it had seized the assets of Iran's intelligence services and two nationals in wake of a July plot to attack an Iranian opposition group that was meeting on the outskirts of Paris. "An attempted attack in Villepinte was foiled on June 30. An incident of such gravity on our national territory could not go unpunished," said a joint statement by the foreign, interior and economy ministries. The asset freezes targeted two individuals identified as Assadollah Asadi and Saeid Hashemi Moghadam, the French statement said. A unit within the Iranian intelligence services was also targeted. France had warned Tehran to expect a robust response after an Iranian diplomat was arrested in Germany suspected of involvement in a plot to bomb the meeting of the Paris-based National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI). A spokesman at the Iranian Embassy in Paris did not immediately respond to a request for comment. There was no immediate response to the French move from Tehran. On Monday, a court in southern Germany said the detained Iranian diplomat, who is accredited in Austria, could be extradited to Belgium, where two other individuals suspected of involvement in the bomb plot were arrested on June 30. They were caught in possession of explosives. Earlier on Tuesday, some 200 police raided the headquarters in northern France of a religious association and the homes of its leaders who are suspected of supporting "terrorist organizations", security sources said. The operation against the Zahra Center France in Grande

Synthe, a suburb of the port city of Dunkirk, was staged as part of the "prevention of terrorism" procedures, regional authorities said in a statement.

### **Foiled Houthi Boat Attack Has Iranian Hallmarks**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Saeed al-Abyad, 2018 10 03

Jeddah - Yemeni officials stressed that the foiled boat attack by Iran-backed Houthis over the weekend has the hallmarks of Tehran. The Arab coalition to restore legitimacy in Yemen announced on Sunday the foiling of a terrorist attack by the Houthi against Saudi Arabia's Port of Jizan. The Royal Saudi Navy Forces intercepted and destroyed two remote-controlled explosive boats headed towards the port. Yemeni Information Minister Muammar al-Eryani told Asharq Al-Awsat that the failed attack "was a message from Iran that was being executed by the coup militias in order to destabilize the region." "It is banking on militias that are losing all of their military capabilities on the ground against the advance of the national Yemeni army, which is backed by the Arab coalition," he added. "These militias, which emerged from caves, have no vision or experience in controlling such booby-trapped vessels. This therefore confirms the presence of Iranian experts, who are providing them with all forms of training," he went on to say. The minister warned that such acts threaten international navigation and the militias resort to them whenever they face mounting losses on the battlefield. Eryani called on the international community to take decisive measures against the Houthis to force them to cease such practices and violations. He warned that the militias will continue to repeat their violations if they are not firmly dealt with. Yemeni army spokesman Abdo Majali told Asharq Al-Awsat that the danger of the booby-trapped vessels lies in their targeting of trade ships, which will in turn alarm the international community. He reiterated Eryani's assertions that such attacks have Iranian hallmarks, explaining that the Yemeni army did not possess such capabilities in the past.

### **First Workshop to Rehabilitate ISIS Widows Takes Place in Mosul**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Staff Report, 2018 10 03

Baghdad - Over a year has passed since the Iraqi city of Mosul and regions of the Nineveh province were liberated from the clutches of the ISIS terrorist group. The scars left by the terrorists still remain, not just in damaged buildings, but among the people. The devastation suffered by the people, on the psychological, physical and family levels, is only revealed through unofficial estimates. These figures show the number of victims killed by the terrorists or the widows of ISIS members. Semi-official figures received by Asharq Al-Awsat by Mosul sources revealed that some 20,000 women were widowed after ISIS took control of the city in June 2014. It was expelled in July 2017. Some 4,000 of these women were linked to ISIS members themselves, whether by working directly with them or being related to them. Widowed members of the group remain a "ticking time bomb" if they are not addressed by authorities, said Sukaina Mohammed Ali, the official in charge of the women and child affairs at the Nineveh office. Mohammed Ali has organized the first workshop of its kind in Mosul in order to tackle the issue of women who are affiliated with ISIS. She is seeking to reintegrate them in society and rid them of their extremist ideology. She did not hide to Asharq Al-Awsat her concerns over tackling this issue in wake of the wave of assassinations that targeted a number of female activists in Baghdad and Basra in recent weeks. She underlined the need to address the issue of ISIS women "before terrorism returns to Mosul once again."

### **Israel, Lebanon Clash over Alleged Hizbullah Weapons Facility near Beirut Airport**

The Media Line, Dima Apumaria, 2018 10 03

Tel Aviv - The Israeli and Lebanese governments continued to clash Tuesday, as Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu accused Iranian-backed Hizbullah of "lying to the international community openly through the deceitful propaganda campaign carried out by the Lebanese foreign

minister." The Israeli leader was referring to a tour comprising high-ranking Lebanese and foreign officials to an area near Beirut's international airport where he claimed Hizbullah was hiding a weapons manufacturing facility. Following Foreign Minister Gebran Bassil's guided excursion, Netanyahu contended that tour participants were shown a football field but the weapons manufacturing facility remained hidden. The Israeli premier, who only days before revealed the existence of the facility in a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, continued to insist that "high-precision rockets are being produced." When contacted by The Media Line, a spokesperson for the Israeli Foreign Affairs Ministry refused to comment further on the matter, as "they have nothing to add to Netanyahu's position and statements." In response, Bassil, who led the delegation on the tour, called Netanyahu's UNGA speech a means to "justify another aggression." Hisham Jaber, previously a general in the Lebanese army, believes that Netanyahu's actions are escalating tensions with Lebanon to unreasonably high levels. "There is an Israeli attempt to make Lebanon part of the military operations in Syria," he conveyed to The Media Line, especially given Hizbullah's huge arsenal of rockets and now that Russia is in the process of transferring to Assad regime forces the advanced S-300 missile defense system.

### **With Merkel In Israel, Netanyahu Eyes Tougher Action On Iran**

The Media Line, Charles Bybelezer, 2018 10 03

Tel Aviv - There has been relatively little build-up to this week's visit to Israel by German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Western world's second most powerful leader who generally has been regarded as a close ally of the Jewish state. But the trip comes amid growing tensions between major European capitals and Jerusalem, with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu having used his pulpit at United Nations General Assembly to accuse the continent's dominant players of appeasing Iran by attempting to salvage the 2015 nuclear accord. The charge directed at Germany carries particular weight given the criticism harkens back to attempts by Britain and France to mollify Hitler with the 1938 Munich Agreement. This green-lighted the Nazi chief's annexation of parts of Czechoslovakia but did not, as was intended, curb his expansionism, which, underpinned by a rabidly racist and genocidal ideology, eventually led to the deaths of tens of millions of people during World War Two. The Israeli premier has drawn parallels between the Nazis and Iran's theocratic rulers, who likewise have threatened to destroy the Jewish nation as they use Shiite proxies throughout the Middle East to wreak havoc and increase their influence. According to Netanyahu, all of this comes at no cost for Tehran vis-à-vis its nuclear arms ambitions. That London, Paris and Berlin are three primary parties to another contentious deal with a rogue regime is not lost on a prime minister that has warned of history's propensity to repeat itself.

### **Twice as many U.S. diplomats in Syria as Daesh nears defeat**

Lebanon Daily Star, 2018 10 03

Beirut - The number of U.S. diplomats in Syria has doubled as Daesh (ISIS) near a military defeat, U.S. Defense Secretary Mattis said Tuesday. The U.S.-led coalition, along with local partners, has largely cleared the militant group from Iraq and Syria but remains concerned about its resurgence. "Our diplomats there on the ground have been doubled in number. As we see the military operations becoming less, we will see the diplomatic effort now able to take [root]," Mattis said. He did not give a specific number. A U.S. official, who was speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Mattis was referring to State Department employees, including diplomats and personnel involved in humanitarian assistance, and that the increase was recent. The U.S. does not have an embassy in Syria. In a sign of the threat still posed by the militant group, security forces in northern Syria's Raqqa said Sunday they had uncovered a Daesh sleeper cell which was plotting large attacks across the devastated city. "We are still in a tough fight, make no mistake about it," Mattis said. He said troops would work after the defeat of



Daesh to ensure that the militant group did not return. The U.S. has said it will pursue "a strategy of isolation," including sanctions, with its allies if Assad holds up a political process aimed at ending Syria's seven-year-old war. In the northern Syrian city of Manbij, U.S. and NATO allies Turkey troops have started training together ahead of conducting joint patrols, a U.S. official said. The move comes even as relations between Washington and Ankara have recently soured over a number of issues, including Turkey's potential purchase of a Russian air-defense system. Manbij, once in the hands of Daesh, is now held by Kurdish fighters. Under an agreement with the U.S. to reduce tensions, Turkey started military patrols around Manbij in June, while the U.S. conducted its own patrols.

### **Netanyahu Says Bassil's Tour Missed 'Underground Missile Plant'**

Naharnet Newsdesk, 2018 10 03

Beirut - Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Monday accused Hizbullah of "blatantly lying to the international community with a false, propaganda tour by the means of Lebanon's foreign minister." Referring to the tour of the Hizbullah-affiliated al-Ahed sport club which Bassil organized for the foreign ambassadors in Lebanon, Netanyahu said Bassil "took ambassadors to the football pitch but not the adjacent underground precision missile plant." "The ambassadors should ask themselves why they waited three days till the tour took place," Netanyahu said on Twitter. "It's sad the Lebanese government is sacrificing the safety of its residents in covering for Hizbullah, which has taken Lebanon hostage in its aggression against Israel," he added. In addition to the football stadium, the tour included a nearby golf course and a warehouse in the Ouzai area. The warehouse was included in the tour at the request of one of the Lebanese reporters. Live TV footage showed the apparently abandoned warehouse littered with plastic bags and napkins and those who entered it did not report any suspicious activity or equipment. The tour did not go to a third site indicated by Netanyahu as a dock by the Ouzai waterfront. Calling on the international community to prevent any Israeli attack on Lebanon, Bassil said the Lebanese government would not allow rocket facilities near the airport and that Hizbullah is "wiser" than to place them there. He said Netanyahu's claims were based on "inaccurate" estimates without any "compelling evidence."

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Ya Libnan, 2018 10 03

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### **Iran rejects France claims about foiled bomb plot against MKO**

Press TV, 2018 10 03

Tehran - Iran has dismissed France's allegations about the involvement of an Iranian diplomat in an alleged bomb attack on a meeting of the notorious anti-Iran terrorist group, the Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), near Paris, calling on French officials to pursue a realistic approach to Tehran. "We once again reject such accusations and claims and express the Islamic Republic of Iran's strong protest over the arrest of the Iranian diplomat and call for his immediate release," Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bahram Qassemi said on Tuesday. Earlier on the day, the French government claimed that Iran's Intelligence Ministry was behind the bomb attack on the MKO meeting and announced that it was freezing assets belonging to two suspected Iranian intelligence officials as well as others belonging to the ministry. In a rare joint statement, France's interior, foreign and economy ministers said, "This extremely serious act envisaged on our territory could not go without a response. In taking this decision, France underlines its determination to fight against terrorism in all its forms, particularly on its own territory." In reaction to France's allegations, Qassemi said such a scenario and plot aim to harm good and growing relations between Iran and Europe in line with the objectives of the US and the Israeli regime managed by a terrorist group residing in France. He reiterated that the Islamic Republic's principled policy is based on condemning any act of terror and said the existing documents clearly display the role of opponents and ill-wishers in hatching such ridiculous show. "So, we call for French authorities' realistic view toward the Islamic Republic of Iran and once again warn of the evil hands of ill-wishers who seek to ruin deep-rooted ties between Iran and France as well as other influential European countries," the Iranian spokesperson pointed out.

### **40 ISIL Leaders Killed, All Targets Destroyed in IRGC's Missile Strikes**

Fars News Agency, 2018 10 03

Tehran - Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Aerospace Force Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh announced on Tuesday that the IRGC's missile strikes against the terrorist targets in Syria on Monday killed 40 ISIL commanders and smashed all targets. "In these combined operations, we used drones in addition to missiles and based on images we have received, all targets have been destroyed and the (US-led) coalition forces have not been hurt," General Hajizadeh said on Tuesday. He added that intelligence shows that nearly 40 ISIL leaders and one of their Iraqi commanders in Mosul have been killed in the attack, adding that the corpses of other terrorists are still under the rubbles. General Hajizadeh addressed the countries, including Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the US, which support the terrorists financially and by providing information and arms, and said, "We warn these countries that our tolerance is limited." He added that Iran shows rapid reaction to the terrorists' moves but is patient with the governments, noting, "But they are not aware of the threshold of our tolerance and therefore, they should not take the risk." "The security of the Iranian nation is the redline of our officials," General Hajizadeh said. The IRGC fired 6 ballistic ground-to-ground missiles and launched drone attacks on terrorists' positions in Eastern Euphrates region in Eastern Syria in revenge for the September 22 Takfiri terrorist attacks in Ahwaz city which killed dozens of Iranian people. During the operations codenamed Zarat-e Moharram (Blow of Moharram) carried out at 2:00 AM (local time) on Monday, the headquarters of Takfiri terrorists near Abu Kamal region in Eastern Euphrates was attacked from Kermanshah province in Western Iran, 570km away from the targets.

### **Iran has bitten off more than it can chew**

Gulf News, Omar Sharif, 2018 10 03

Dubai - Some countries just don't know when to stop. Iran's military involvement and political interference in the affairs of neighbouring Arab states is well documented. But, Tehran also has

a long history of carrying out political assassinations and other clandestine operations in Europe, using its intelligence assets and front organisations. And it has often managed to get away with it. Not so this time. The French government has imposed sanctions on two Iranian individuals, and Iran's interior security intelligence service, for an attempted attack against a meeting of an Iranian opposition group near Paris in June. It is a testament to the recklessness of the Iranian security establishment that it is willing to alienate a country that is one of the primary backers of the nuclear deal that Tehran so desperately seeks to save. Since the 1979 revolution, Iran has always adopted a two-pronged approach in its hyperactive role outside its borders, projecting both hard power and its version of 'soft power'. In pursuit of the former, it operates smuggling rings that fund some of its operations, and carries out bomb attacks and assassinations against political opponents. Iranian operatives in the West also collect information related to weapons technology, which is then used to further Tehran's formidable weapons development programme. Its soft power playbook involves the use of front organisations masquerading as social and religious charities, taking undue advantage of the openness of Western societies. One such is the Zahra Centre, which was raided by 200 French police in an anti-terror operation. Eleven people were questioned and three were arrested, including for the illegal possession of firearms.

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## **Eastern Europe • Europe de l'Est**

### **Public Defender Feygin: Russian Officials Denying Lawyers Access To Jailed Ukrainian Journalist Suschenko**

Ukrainian News, Oleh Chernysh, 2018/10/03

Kiev - Russian security forces are denying lawyers access to jailed Ukrainian journalist Roman Suschenko. Suschenko's public defender Mark Feygin announced this on Facebook, the Ukrainian News Agency reports. Feygin announced in the morning on Wednesday, October 3, that he was not allowed to see Suschenko at the Lefortovo remand prison in Moscow. He attributed this to the fact that he was previously stripped of his status as a lawyer. "I have just been told by a lawyer (who has not been stripped of his status and has been representing Roman Sushchenko's interests for two years) that he is also not being allowed to see his client at the Lefortovo remand prison," Feygin wrote at around 3 p.m. According to him, this could mean that the security forces are planning to begin transferring the Ukrainian journalist to a penal colony. As Ukrainian News Agency earlier reported, the Supreme Court of Russia upheld Suschenko's 12-year prison sentence on September 12. The Moscow municipal court sentenced Suschenko to 12 years in a maximum-security penal colony for espionage on June 4. Operatives from the Federal Security Service of Russia (FSB) detained Suschenko on September 30, 2016, on suspicion of espionage. The FSB considers Suschenko an employee of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry's Main Intelligence Directorate. (Complete report)

### **Ukraine's deputy intelligence chief in corruption probe**

Agence France Presse, 2018/10/03

Kiev - Anti-corruption investigators on Wednesday launched a probe into alleged illegal enrichment by a top Ukrainian intelligence official whose family reportedly owns three villas valued at millions of dollars. The National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) targeted Sergiy Semochko, a deputy head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine, after a high-profile investigative report that sparked public outrage. NABU's press office confirmed to AFP that a case had been opened into property purchases by Semochko. He faces up to 10 years in jail if convicted. Semochko has held top positions in the Ukraine's security service since 2015, following his transfer to Kiev from Crimea, which Russia had annexed in 2014. While details of



his income, assets and family are scant, the TV programme "Nashi Groshi" said his common-law wife had been identified. Tetyana Lysenko and her daughter Anastasiya are the official owners of three villas near Kiev, which have a total value of \$8 million (nearly seven million euros), according to the programme. The family leads a luxurious lifestyle and often uses a private helicopter, it said. The TV reporters said they found evidence in Russian tax records and public registries that eight of Samochko's relatives have Russian citizenship.

### **Russian command secretly boosting offensive training of Donbas occupation forces - MoD Ukraine**

Unian, 2018 10 03

Undisclosed dateline - The command of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation is secretly boosting the training of the occupation forces in Donbas to conduct offensive operations, speaker of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine Dmitry Hutsuliak told a Kyiv briefing Wednesday. "According to the information of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, the command of the RF Armed Forces secretly increases the training of the occupying troops to conduct offensive operations. In particular, against a single operational background and according to a single plan with bilateral operational-strategic command and staff exercises of the troops of the Southern Military District in the occupied territories, a command-staff training of the formations and units 1 and 2 of the Russian Armed Forces of the Russian Armed Forces was planned," said Hutsuliak. He also said that in the areas of advanced positions, individual units of the occupation forces' 1st and 2nd Army Groupings worked out elements of the transition to an offensive. "During a practice session of one of the motorized rifle divisions on advancing to the front line, there was yet another case of the so-called "friendly fire," which resulted in the death of two Russian servicemen. In addition, during the training of the mortar unit of the invaders, their own forward strong point was shelled and a soldier was killed. The command of the Russian occupational forces traditionally takes active measures to conceal information about these cases," said the Ukrainian defense official. As UNIAN reported, another serviceman of the Russian-led forces, Denis Bykov, was killed in Donbas on September 30.

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### **Western Europe • Europe de l'Ouest**

#### **La démission de Collomb acceptée, le Premier ministre chargé d'assurer l'intérim**

RFI, 2018 10003

Paris - Après quelques jours de flottement médiatique, le feuilleton Gérard Collomb a trouvé une première conclusion. Emmanuel Macron a accepté la démission de son ministre de l'Intérieur et a demandé à Edouard Philippe d'assurer l'intérim, a annoncé l'Elysée dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi. Le Conseil des ministres est réuni à 10h ce mercredi avec le gouvernement ainsi constitué. Du jamais vu sous la Ve République.

#### **Paris accuse le renseignement iranien d'avoir commandité le projet d'attentat de Villepinte**

Le Monde, 2018 10 02

Paris - Selon une source diplomatique française, Téhéran était derrière une opération visant un rassemblement de l'opposition iranienne en France en juin. Paris a mis en cause Saeid Hashemi Mognadam, un vice-ministre du renseignement iranien chargé des opérations, et a gelé ses avoirs, mardi 2 octobre. Celui-ci a « commandité » l'attentat déjoué contre le rassemblement le 30 juin des Moudjahidin du peuple iranien, à Villepinte (Seine-Saint-Denis), a annoncé une source diplomatique française au Monde, à l'AFP et à Reuters. Cette annonce fait suite à plusieurs mois d'investigations menées dans la plus grande discrétion par les services

français en lien avec certains partenaires étrangers, notamment israéliens, belges, allemands et albanais — l'Albanie étant une base des Moudjahidin. L'enquête « montre sans aucune ambiguïté la responsabilité du renseignement iranien dans ce projet d'attentat », assure cette source, pour qui ce « n'était pas acceptable » : « Nous ne pouvons tolérer aucune menace de cet ordre sur le territoire national. » Les ministres des affaires étrangères, de l'intérieur et de l'économie ont annoncé dans un communiqué commun le gel des avoirs en France de la direction de la sécurité intérieure du ministère du renseignement iranien et de ceux de deux ressortissants iraniens, dont Saeid Hashemi Moghadam. Quelques heures auparavant, une vaste opération de perquisitions administratives avait eu lieu à Grande-Synthe (Nord) chez douze personnes âgées de 31 à 69 ans en lien avec une association musulmane chiite pro-iranienne, proche du Hezbollah libanais : le Centre Zahra France, installé dans la région depuis 2005.

### **Norwegian-Iraqi jailed for inciting terrorist activities**

BBC Monitoring European (NRK P1 radio), 2018 10 03

Oslo - A former engineer at Aker Solutions has been sentenced to two and a half years in prison for incitement to, and training for, terrorist activities. The sentence is being appealed, his attorney told NRK. The 51-year-old Norwegian-Iraqi was sentenced for sharing a bomb recipe on a jihadist Internet forum and inciting the terrorist group ISIS to commit terrorist acts against Syrian and Jordanian pilots. "I am very pleased with the sentence; we were successful in getting justice and in the sentence level. This is the first case that dealt with training for terror, which is why the sentence is important," Fredrik Ranke, the prosecutor in the case, told NRK. Brynjar Meling, the defender of the 51-year-old, told NRK that the sentence will be appealed. "He believes that he is innocent and has a good explanation for what he has done, so it is obvious that the sentence will be appealed," Meling said. First time being tried. The prosecutors said that this is the first time that a charge of incitement has resulted in a sentence.... The 51-year-old was arrested by PST [Norwegian Police Security Service] on the job in May 2015 after Aker Solutions, where he worked, notified police about troublesome material in the man's data traffic. Among the reasons that the man was sentenced is that he published a recipe for how to make a bomb on a jihadist Internet forum. He also engaged in incitement for the torture and murder of a Jordanian pilot who was taken prisoner by the ISIS terrorist group.

### **'Who Is Surprised?' 'Daesh Recruiter' Reportedly Runs Free School in Sweden**

Sputnik News Service, 2018 10 03

Stockholm - Abdel Nasser El Nadi, the president and principal of the Gothenburg-based Science School, is a long-time recruiter for Muslim extremism and is present on SÄPO's list of Islamist extremists, which numbers roughly 2,000 people, Swedish terrorism watchdog Doku revealed. While no formal charges have been brought against him, El Nadi (53) is considered one of the reasons for the rise of Islamist extremism in Gothenburg, which produced about a third of Sweden's roughly 300 jihadists (or "foreign fighters," to use the official parlance), Doku reported. The Science School has previously been reported for having ties with Islamism and employees who have expressed sympathies for Daesh\*. Abdel Nasser El Nadi rejected the accusations of Islamism, stressing that he has five children born in Sweden and claimed to be striving to protect its society. According to Doku, El Nadi has been running groups for Islamic studies and has appeared in various conferences within the radical Islamic environment in Sweden. Doku also referred to El Nadi's posts from autumn of 2014, when he campaigned for a "strong, Sunni Muslim state" amid Daesh's onslaught in Syria and Iran, where it managed to create a short-lived, self-proclaimed "caliphate."

### **Un coup de filet antiterroriste au fort parfum diplomatique**

Le Figaro, Jean Chichizola, 2018 10 03

Une association chiite a fait l'objet, mardi, d'une opération de police administrative à Grande-Synthe, dans le Nord. En apparence, une simple action de police administrative dans le cadre de la prévention antiterroriste, comme il y en a régulièrement un peu partout dans le pays. En réalité, une opération aux airs de coup de semonce dans une ténébreuse partie diplomatique et sécuritaire où Paris a visiblement voulu faire comprendre à Téhéran qu'il ne pouvait agir comme elle l'entendait sur le sol français. Mardi matin, la préfecture du Nord indiquait, par voie de communiqué, que, dans le cadre de la prévention du terrorisme, douze visites domiciliaires, mobilisant quelque 200 policiers dont des membres du Raid et de la BRI, étaient menées, dans la commune de Grande-Synthe, au siège de l'association Centre Zahra France ainsi qu'aux domiciles de ses principaux dirigeants ». « Les activités de l'association », précisait la préfecture, sont « particulièrement suivies en raison du soutien marqué par ses dirigeants à plusieurs organisations terroristes et en faveur de mouvements prônant des idées contraires aux valeurs de la République ». Une visite domiciliaire somme toute assez classique réalisée en vertu de la loi renforçant la sécurité intérieure et la lutte contre le terrorisme (SILT) du 30 octobre 2017 qui a accompagné la sortie de l'état d'urgence et son lot de perquisitions administratives. Comme le prévoit la loi, les visites domiciliaires de Grande-Synthe ont été demandées par le préfet du Nord puis autorisées par le juge des libertés et de la détention du tribunal de grande instance de Paris après avis du procureur de la République de Paris et du procureur de la République de Dunkerque. L'opération de Grande-Synthe présentait toutefois une dimension originale. En règle générale, et dans un contexte d'alerte antiterroriste maintenue, ces visites domiciliaires concernent essentiellement des partisans supposés de Daech. Mais le Centre Zahra France est lui de sensibilité chiite. Avec un but affiché : « Faire connaître le message de l'islam à travers le regard du Prophète et de sa famille, de les faire connaître, de traduire leurs pensées et de témoigner de leurs œuvres ». Et un passé passablement agité. Son créateur et patron depuis 2005, Yahia Gouasmi, sexagénaire né en Algérie, s'est également distingué au sein de la Fédération chiite de France et du Parti antisioniste (PAS), qui a présenté une liste aux européennes de 2009 avec Dieudonné et Alain Soral. Yahia Gouasmi prédisait à l'époque que « le veau d'or sioniste tombera ». Après les attentats de janvier 2015, le PAS n'avait pas hésité à dénoncer une collusion entre les « sionistes » d'un côté et les « takfiris » d'al-Qaïda et de Daech. Dans le même état d'esprit, cette mouvance avait qualifié en 2016 l'État islamique de « projet nazi socialo-sioniste »...

#### **Turkish lawyer for U.S. pastor Brunson appeals to constitutional court**

Reuters, 2018 10 03

ISTANBUL - The lawyer for U.S. evangelical pastor Andrew Brunson said he filed an appeal on Wednesday to Turkey's constitutional court for his client's release from house arrest. The case of Andrew Brunson, whose next regular court hearing is on Oct. 12, has become the most divisive issue in a worsening diplomatic row between Ankara and Washington that has triggered U.S. sanctions and tariffs against Turkey. The filing to the constitutional court - Turkey's highest - seen by Reuters showed the lawyer had requested the court to rule that Brunson's right to freedom had been violated and to release him from house arrest. State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert told a news conference on Tuesday that the United States would maintain close contact with the Turkish government over Brunson's trial. "We certainly would like Pastor Brunson home right away. It's long overdue," she said. Brunson is charged with links to Kurdish militants and supporters of Fethullah Gulen, the cleric blamed by Turkey for a failed coup attempt in 2016. He has denied the accusation - as has Gulen - and Washington has demanded his immediate release. Jailed or held under house arrest since October 2016, Brunson faces up to 35 years in jail if convicted. Last month the main prosecutor in his trial was replaced, a move which his lawyer cautiously welcomed, saying it might be a sign of changing political will.



### France Links Iran to Bomb Plot and Freezes Assets

The New York Times, Alissa J. Rubin, 2018 10 03

PARIS — France publicly linked Iran's intelligence services to a foiled bomb plot that targeted a June meeting near Paris of an Iranian opposition group, and announced that it would freeze the assets of the Iranian spy ministry. A plot of "such extreme seriousness on French territory could not be let go without a response," France's ministers of foreign affairs, interior and finance said in a joint statement on Tuesday. "France has taken preventive, proportionate and targeted measures," the ministers said. "In taking this decision France reiterates its determination to fight terrorism, especially on its own territory." The decision was particularly notable because it suggested that France, unlike the United States, believes that it is possible to punish Iran for hostile actions at the same time that it tries to preserve the Iran nuclear deal, which allowed the lifting of sanctions jointly applied by the European Union and the United States. President Trump pulled out of the nuclear accord this year, pronouncing the Iranian government a rogue actor and the 2015 deal as wholly insufficient to rein in its ambitions, as well as doing nothing to halt its meddling and support of regional conflicts. In contrast, European countries are trying to find a way to avoid pulling out of the deal because they think doing so will worsen Iran's relationship with the West. At the same time, the decision to freeze the assets of the spy ministry seemed to be a clear sign France was angry that Iran appeared to be ignoring international norms and acting with impunity. It also indicated that, at least indirectly, France endorsed Mr. Trump's judgment that Iran was a rogue regime.

### France Cracks Down on Iran's Terrorism

Asharq Al-Awsat, Michel Abou Najm, 2018 10 03

Paris - France took on Tuesday a number of measures against Iran, after officially accusing the country's intelligence ministry of standing behind a June plot to attack an exiled opposition group's rally outside Paris. The French government seized the assets of Iran's intelligence services and Iranian diplomat Assadollah Asadi and deputy minister and director general of intelligence Saeid Hashemi Moghadam. France had warned Tehran to expect a robust response after Asadi was arrested in Germany suspected of involvement in a plot to bomb the meeting of the Paris-based National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI). The French measures revealed that Paris is certain about Iran's involvement in the plot. "Behind all this was a long, meticulous and detailed investigation by our (intelligence) services that enabled us to reach the conclusion, without any doubt, that responsibility fell on the Iranian intelligence ministry," a French diplomatic source said, according to Reuters. The source added that Moghadam had ordered the attack and Asadi had put it into action. Iranian foreign ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi was quoted as saying by state news agency IRNA: "We deny once again the allegations against Iran and demand the immediate release of the Iranian diplomat." The incident was a plot "designed by those who want to damage Iran's long-established relations with France and Europe," he said. Sources close to file of the French-Iranian relations told Asharq Al-Awsat there are two possibilities behind the French accusations. The sources said there is no direct link between the June incident and the absence of a French envoy in Tehran.

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EXECUTIVE MEDIA SUMMARY / SOMMAIRE EXÉCUTIF DES NOUVELLES

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 / le mardi, 16 octobre 2018

07:30 / 7h30

Top Stories / Faits-saillants

**Trudeau defends Huawei policy amid national security concerns.** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says Ottawa refuses to let "politics slip into" the decision to allow Huawei equipment into Canada's next-generation mobile networks even as the U.S. and Australia have barred the Chinese telecom giant on grounds of national security. The Prime Minister's comments come just days after two U.S. senators took the unusual step of publicly urging the Liberal government to ban Huawei from Canada's 5G networks. Republican Senator Marco Rubio and Democratic Senator Mark Warner warned that Canada's telecommunication safeguards are insufficient to address the risks posed by the Shenzhen company. They both sit on the U.S. Senate select committee on intelligence and Mr. Warner is vice-chair. Mr. Trudeau, however, said the Liberal cabinet is relying on Canadian public servants, not political considerations, to inform its position. He cited Canada's **Communications Security Establishment (CSE)**, the spy agency responsible for protecting the country from cyberattacks and espionage. **Scott Jones**, the new head of Ottawa's **Canadian Centre for Cyber Security** at CSE, recently told MPs this country has a robust system of testing facilities for Huawei equipment and software to prevent security breaches - one Mr. Jones suggested was superior to those of some of Canada's allies. The Prime Minister was asked Monday how Canada could let Huawei into this country's 5G mobile network infrastructure even though close allies had decided it was too risky for their next-generation networks. "First of all, we make our decisions based on evidence, based on the recommendations of our extraordinarily effective **Communications Security Establishment**. We listen to them," Mr. Trudeau told *The Globe and Mail* in an interview... The chiefs of six U.S. intelligence agencies and three former heads of Canada's spy services have said publicly they consider Huawei one of the world's top cyberintelligence threats and that its 5G technology could be used to conduct remote spying, maliciously modify or steal information, or even shut down systems. Under Chinese law, companies must "support, co-operate with and collaborate in national intelligence work" as requested by Beijing, and security experts in the United States and Canada warn that equipment produced by firms such as Huawei could be compromised on behalf of China's ruling party.... Canada's CSE has set up what are called white labs, which are paid for by Huawei. Technicians test equipment at the labs for capabilities that can be built in that could allow Chinese hackers to covertly intercept data or disable communications networks. The next generation of wireless technology, 5G, will require a vast increase in the number of small cell sites - smaller versions of cell towers - to provide a dense web of coverage to deliver faster downloads and almost no lag time. Globe and Mail (No public link available/lién public non-disponible)

**CSIS - No mentions in the mainstream media. / SCRS - Pas de mentions dans les médias traditionnels.**

**United States / États-Unis**

US Secretary of State **Mike Pompeo** has arrived in Riyadh for talks with Saudi Arabia's **King Salman** and **Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman** over the disappearance of journalist **Jamal Khashoggi**. Saudi Arabia is **preparing to acknowledge that Khashoggi was killed at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul, Turkey**, during an interrogation that went wrong, sources have told *CNN*. His family called for an independent, international commission to investigate his disappearance. Khashoggi, a *Washington Post* columnist, was last seen in public when he



entered the consulate on October 2 to obtain papers that would have allowed him to marry his Turkish fiancée. Turkish authorities have said he was killed at the consulate. Saudi Arabia has previously insisted he left the building the same afternoon, but have provided no evidence to support the claim. His fiancée, **Hatice Cengiz**, waited outside the consulate and says she did not see him re-emerge. **President Donald Trump** spoke with King Salman on Monday, after which he floated the possibility that Khashoggi died during an unauthorized operation. "It sounded to me like maybe these could have been rogue killers -- who knows," Trump told reporters. [CNN](#), [Reuters](#)

#### United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

**GCHQ** has managed to convince **HP Inc** and **Centrica Hive** to take its side in a relatively rare public intervention on the state of consumer IoT security. A voluntary code of practice, to which the two companies have signed up, urges them to implement published standards and recommendations on how to bake security into IoT devices. GCHQ's **Code of Practice for Consumer IoT Security** contains broad-brush recommendations such as "implement a vulnerability disclosure policy" and "minimise exposed attack surfaces". Its **National Cyber Security Centre** arm, which the governmental agency likes to use to promote activities as being for the public good, said: "This Code of Practice is not a silver bullet for solving all security challenges. Only by shifting to a security mindset and investing in a secure development lifecycle can an organisation succeed at creating secure IoT." In a background briefing, *The Register* was told that **GCHQ** sees itself as leading from the front on consumer IoT security, at least within the traditional Anglosphere nations of America, **Canada**, Australia and New Zealand. Not content with the **Five Eyes**, however, we understand that GCHQ has translated the code into different languages, including those with non-Roman alphabets, in the hope of encouraging wider global adoption along the lines of "We've done the hard work for you, let's all benefit from this." [The Register](#)

Hostile foreign governments launch up to **ten cyber attacks on Britain a week**, making it inevitable that one will cause a national emergency, a report warns. A so-called **Category 1** strike could lead to deaths or sustained disruption of essential services and economic stability. Hackers directed or sponsored by foreign states pose the biggest cyber threat, the report by the **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC)** warns. Since it was set up in 2016, the NCSC, which is part of the **GCHQ** intelligence agency, has dealt with 1,167 attacks - including 557 in the past 12 months. Its boss, **Ciaran Martin**, said: "The majority of these incidents were, we believe, perpetrated from within nation states in some way hostile to the UK. 'They were undertaken by groups of computer hackers directed, sponsored or tolerated by governments of those countries. These groups constitute the most acute and direct cyber threat to national security. 'I remain in little doubt we will be tested to the full by a major incident in the years ahead.' Although there have been several 'very significant' incidents, Mr Martin said the UK has so far avoided a Category 1 attack. [Daily Mail](#)

#### Australia, New Zealand / Australie, Nouvelle-Zélande

**Marise Payne** has tried to tone down more aggressive comments from Donald Trump's National Security Adviser, **John Bolton**, about Australia and the US sailing together through the South China Sea, saying she will not flag future operations. She said US-Australian naval co-operation in the South China Sea was increasing, but suggested Canberra's approach was focused on advocacy. Mr Bolton on Friday backed in US Vice-President **Mike Pence's** recent speech about China on a US radio show, vowing to be tough on Beijing and saying the communist nation's "behaviour needs to be adjusted". He also said the US was getting more

participation from its allies and would be stepping up efforts in the South China Sea, including through naval patrols with Australia. The Australian

## Global/Global

**Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** said Monday here that his country is to continue trade talks with **China**. Trudeau made the remarks at 2018 Fortune Global Forum, which kicked off on Monday. The three-day forum has brought together the CEOs of the world's biggest corporations-the Fortune Global 500-with innovators, builders, and other selected experts to explore the key issues shaping global business. Xinhua News Agency

A British academic researcher, who was arrested recently on **suspicion of spying on the UAE government**, has been referred to court for trial. The UAE's Attorney General, Dr Hamad Al Shamsi, on Monday said that the accused, **Matthew Hedges**, has been referred to Abu Dhabi's Court of Appeal, charged with "spying for and on behalf of a foreign state", an act that "jeopardises the military, economic and political security of the UAE". Al Jazeera (Khaleej Times)

In the latest US escalation against **Hezbollah**, the Justice Department designated the Lebanese armed group a "**transnational crime organisation**" on Monday, a move which will enable broader scrutiny into its role outside Lebanon. Hezbollah was one of five groups designated by the Department of Justice in an announcement made by US Attorney General Jeff Sessions. The National (UAE) (Asharq Alawsat)

**North Korea, South Korea and the United Nations Command (UNC)** held their first three-way talks on Tuesday to discuss **demilitarizing the border** as the two Koreas push for peace, Seoul's defense ministry said. The two Koreas agreed during last month's summit in Pyongyang to form a tripartite consultation with the UNC, which overlaps with U.S. forces in the South and oversees affairs in the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ), to facilitate their plan to disarm one of the world's most heavily fortified frontiers. Yonhap News Agency (Reuters)

**Police have launched raids connected to the main suspect of an attack at Cologne's central train station.** Authorities believe with "high probability" that the suspect is a Syrian man with a German residency visa. Police on Tuesday searched a flat in Cologne, as they investigate Monday's attack and hostage-taking at the city's central train station, with the perpetrator already in custody and severely wounded following his arrest. Authorities have also urged the public to upload footage and photographs taken during a hostage-taking situation to an online portal as they search for more clues into the attack. On Monday afternoon, a man threw a Molotov cocktail into a McDonald's at Cologne's central train station, injuring three people, including one seriously. Authorities have yet to clarify the suspect's motive. "**The investigation is considering all possibilities and we are not ruling out terrorism,**" said Cologne deputy police chief Miriam Brauns. Deutsche Welle

**Syrian President Bashar al-Assad has said at a meeting with a delegation from Crimea that he plans to attend the Yalta International Economic Forum (YIEF) in April 2019**, if circumstances permit, member of the Crimean delegation and Co-Chairman of the YIEF Organizing Committee Andrei Nazarov told reporters on Tuesday. "He said that he would be sure to take part in it, if nothing prevented him from doing so," Nazarov said. "Bashar Assad said it was a great honor for him to be invited, and he would certainly come, if circumstances permitted. He added that he would like to visit Crimea and take part in such a major event as the YIEF," Nazarov added. TASS

**Dozens of women whose sons were murdered by Colombia's military went to mass on Sunday to demand justice for one of the worst war crimes in the history of the country's armed conflict.** Ten years after the Washington Post and weekly Semana revealed that the military was executing civilians and falsely presenting them as guerrillas killed in combat, many of the victims' families have yet to find out what happened. Since the prosecution discovered the first "false positives" and the scandal broke in 2008, there have been reports indicating that the military assassinated between 4,200 and 10,000 innocent civilians after 2002. Colombia Reports

**L'Eglise orthodoxe russe annonce ce lundi 15 octobre avoir rompu toute relation avec le patriarcat de Constantinople, plus haute autorité morale du monde orthodoxe.** Cette déchirure historique au sein du monde orthodoxe est la conséquence directe de la décision prise la semaine dernière par Constantinople, de reconnaître l'indépendance de l'Eglise ukrainienne. C'est un schisme historique au sein de l'Eglise orthodoxe. A l'issue d'un synode de plusieurs heures à Minsk, le patriarcat de Moscou a annoncé renoncer à toute relation avec celui de Constantinople. « Nous n'avions pas d'autre choix, pas d'autre solution », a expliqué très solennellement le métropolite Hilarion, chargé de la diplomatie au sein de l'Eglise russe. RFI

**C'est le gouvernement nigérien qui a annoncé la mort d'une infirmière du Comité international de la Croix rouge, lundi 15 octobre.** Hauwa Leman, 24 ans, faisait partie des trois humanitaires enlevées le 1er mars 2018 au cours d'une attaque dans le nord-est du pays. L'une d'elles avait été tuée il y a un mois. Dans une vidéo, les ravisseurs menaçaient de tuer les deux autres otages si leurs revendications n'étaient pas satisfaites. Avec un ultimatum, qui expirait lundi soir. Le CICR en avait appelé à « l'humanité » de l'ISWAP, la faction de Boko Haram à l'origine de l'enlèvement. En vain. Les jihadistes ont mis leurs menaces à exécution. RFI

## **Social Media Activity/Activité sur les médias sociaux**

### **Twitter**

#### **NATIONAL SECURITY / SÉCURITÉ NATIONALE**

Stewart Bell @StewGlobal

Stewart Bell Retweeted CPAC

Debate over what to do with captured Canadian ISIS foreign fighters leads off Question Period.

Mercedes Stephenson

Jihad Jack wants to live in Canada. Here's what officials are doing for ISIS fighters in Syria

Charles Adler

to establish a world wide empire for #ISIS ? No other country gives you this kind of STUPID guarantee. I will never say Canada's stupid. But giving the scum of the earth sanctuary in our country would be the stupidest government action in Cdn history.

Charles Adler

Update from @StewGlobal: Cdn gov't in touch w #ISIS Cdns in #Syria-indicating no obligation to bring them back to Canada. "While officials have reached out to some of the detainees, they have also cautioned there's not much they can do."



<https://globalnews.ca/news/4542842/canadian-officials-contact-isis-fighters-allegations/> ...  
[@GlobalNews](#)

[Globalnews.ca](#)

"Obviously I'm not going to blow anyone up." That's one of the messages a suspected Canadian ISIS fighter, who is detained in Syria, sent to a consular official in hopes of going back home.

[Phil Gurski @borealissaves](#)

Remnants of ISIS exploit security gaps, adopt new military tactics in Iraq

[LP LaPresse](#)

Le Centre de prévention de la radicalisation en péril <http://bit.ly/2PuqsAd>

[StewGlobal](#)

1. 'Would you like to come to Canada?' What officials are doing for Canadians held in Syria over ISIS allegations <https://t.co/dHLXMKRquh>

[StewGlobal](#)

2. In January, a Canadian consular official spoke for an hour with Jack Letts, who went to Syria in 2014, is now detained by Kurdish forces and has Canadian citizenship.

[StewGlobal](#)

3. A transcript of the conversation and other documents obtained by [@globalnews](#) offer a rare look at how the government isn't dealing with Canadian ISIS detainees.

[StewGlobal](#)

1. Kurdish administration in Syria repeats that it will not put captured foreign ISIS members on trial and wants their own govts to come get them. <https://t.co/9OHYGDTN8J>

[StewGlobal](#)

2. "We met with a Canadian delegation in Sulaymaniyah in Southern Kurdistan. Files had been prepared for legal procedures. But this issue has been on hold for 3-4 months. We haven't received information as to why Canada is not responding."

[StewGlobal](#)

3. "Some countries propose that we put these people on trial. Some tell us to kill their citizens. We cannot kill these people. We don't have the death penalty in our laws."

[StewGlobal](#)

4. "Every country should put their own citizens on trial. Or an international court should put these gang members on trial. ... We repeat once again, we will not keep these gang members with us."

**CYBER SECURITY / CYBERSÉCURITÉ**

[Globalnews.ca](#)

30 million Facebook users around the globe were hacked last week. Here's what was stolen, and what hackers can do with the data:

[CTV News](#)

Canadian businesses spent \$14B on cybersecurity in 2017: StatCan

Statistics Canada

#DYK? Two in ten (21%) businesses in Canada were impacted by a cyber security incident in 2017. New data on the impact of #cybercrime on #cnbiz available from the Canadian Survey of #CyberSecurity & Cybercrime: <http://ow.ly/30eh30meCpg> @GetCyberSafe

Sky News

Ministry of Defence secrets were exposed in dozens of breaches of military cyber security policy last year, as hostile nations and spy agencies continue to probe the UK's defence sector

Ottawa Citizen

Facebook: Hackers accessed personal data from 29M accounts

[https://ottawacitizen.com/pmn/news-pmn/facebook-says-hackers-accessed-29m-peoples-accounts/wcm/65af588b-132a-49d6-a6a8-c3bc9e75b711?utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_source=Twitter#Echobox=1539546988 ...](https://ottawacitizen.com/pmn/news-pmn/facebook-says-hackers-accessed-29m-peoples-accounts/wcm/65af588b-132a-49d6-a6a8-c3bc9e75b711?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1539546988)

Globalnews.ca

Nicholas Palmeri is from Nova Scotia. His day job is hunting Russian hackers.

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# World News Review • Revue mondiale des actualités

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### Canada to Resettle Group of Syrian White Helmets

Asharq Al-Awsat, Staff Report, 2018 10 20

Ottawa - Canada is preparing to welcome a group of Syrian White Helmets rescuers, officials said on Friday, without specifying when they will be resettled. "Together with a core group of international allies, Canada is working to resettle a group of White Helmets and their families after they had to flee Syria as a result of being specifically targeted by the Syrian regime and its backer, Russia." Foreign Minister Chrystia Freeland and Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, said in a joint statement. "As first responders, the White Helmets have witnessed first-hand some of the most appalling crimes committed by the murderous Assad regime. Canada has supported the work of the White Helmets by helping them to expand, train more volunteers, train more women and save more lives," they said, referring to the head of the Syrian regime, Bashar al-Assad. In July, following the evacuation of 400 White Helmets from Syria to Israel and then to Jordan, Canada announced that it was ready to accommodate 50 of them and their families, for a potential total of 250 people. Jordan said Wednesday a group of 279 Syrian rescue workers has left the kingdom for resettlement in Western countries. Founded in 2013, the Syrian Civil Defense, or White Helmets, is a network

of first responders who rescue wounded in the aftermath of air strikes, shelling or blasts in rebel-held territory.

## United States • États-Unis

### **Russian Officials Slam Trump's Plans to Exit Nuclear Treaty; Moscow dismisses U.S. claim that it is violating the 1987 pact (Canada)**

The Wall Street Journal, Courtney McBride and Thomas Grove, 2018 10 24  
Washington - National security adviser John Bolton, a longtime critic of a landmark nuclear treaty with Russia, is expected to meet with President Vladimir Putin and other top officials in Moscow on Monday, according to U.S. and Russian officials, as tensions rise over what Washington calls the country's violations of the pact. President Trump said after a rally in Nevada this weekend that he would pull the U.S. from the 1987 Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty, which prohibits the use of intermediate- and shorter-range rockets, as well as testing, producing or fielding new ground-based missiles. He raised the prospect of developing a new set of weapons. The announcement stems from frustration that repeated attempts to push Moscow into compliance have fallen short, according to people familiar with the matter. The dispute over the treaty dates to 2014, when the Obama administration first accused Russia of violations, and it escalated in 2016. A formal decision to withdraw would heighten tensions further, but the U.S. said other forms of pressure haven't worked. "Across two administrations, the United States and our allies have attempted to bring Russia back into full and verifiable compliance with INF," a senior administration official said. "Despite our objections, Russia continues to produce and field prohibited cruise missiles and has ignored calls for transparency." Mr. Bolton will meet his national security counterpart along with Russian defense and foreign ministers, according to a different senior administration official. Mr. Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, confirmed that Mr. Putin also planned to meet with Mr. Bolton. Russia is developing a missile system known as 9M729, though Moscow says it is in full compliance with the pact. Russia's foreign ministry on Sunday condemned Mr. Trump's plans, saying the move was tantamount to blackmail and warning it would be "a very dangerous step." Mr. Peskov said the Kremlin would be "seeking an explanation." Earlier this month the U.S. ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Kay Bailey Hutchison, caused a stir when she said that Washington could choose to "take out" the new Russian missiles. "They are on notice," she said. She later said she didn't mean that the U.S. would pre-emptively strike Russia. Sen. Bob Corker, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said he believed a U.S. withdrawal from the treaty could be part of a strategy to renegotiate the agreement and put pressure on Moscow. "This could be somewhat like the fact that they were going to end Nafta, and then ended up negotiating some small changes," Mr. Corker, a Tennessee Republican, said on CNN's "State of the Union," referring to the trade agreement between the U.S., Canada and Mexico that was recently renegotiated after threats by the Trump administration to withdraw.

### **Khashoggi's killing threatens Trump dreams for Mideast peace (Canada)**

Associated Press, Josef Federman, 2018 10 22

JERUSALEM — In recent months, the Trump administration has repeatedly put off the release of its long-awaited Mideast peace plan. Now, the death of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the hands of Saudi agents may put the plan into a deep freeze. Saudi Arabia's powerful crown prince, Mohammed bin Salman, was meant to be the linchpin of the plan, providing key diplomatic cover to both Israelis and Palestinians. But with the Saudi prince's credibility facing serious questions following Khashoggi's death, President Donald Trump may soon have to rethink his Mideast strategy. "It definitely complicates their plans to release their proposal, if indeed they have one," said Dan Shapiro, who served as President Barack Obama's

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ambassador to Israel. Trump took office promising a new approach to peace making between Israel and the Palestinians. Criticizing decades of failure by his predecessors, he named a Mideast team headed by his son-in-law and adviser Jared Kushner. The team has deep ties to Israel and the West Bank settler movement. The Trump administration notably refused to endorse the establishment of a Palestinian state, distancing itself from the two-state solution favored by the international community for more than two decades. Instead, Kushner's team turned to the Saudis, hoping that the kingdom's deep pockets and prestige in the Arab world could somehow help bring the Israelis and Palestinians together. Kushner struck up a special relationship with the crown prince, portraying him as a swashbuckling force, a leader who could help modernize a troubled region. Last year, Kushner paid a secret visit to Saudi Arabia to discuss his strategy for Israel and the Palestinians. But long before the current crisis over Khashoggi's death, the peace plan ran into trouble. In the meantime, his relations with the Americans have deteriorated. Abbas severed ties with the White House after the U.S. recognized Jerusalem as Israel's capital last December and then moved its embassy to the holy city. Relations worsened as the U.S. cut hundreds of millions of dollars of direct and indirect aid to the Palestinians. Amid this backdrop, Abbas has already said he will not accept the White House initiative, arguing that Trump is unfairly biased in favor of Israel. At the same time, Prince Mohammed's credibility has taken a beating with a series of questionable decisions in recent months. He has pushed for an unsuccessful blockade of Qatar, led a bloody and unpopular war in neighboring Yemen and abruptly cut off ties with Canada after its foreign minister criticized Saudi Arabia.

#### **Caliphate: The journey of a young Westerner recruited to Islamic State (Canada)**

ABC News, Hong Jiang, 2018 10 20

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Canberra - What motivates a Western middle-class suburbanite to join a terrorist group? The New York Times podcast Caliphate delves into the motivations and experiences of one young recruit who left everything behind to go to Syria. In 2014, Abu Huzaifa moved from Canada to the Middle East to join the Islamic State (IS) group. Like many other IS members from the West, Huzaifa (a pseudonym) was inducted through an online channel — an encrypted messaging platform. "A lot of the people who get caught up, especially from Western countries, are originally caught up in this because they find a community online that they don't have in the real world," The New York Times' Andy Mills. "That community taps them into this basic human need for meaning, and for purpose, and also adventure." Mills says recruits from the West aren't quite the bloodthirsty criminals or extreme social recluses they're sometimes conjured up to be. "A lot of the people that left their homes in the West to go and join Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, they came from middle class backgrounds — they came from suburbs," he says. Mills is the producer of podcast series in which New York Times terror reporter Rukmini Callimachi explores IS, focusing on the motivations, experiences and journey of Huzaifa as a young recruit. "We want to show the ways in the small details that added up to leading a middle-class suburbanite in the West to leaving all that behind to go to Syria," Mills says.

#### **Washington Prepares Roadmap for Syria Strategy**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Ibrahim Hamidi, 2018 10 20

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London - President Donald Trump's administration asked US institutions to prepare suggestions and a roadmap for his country's strategy in Syria, sources with knowledge of the matter told Asharq Al-Awsat on Friday. The current US strategy stipulates keeping its troops fighting as part of the International Coalition against ISIS east the Euphrates River and at the Tanf base, in the Syrian-Jordanian-Iraqi border triangle to achieve three main objectives: uproot ISIS and prevent its reemergence, remove Iranian forces and their militias, and push forward a UN-sponsored political solution based on Resolution 2254. The sources said that U.S. officials and experts are currently studying how to use "elements and pressure to achieve the three mentioned



objectives." They added that the White House is expected to receive those suggestions at the end of this year. Other diplomatic sources asserted that the US national security adviser, John Bolton, will visit Moscow soon to prepare for a summit between Trump and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, while also planning another summit between Trump and North Korean President Kim Jong-un following the Nov. 6 midterm election for members of both chambers of Congress, as well as for governors in 36 out of 50 states. Meanwhile, the Kremlin has confirmed that Putin will visit Turkey on October 27 to attend the four-party Russia-Turkey-Germany-France summit. Putin will also hold bilateral meetings in Istanbul on October 27 during the summit on Syria, including with Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte.

### **Special counsel examines conflicting accounts as scrutiny of Roger Stone and WikiLeaks deepens**

Washington Post, Staff reporters, 2018 10 22

Washington - In recent weeks, a grand jury in Washington has listened to more than a dozen hours of testimony and FBI technicians have pored over gigabytes of electronic messages as part of the special counsel's quest to solve one burning mystery: Did longtime Trump adviser Roger Stone — or any other associate of the president — have advance knowledge of WikiLeaks' plans to release hacked Democratic emails in 2016? While outwardly quiet for the last month, Robert S. Mueller III's investigators have been aggressively pursuing leads behind the scenes about whether Stone was in communication with the online group, whose disclosures of emails believed to have been hacked by Russian operatives disrupted the 2016 presidential campaign, according to people familiar with the special counsel probe. Stone, who boasted during the race that he was in touch with WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, has said since that his past comments were exaggerated or misunderstood. Both he and WikiLeaks have adamantly denied they were in contact. However, prosecutors are closely examining both public comments and alleged private assertions that Stone made in 2016 suggesting he had a way to reach Assange, the people said. Last month, Randy Credico, a onetime Stone friend, told the grand jury that the Trump loyalist confided during the 2016 campaign that he had a secret back channel to WikiLeaks, according to a person familiar with the matter. In a series of interviews with The Washington Post, Stone said his only connection to the group was through Credico, a liberal comedian who had hosted Assange on his New York radio program in 2016. The special counsel's prosecutors have also zeroed in on Stone's relationship with conservative journalist and conspiracy theorist Jerome Corsi, examining whether he served as a conduit between Stone and Assange, according to another person familiar with their interest. Corsi appeared before Mueller's grand jury last month, and FBI agents have recently been seeking to interview Corsi's associates, according to the person. In addition, investigators have scrutinized Stone's communications with Trump campaign officials about WikiLeaks, according to people familiar with the probe. One apparent line of inquiry: whether Stone lied to Congress about his alleged contacts with WikiLeaks during the presidential race, according to the people. The question of whether Trump associates were in contact with WikiLeaks is at the heart of Mueller's inquiry. According to charges filed by the special counsel in July, Russian military intelligence officers used an online persona called Guccifer 2.0 to distribute hacked Democratic emails through WikiLeaks. The Russian operatives also used Guccifer 2.0's Twitter account to send messages to Stone, who has said the exchanges were benign.

### **U.S. general wounded in attack in Afghanistan**

Washington Post, Dan Lamothe, 2018 10 22

Washington - A U.S. general was wounded in an attack last week in Afghanistan's Kandahar province that killed two senior Afghan provincial officials and targeted a group that included the senior U.S. commander in the country, four people with knowledge of the assault said. Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Smiley is recovering after suffering at least one gunshot wound inside the

Kandahar governor's compound, three of the people said. They spoke on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue. U.S. military officials in Afghanistan and at the Pentagon have declined to comment on the attack or identify the wounded, describing them only as an American service member, an American civilian and a contractor who is part of the military coalition. "We're not going to talk about the wounded," said Army Col. David Butler, the top military spokesman in Afghanistan. The New York Times first reported that a general was wounded, without identifying him. After this story was initially published by The Washington Post on Sunday, Butler confirmed on Twitter that Smiley was wounded. The attack caught the U.S. military by surprise. General officers are rarely in situations where they face attack, and even more rarely wounded. Among those present during the attack was Army Gen. Austin "Scott" Miller, the top U.S. officer in Afghanistan. Butler has said that the U.S. officials present were caught in the crossfire after a gunman started shooting. The Taliban asserted responsibility for the attack and said Miller was among the main targets.

### **Saudi attempts to distance crown prince from Khashoggi killing haven't quieted uproar**

The Washington Post, Tamer El-Ghobashy, Kareem Fahim and Carol Morello, 2018 10 21  
ISTANBUL — Saudi Arabia's foreign minister denied on Sunday that the nation's powerful young crown prince ordered Jamal Khashoggi's killing, but the attempt to distance Mohammed bin Salman from the journalist's demise did little to blunt an international uproar that could test Saudi Arabia's status as a regional power. At the same time, Saudi officials have failed to answer questions about where Khashoggi's remains are and have offered inconsistent narratives for how he was killed, undermining the government's assertion that Khashoggi died after a fistfight broke out when he was confronted by agents seeking to bring him back to Riyadh while he was visiting the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul on Oct. 2. That explanation will face a fresh challenge on Tuesday when Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is expected to reveal details of his government's investigation into the killing of Khashoggi, a move that could directly contradict Saudi Arabia's official account of what happened inside its consulate. Erdogan said he would explain the episode "in a very different way" when his ruling party meets, adding to the already intense global pressure Saudi leadership has faced to provide a full picture of how Khashoggi was killed. "We seek justice and this will be revealed in all its naked truth, not through some ordinary steps but in all its naked truth," Erdogan said on Sunday, according to the semiofficial Anadolu news agency. "The incident will be revealed entirely." Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister sought to contain the fallout on Sunday while telegraphing the kingdom's priority: shielding Mohammed bin Salman, the crown prince and de facto ruler, from growing speculation that Khashoggi's killing could not have happened without his knowledge or consent.

### **Inside the Saudis' Washington influence machine: How the kingdom gained power through fierce lobbying and charm offensives**

The Washington Post Tom Hamburger, 2018 10 22

Washington — In March 2018, the Saudi ambassador to Washington summoned a cadre of high-priced Washington lobbyists to his embassy to grapple with a delicate, double-pronged challenge. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman was preparing for his first official visit to the United States, just four months after he consolidated power by ordering the detention of members of the royal family and business elite. At the same time, Congress was facing a vote on a bipartisan resolution seeking to end U.S. support for a Saudi bombing campaign in Yemen that has killed tens of thousands of civilians since 2015. During an afternoon meeting on March 12, Saudi Ambassador Khalid bin Salman sat at the head of a long table in an embassy conference room, flanked by a whiteboard detailing the prince's itinerary. His assembled advisers included Norm Coleman, the former Minnesota senator; Marc S. Lampkin, a veteran Capitol Hill adviser who served on President Trump's transition team; and Democratic strategist

Alfred E. Mottur, according to people familiar with the gathering. Eight days after their meeting, the congressional resolution aimed at extracting the United States from what the United Nations labeled "the worst humanitarian crisis in the world" would be defeated — hours after Mohammed was warmly welcomed at the White House at the start of his nationwide tour. Those twin successes reflected the power of a sophisticated Saudi influence machine that has shaped policy and perceptions in Washington for decades, battling back critiques of the oil-rich kingdom by doling out millions to lobbyists, blue-chip law firms, prominent think tanks and large defense contractors. In 2017, Saudi payments to lobbyists and consultants in Washington more than tripled over the previous year, public filings show.

### **Security Clearances Pile Up in Defense Sector**

The Wall Street Journal, Doug Cameron, 2018 10 22

Washington - Black tarpaulins once covered parts of a multibillion-dollar nuclear submarine General Dynamics Corp. is building in Groton, Conn., blocking the view of workers who lacked security clearance to see the top-secret components underneath. That is one of many workarounds that General Dynamics and other defense companies have used to continue work on tens of billions of dollars in defense contracts during an unprecedented backlog in security clearances. The number of people awaiting security clearance for defense-industry work has more than tripled over the past four years to almost half a million, according to the National Background Investigations Bureau. That is exacerbating a workforce crunch for makers of warships, jet fighters and cybersecurity systems that are already struggling to replace a wave of retiring engineers at a time of record-low unemployment and competition from tech companies. "These folks are like gold," Harris Corp. Chief Executive Bill Brown said, referring to workers with security clearance. Harris said last week that it plans to merge with L3 Technologies Inc. The combined company would have 22,000 cleared staff, almost half its workforce. The backlog began to climb in 2013, after former national security contractor Edward Snowden leaked a huge cache of documents his clearance had allowed him to access. The Pentagon tightened clearance requirements for staff and contractors, but budget cuts left unchanged at around 7,000 the number of workers who conduct the background checks. Another 1,000 have been hired over the past year, said the bureau. The wait time to obtain "secret" clearances rose to 543 days in the second quarter from 510 days at the end of last year, according to the bureau. The wait time to renew such a clearance is almost 700 days. Including nondefense workers, the backlog is almost 700,000, the bureau said. Some four million U.S. citizens have active security clearances. Some companies are starting to clear prospective employees in college to avoid being caught without the workers they need if they win a big contract. "We're now doing blue-sky hiring," said Rick Edwards, executive vice president of the international unit of Lockheed Martin Corp. They also face tougher competition from tech companies, including Facebook Inc. and Google parent Alphabet Inc. that are recruiting the same future experts in cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and autonomy. "The competition for talent is now much broader," said Horacio Rozanski, chief executive of Booz Allen Hamilton Holding Corp., one of the largest information-technology contractors for the Pentagon and intelligence agencies.

### **Mnuchin Defends Trip to Saudi Arabia Amid Uproar Over Khashoggi Killing**

The New York Times, Alan Rappeport, 2018 10 21

JERUSALEM — Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin on Sunday defended his decision to meet with Saudi officials this week, saying his trip was aimed at reinforcing ties at a critical moment, as the United States tries to ratchet up pressure on Iran. Mr. Mnuchin, speaking during a stop in Jerusalem, said the economic and strategic relationship between the United States and Saudi Arabia was too important to be derailed by an international uproar over the Saudis' killing of a dissident journalist. The trip to Riyadh comes as Saudi Arabia is facing an intense global



backlash over the death of Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi columnist for The Washington Post who lived in Virginia. The Trump administration is under pressure to deliver a forceful response, but President Trump has offered shifting reactions to Saudi accounts of the killing. He hardened his tone late Saturday, telling The Washington Post that the Saudis had engaged in "deception." Mr. Mnuchin described what happened to Mr. Khashoggi as a "terrible situation" and said that the United States would not go easy on countries that violate human rights even if they have close economic ties. "I think the human rights issues are very important issues, and I think that the United States needs to play a leadership role on human rights," he said. But Mr. Mnuchin said it was important to wait for more facts to emerge before determining if Saudi Arabia should face sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Act — which authorizes the government to penalize human rights offenders — and added that it was "premature" to even discuss sanctions at this point. Last week, Mr. Mnuchin became one of the final high-profile figures to withdraw from an investor conference that begins in Riyadh on Tuesday, ultimately determining that it would be inappropriate to mingle with global business leaders weeks after Mr. Khashoggi was killed in Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul. "I did not think it was appropriate to go and speak at the conference," Mr. Mnuchin said in an interview on Sunday. But he said the United States must preserve its ties to Saudi Arabia, particularly as the United States tries to stop Iran from participating in the global financial system. "We have an important relationship with Saudi, focused on combating terrorist financing and focused on our common interests of stopping Iran's spread of both terrorism and other issues," he said, adding that he was planning to "meet with my counterparts and continue to focus on what's in the Treasury's domain, as it relates to this issue."

#### **Democrats eye revival of Russia probe if they win House**

Associated Press, Mary Clare Jalonick, 2018 10 21

WASHINGTON - House Democrats are expected to re-open the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election if they win the majority in November. But they would have to be selective in what they investigate. California Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the House intelligence panel, has said his party would have to "ruthlessly prioritize the most important matters first." The Republican-led Intelligence Committee was the only House panel to investigate Russian meddling, and its investigation is now closed. Republicans say they found no evidence of collusion between Russia and President Donald Trump's campaign. Democrats say Republicans ignored key facts and important witnesses and want to restart parts of the investigation if they win the House. But some Democrats also worry that there could be a political cost if they overreach. Schiff and other lawmakers say they are closely watching special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation and the Senate's Russia probe to look for gaps that they could fill. And if Mueller issues any findings, their investigative plans could change. "My sense is that we want to be precise," says California Rep. Eric Swalwell, a Democratic member of the intelligence panel.

#### **Before midterms, a Russian is charged**

The Washington Post, Staff reporters, 2018 10 21

Washington - The Justice Department announced Friday that it had charged a Russian woman who prosecutors say conspired to interfere with the 2018 U.S. election, marking the first criminal case that accuses a foreign national of interfering in the upcoming midterms. Elena Khusyaynova, 44, was charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States. Prosecutors said she managed the finances of "Project Lakhta," a foreign influence operation they said was designed "to sow discord in the U.S. political system" by pushing arguments and misinformation online about a host of divisive political issues, including immigration, the Confederate flag, gun control and National Football League protests during the national anthem. The charges against Khusyaynova came just as the Office of the Director of National Intelligence warned that it was

concerned about "ongoing campaigns" by Russia, China and Iran to interfere with the upcoming midterm elections and the 2020 race - an ominous message just weeks before voters head to the polls. Prosecutors said the sophisticated campaign Khusyaynova was a part of "did not exclusively adopt one ideological viewpoint" but instead tried to push incendiary positions on various political controversies on social media platforms. The Russians involved, prosecutors said, created fake personas and spread their divisive messages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The group attempted to sow conflict along racial lines and sometimes advocated positions that directly opposed each other, apparently agnostic to whom they supported as long as it turned Americans against one another, prosecutors said. For example, in relaying how to discuss an August 2017 story about special counsel Robert S. Mueller III, one operation participant said Mueller should be termed "a puppet of the establishment" whose work was "damaging to the country," according to prosecutors. But later that year, another operation member tweeted: "If Trump fires Robert Mueller, we have to take to the streets in protest. Our democracy is at stake." The group took similarly cynical positions on U.S. politicians. While one account said President Trump "deserves a Nobel Peace Prize" for agreeing to meet with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, another predicted Trump "might not even be president by then." One tweet encouraged voters to donate to a political action committee aiming to unseat Senate Democrats Tammy Baldwin (Wis.), Claire McCaskill (Mo.) and Elizabeth Warren (Mass.), as well as House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.)

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## **United Kingdom - Royaume-Uni**

### **Kremlin has 200 Russian spies working in Britain**

Daily Record, Ben Glaze, 2018 10 22

Undisclosed dateline - RUSSIA has 200 spies in Britain - five times as many as during the Cold War, a report will claim this week. The estimate of Kremlin intelligence agents in the UK was produced by the Henry Jackson Society think tank after interviews with serving and former officials. Moscow's security apparatus in Britain has been under the microscope since the attempted assassination of former GRU spy Sergei Skripal, 67, and his daughter Yulia, 34, in Salisbury in March. They survived the Novichok nerve agent attack which was blamed on the GRU. British mum-of-three, Dawn Sturgess, 44, died after apparently spraying herself with the poison, thinking it was perfume. In the report due out this week, author Andrew Foxall says London is still "ill-equipped" to cope with its status as a "front line" of Vladimir Putin's spying operation. The estimate would be a huge surge compared with eight years ago when MI5 said the number of Russian intelligence officers in London was "at the same level as in Soviet times".

### **I will never stop supporting Isis, hate preacher pledged**

The Times, Mark Bridge, 2018 10 22

London - Anjem Choudary, the hate preacher released from prison on Friday, has pledged that he will never forsake Islamic State. He is said to have been recorded saying that it was his duty as a Muslim to give his allegiance to the group and its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Choudary, 51, made the declaration shortly before he was jailed for urging support for the terrorist group. He was released last week after serving less than half of his five-and-a-half-year sentence and has been moved to a bail hostel in London. In a recording released by The Sun on Sunday, he is heard speaking of Baghdadi: "As Muslims we have no choice but to support the Islamic State. We don't have any choice but to give allegiance to the caliph and to say that he in fact is the caliph — we have to obey him." He added: "It is not a question of whether we chose to support IS or not — it is a matter of Islamic responsibility and duty for every Muslim to give their allegiance to the caliph and obey him if he orders them to do something." There has been

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widespread criticism at the early release of Choudary, who has been connected to the perpetrators of at least 15 Islamist plots including the murder of Fusilier Lee Rigby in Woolwich in 2013. Counterterrorism experts say that despite Isis's territorial losses, the group remains a potent threat with the capacity to incite deadly attacks in the West. Ministers have promised to close the loophole that means jihadists convicted of "inviting" support for terrorist groups such as Isis are eligible for such early release. After his conversion to Islamist ideology, Choudary was outspoken in his support for terrorists, describing Osama bin Laden as a "modern-day hero". In 2015, he told The Times that he hoped Britain would become part of an Islamic state and complained about a travel ban preventing him from visiting existing Isis territory in Iraq and Syria.

### **Loophole that set free Choudary to be closed**

The Sunday Times, Dipesh Gadhur and Tom Harper, 2018 10 22

London - Ministers are to close a loophole in Britain's terror laws that allowed the notorious hate preacher Anjem Choudary to walk free from jail just halfway through his sentence. The security minister Ben Wallace said the Home Office would ensure jihadists convicted of "inviting" support for terrorist groups such as Isis would no longer be eligible for such an early release. Choudary, who has been connected to at least 15 Islamist plots including the murder of Lee Rigby in 2013, walked free last Friday after serving only half of a 5½-year sentence. There was widespread outrage that such an influential preacher of hate, whose followers also mounted the London Bridge terror attack last year, was released so early. The sentencing row came as it emerged that Google is describing the hate preacher as a "social activist" when people search for him online. Users are presented with a mini-biography that refers to Choudary as an "Islamist social and political activist" before noting his terrorism conviction. Choudary was charged with one of the few terror offences that prohibit the sentencing judge from imposing an "extended determinate sentence" (EDS), which allows a "dangerous" offender to be kept inside jail beyond the halfway point of his tariff. When Mr Justice Holroyde sentenced Choudary in September 2016, he said he thought the cleric would continue to spread his poisonous ideology, but added that he had "no power to impose an extended sentence". Responding to Choudary's release, Wallace announced that the offence he had committed would be brought "within the scope" of the EDS regime. Professor Anthony Glees, director of Buckingham University's Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies, said the government was "closing the stable door after the horse has bolted".

### **Fivefold rise in Russian spies in UK**

The Sunday Times, Andrew Gilligan, 2018 10 22

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London - Russia has up to 200 intelligence officers in Britain — more than five times as many as during the Cold War — and at least 500 agents who provide information, according to a report to be published next week. The Henry Jackson Society think tank interviewed serving and recent former intelligence officials to produce the figure, which is significantly higher than previous estimates. It will add to growing alarm about Russian espionage activities in Britain following the attempted murder of Sergei and Yulia Skripal in March. Even after the expulsions of 23 suspected intelligence officers after the Skripal attack, about half of the 56 accredited Russian diplomats still in London are believed to be engaged in intelligence work, the report says. Others operate without diplomatic cover. Several spies are based at the Russian trade delegation office in Highgate, north London, the official Rossotrudnichestvo cultural centre in Kensington High Street, and elsewhere. The capital is still "illequipped" to deal with its status as a "front line" of President Vladimir Putin's espionage operation, according to report author Andrew Foxall. The paper calls for Britain to adopt measures similar to those of Estonia, which publishes an annual report naming people and groups suspected of links with Russian intelligence. London-based Russians spoke in the report of constant surveillance against



them. The estimate of 200 is a significant rise over 2010, when MI5 said the number of Russian spies in London was "at the same level as in Soviet times". In 1985 a double-agent who headed the KGB station in London said there were 39

### **UK will not sever Saudi ties despite journalist's death: Raab**

Belfast Telegraph, Sam Lister, 2018 10 22

London - Saudi Arabia's explanation about the death of a dissident journalist is not credible but the UK is not preparing to terminate its relationship with the state, a Cabinet minister has said. The Gulf kingdom admitted on Friday that Jamal Khashoggi was killed at its Istanbul consulate but claimed he died after a fight broke out. Brexit Secretary Dominic Raab said it was a "terrible case" but the UK government was "not throwing our hands in the air" because thousands of jobs depended on relations with the country. He said the government supported an investigation into the killing. Asked if he believed the Saudi government's explanation, Mr Raab said: "No, I don't think it's credible. "We are not throwing our hands in the air and terminating the relationship with Saudi Arabia, not just because of the huge number of British jobs that depend on it but also because if you exert influence over your partners you need to be able to talk to them," he said. The government has come under pressure from Labour and the Liberal Democrats to ban arms sales to the kingdom but Mr Raab insisted the UK's export regime was "one of the most rigorous" in the world.

### **UK considers next steps as Saudi admits Khashoggi died in Istanbul consulate**

The Independent, Tom Barnes, 2018 10 21

London - The British government is considering its "next steps" after Saudi Arabia admitted dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi was killed inside its Istanbul consulate. Saudi authorities announced on Friday evening The Washington Post reporter, an outspoken critic of the regime in his homeland, had died following a "fistfight" at the building earlier this month. State TV reported 18 people have been arrested in connection with the killing and both a senior intelligence officer and an aide to crown prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's de facto leader, have been dismissed. However, the Foreign Office said yesterday it was considering what action to now take following the announcement of Khashoggi's death – a confirmation of what most onlookers already expected. Foreign secretary Jeremy Hunt has previously warned there would be "consequences" for the UK's currently cordial relationship with Saudi Arabia if it transpired the reporter had indeed been murdered. "We send our condolences to Jamal Khashoggi's family after this confirmation of his death," the Foreign Office said in a statement. "We are considering the Saudi report and our next steps. As the foreign secretary has said, this was a terrible act and those responsible must be held to account."

### **Wife of student detained in UAE 'blackmailed' into silence**

The Sunday Times, Sian Griffiths and Rosie Kinchen, 2018 10 21

London - The wife of a British student accused of spying for MI6 and held in solitary confinement in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has criticised the Foreign Office's handling of his case. Matthew Hedges, 31, a PhD student at Durham University was doing field work in the UAE when he was detained. His wife Daniela Tejada, 27, said she felt she had been "blackmailed" into not speaking to the press about her husband's plight. She decided to go public after receiving an email from the Foreign Office saying it had been told by the UAE that "if Matt is found guilty, his sentence might be commuted if there is no press coverage of his case". Hedges's trial on spying charges starts this week. His wife insists he is innocent. She also revealed that she has asked that Boris Johnson, then foreign secretary, should be left out of any attempts to free her husband because of the way he had handled the case of Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, the British-Iranian mother jailed for spying in Iran. In a letter in today's newspaper more than 40 academics including Hedges's academic supervisor, Professor Clive

Jones, insist that "Matt is an innocent man being held unjustly" and warn that his plight "places into question existing and future academic ties between the UK and the UAE".

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**Australia, New Zealand • Australie, Nouvelle-Zélande**

### **Canada and Huawei: letting politics slip in**

The Interpreter (Lowy Institute), Kim Richard Nossal, 2018 10 22

Kingston - Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau argued that his government's decision on Huawei is based "on evidence and data", and in particular on recommendations from the Communications Security Establishment (CSE), the federal agency that collects foreign signals intelligence and protects telecommunications networks. The CSE's Canadian Centre for Cyber Security had advised the Trudeau cabinet that while it recognised that Huawei was subject to Chinese law that required it to cooperate with the Central People's Government in Beijing on national intelligence work, it did not believe that the most appropriate approach was to ban the firm. It noted that Huawei already operates under considerable constraints in Canada: it is not permitted to bid on federal contracts, it is not permitted to manage equipment from offshore locations, and it is not permitted to bid on the core networks of Canada's telecommunications companies. Importantly, the CSE noted that it had a sufficiently "robust system" for ensuring that Huawei's hardware and software would not compromise security. In particular, CSE "white labs" – actually paid for by Huawei itself – conduct tests on the equipment for intercept capabilities. Given these recommendations, Trudeau argued that his government preferred "listening to the experts and trusting them" on telecommunications security. His government, he asserted, was not going "to let politics slip into decisions" on such matters. In fact, Canada's Huawei decision is all about politics. It is not by coincidence that Trudeau's comments followed the public efforts by two American senators to shape Canadian policy on Huawei. Marco Rubio (Republican of Florida) and Mark Warner (Democrat of Virginia), both members of the US Senate Intelligence Committee, wrote to Trudeau on 11 October, expressing "grave concerns" about the security implications of allowing Huawei to be involved in Canada's 5G networks, and urging Trudeau to reconsider the matter and seek additional information from the US intelligence community. The Interpreter is published by the Lowy Institute, an Australian think tank with a global outlook. Kim Richard Nossal is the director of the Centre for International and Defence Policy at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

### **Spy agency monitors right wing extremists**

Australian Associated Press, Daniel McCulloch, 2018 10 22

CANBERRA - ASIO boss Duncan Lewis says extreme right wing groups are better organised and are recruiting more actively in Australia than in the past. The country's spy chief says domestic support for right wing extremist groups is increasing "off a very low base" and his agency is watching the development closely. Giving evidence before a Senate estimates hearing in Canberra on Monday, Mr Lewis confirmed ASIO was looking into reports extremist groups were attempting to infiltrate mainstream political parties.

### **Spy boss warns of 'existential threat'**

Australian Associated Press, Daniel McCulloch, 2018 10 22

CANBERRA - Australia's spy chief has warned unprecedented levels of foreign interference and espionage pose an existential threat to the country. ASIO boss Duncan Lewis says work by foreign intelligence agents that may appear relatively harmless can have significant consequences. "Hostile intelligence activity poses a real and potential existential threat to Australian security and sovereignty," Mr Lewis told a Senate estimates hearing in Canberra on

Monday. "The harm from this threat may not manifest for many years, even decades, after the activities occur." Mr Lewis also told the committee the threat of terrorism has "plateaued at a high level" in Australia. "We can very easily become numb to the height of the level because it has become kind of the norm," he said. Mr Lewis said the twin challenges of terrorism and foreign interference were compounded by rapid advancements in technology.

#### **Kurdish-Aust man testifies at terror trial**

Australian Associated Press, Margaret Scheikowski, 2018 10 22

SYDNEY - A Kurdish-Australian man who says he was overseas to report on rather than take part in terrorist warfare has told a jury he carried a gun so no questions would be asked when he travelled with the guerrillas. "If you looked like them, no one questions you," Renas Lelikan said on Monday, his third day of giving evidence in the NSW Supreme Court in Sydney. The 40-year-old has pleaded not guilty to engaging in hostile activities in a foreign state in the Turkey-Iraq border area in 2012, but has admitted being a member of an illegal terrorist organisation, the Kurdistan Workers' Party. The Crown case includes photos of Lelikan wearing a PKK uniform, carrying weapons including grenades and AK-47 rifle, standing in front of a PKK flag, and accompanying other soldiers, as well as his emails, social media posts and other communications from 2012. His barrister Phillip Boulten SC told the jury his client was there to "chronicle history", being a thinker, writer, journalist and social commentator who recorded events "for those like him who had ... an empathy for the Kurdish struggle". But prosecutor Paul McGuire SC said Lelikan "was not an impartial war correspondent or journalist, he was very much involved in a personal way in this armed dispute". Mr Boulten took Lelikan through more than 200 photographs, some taken in 2011 when the witness said there was no hostile military activity between the Turkish army and the PKK.

#### **SA terror group member may give evidence**

Australian Associated Press, 2018 10 22 LADELAIDE, Oct 22 AAP - An Adelaide woman is yet to decide if she will give evidence during the sentencing process after being found guilty of membership of the Islamic State terror group. In South Australia's first terrorism trial, Zainab Abdirahman-Khalif was found guilty by a Supreme Court jury in September of being a member of IS. During the 23-year-old's trial, prosecutor Chris Winneke QC said Abdirahman-Khalif had "wholly embraced the concepts and aligned herself with the ideology of the terror group. The court was told on Monday that a psychologist had completed interviews with the woman and that report would be available within a week or so. Defence counsel Bill Boucaut said it was important for the court had an understanding of the "family dynamics" ahead of sentencing his client.

#### **Wrong place and time, says Khawaja**

The Australian, Emily Ritchie, 2018 10 22

Sydney - Australian Test cricketer Usman Khawaja is confident his brother's involvement in a counter-terrorism investigation is just a case of "wrong place, wrong time". Police searched the western Sydney home of Arsalan -Khawaja and his parents last week, looking for evidence relating to a notebook found at the University of NSW last month that allegedly contained a "hit-list" mentioning former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull and former foreign minister Julie Bishop as targets. Arsalan Khawaja has not been arrested and police have not laid any charges. "It is obviously an ongoing investigation and I don't have all the information, but obviously the police are doing their due diligence," Usman Khawaja told The Herald Sun after returning yesterday from the Australian cricket team's Test series against Pakistan in the United Arab Emirates. "I am not that worried about it to be honest ... (It's a) wrong place, wrong time sort of thing. "I am sure he will be cleared. There is obviously a lot of other people involved but my brother has been out in the public probably because of me so I feel for him a bit. I am sure he is looking



forward to moving past this and getting back to normal life." Mohamed Nizamdeen, 25, the notebook owner, was charged in August with knowingly making a document connected to terrorism. He spent four weeks in Goulburn's Supermax prison before the charge was withdrawn last -Friday.

### **Phone-tap errors bug spy agency**

Courier Mail, Matthew Killoran, 2018 10 20

Melbourne – Australia's top spy agency tapped the wrong phone or did so without a warrant on four occasions in just one year, and in one instance, the mistake lasted more than two months. The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation errors – revealed in the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security annual report tabled yesterday – included writing down the wrong number when arranging to bug a phone. After learning of the error, ASIO ceased the "unauthorised intercept" and deleted all of the recorded conversations, the report says. In one example, the "person of interest" whose device they were bugging disconnected their phone service and the number was given to an unrelated customer. "The new customer's communications were intercepted for four days before ASIO recognised the error," Inspector-General Margaret Stone states in the report. In a "breakdown in internal process", another phone was bugged for two months without a warrant. In a fourth case, data was collected on two phone services for 20 days, in breach of a warrant condition.

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### **Afghanistan • Pakistan**

#### **Raziq's Killer Made Phone Call Moments Before Shooting: NDS**

TOLO News, 2018 10 22

Kabul - The NDS chief Massoom Stanekzai on Monday confirmed that the Kandahar provincial governor's bodyguard who killed Kandahar police chief Gen. Abdul Raziq last week made a two and a half minute phone call about five minutes before the attack to someone across the border. Addressing a press conference in Kandahar, Stanekzai said although references had been provided, the bodyguard turned out to have been using a fake name and false ID. The NDS chief said the shooter had also spoken on the phone with someone across the border shortly before the attack. This conversation took place about five minutes before the shooting and lasted two and a half minutes. Stanekzai said the bodyguard had been hired about a month and a half ago. Raziq was killed when the bodyguard opened fire on him and other officials, including the provincial governor Zalmi Wesa, Gen. Abdul Momin Hassainkhail, the provincial NDS chief and Resolute Support commander Gen. Austin Scott Miller. Hassainkhail was also killed in the shooting and the governor was wounded. Miller escaped unharmed. The NDS chief said when the bodyguard opened fire on the officials, foreign troops with Miller also shot back. According to Stanekzai, the meeting between the leaders lasted half an hour but no discussions were held on the Durand Line or on peace talks. He also said at least 15 people have been arrested in connection with the assassination of Raziq but that investigations continue.

#### **Afghans vote for second day amid violence and technical problems**

The National (UAE), Ruchi Kumar, 2018 10 22

Kabul - As the extended phase of the Afghan parliamentary elections came to a close on Sunday evening, reports of more violence and mismanagement emerged across the country as the death toll from the past two days of voting rose to over 50. Independent Elections Commission Chairman Abdul Badi Sayat congratulated voters for turning out, saying that around 4 million people out of the 8.8 million registered voters cast their ballots over the past two days at 4,576 polling centers across the country. But the vote was marred by violence and

technical hitches. A roadside bomb in the eastern Nangarhar province struck a vehicle filled with civilians, killing 11 people, including six children, Attahullah Khogyani, spokesman for the provincial governor, said on Sunday. No one immediately claimed the attack. The first parliamentary elections since 2010 are being held against a backdrop of near-daily attacks by the Taliban, who have seized nearly half the country and have repeatedly refused offers to negotiate with the Kabul government. The Taliban had issued a boycott ahead of the elections despite engaging in peace negotiations with the US administration earlier this month. Over the course of the first day, the Afghan Interior Ministry recorded 193 violent incidents, including suicide attacks, explosions and gunbattles. The majority of those attacks have been attributed to the Taliban, who had referred to the elections as a "bogus" and "sham process" in their statement.

### **US is watching our nuclear arsenal, and it hasn't gotten over safe havens**

Pakistan Daily Times, Imtiaz Gul, 2018 10 22

Islamabad - Make no mistake; "safe havens" and (Pakistani) "nuclear weapons and materials" remain the preoccupation of the US administration, and it will continue to exert "pressure of all sorts" to bend Pakistan into compliance to President Trump's South Asia Strategy. "We can no longer be silent about the fact that some externally focused terrorist groups enjoy safe haven in Pakistan's territory," Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Henry Ensher said in the keynote speech he delivered at a recent Pakistan-focused conference, jointly organised by the Woodrow Wilson Center and Indus. Delivered before a largely Pakistani-American audience plus a number of American South Asia watchers, the blunt, though not entirely unexpected, speech in fact brought out the real contours of President Trump's Pakistan policy. And surprisingly, it also spelt out Washington's two "highest priorities" in Pakistan and throughout the region: concerns about continued existence of safe havens that enable terrorists to carry out attacks that threaten regional and global security, and the need to prevent nuclear weapons and materials from coming into the hands of terrorists. Ensher shocked many among the audience with this crudely direct identification of the priorities vis-a-vis Pakistan, as well as the to-do-list on Pakistan – a display of the typical carrot-and-stick approach. The entire speech in fact was actually loaded with concerns, demands and expectations from Pakistan. Ensher's speech left little doubt about his country's expectations of Pakistan. Islamabad and Rawalpindi, therefore, have formidable tasks ahead; finding a balance between safeguarding "national interests" on the one hand, and addressing the "primary priorities" of Washington vis-a-vis Pakistan, on the other.

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## **Africa • Afrique**

### **Hundreds of migrants scale Spanish enclave fence**

Deutsche Welle, 2018 10 21

Melilla - One man died and several were injured as hundreds tried to reach the Spanish enclave of Melilla from Morocco. Despite the Spanish government's promise to remove barbed wire on top of the fence, it has not yet done so. Some 300 people rushed a border fence between Morocco and Spain's North African enclave Melilla, Spanish authorities said on Sunday. Out of those who attempted to scale the two fences topped in barbed wire, 200 sub-Saharan Africans entered Spanish territory, a representative of Spain's government in Melilla said in a statement. One man who climbed over the fences died of an apparent heart attack despite efforts to revive him.

### **UN Accuses Machar's South Sudan Rebel Group of Crimes against Humanity**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Mustapha Serf, 2018 10 21

London - The United Nations has accused South Sudan armed opposition group, led by Riek Machar, of committing crimes against humanity in the Western Equatoria region. The accusations are the first-ever charges by the UN against Machar's movement. According to the UN, in April 2018 before the peace agreement signed in August, Sudan People's Liberation Army- in Opposition (SPLA-IO) forcefully took 900 people including children and women. Meanwhile, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said it has facilitated the release of 24 persons detained in relation to the conflict in South Sudan, including 16 detainees released earlier on Friday. This week marks the first releases of prisoners supervised by the ICRC following the signing of the latest peace agreement in which parties to the conflict agreed to free detainees. The ICRC statement, a copy of which was obtained by Asharq Al-Awsat, confirmed the release of the war captives to be the first batch since the agreement signing on September 12. However, the organization refused to release the names of those released. UN charges facing the SPLA-IO included killings, rape, slavery, forced recruitment, destruction of more than 28 villages and the targeting of civilians. The UN said that other than kidnapping 900 people, the rebel movement forced more than 2,000 people to flee their homes between April and August. United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet appealed to the rebel movement to release nearly 1,000 civilians allegedly abducted from the Western Equatoria region.

#### **APC Plotting to Use Militias to Disrupt Guber Election, A'ibom Alleges**

This Day, Tobi Soniyi, 2018 10 21

Lagos - The Akwa Ibom State Government has formally invited the security agencies to investigate various claims to run down the government and cause mayhem in the build-up to the general elections in February next year. In a letter to the Inspector General of Police, the Director-General of the State Security Service and the National Security Adviser the state said available intelligence has revealed a plan for a systematic rubbing with lies of the governor's private life that has nothing to do with the governance of the state." The state also called on the security agencies to investigate the allegation that military and police uniforms are being sown in a particular federal constituency to be used by thugs during the election. The thugs to be imported from one of the states of Niger Delta would come in through the creeks at the back of Qua River Hotel Eket, Eastern Obolo Riverside and Utaewa in Ikot Abasi River." Senator Bassey Akpan (Peoples Democratic Party – Always Ibom North East) had last week on the floor of the Senate drew the attention of the Senate and by extension, the good people of Nigeria to a plot being hatched by the leadership of the All Progressives Congress in Akwa Ibom State to cause mayhem in the state during the gubernatorial election slated for Saturday, March 2, 2019. According to him, the plot of the Akwa Ibom APC chieftains to scuttle the election in the state through violence, is to ensure cancellation of election in the state on that day for an isolated exercise later, upon which the so-called federal might would now be used to right it in favour of their candidate."

#### **Russia and Egypt grow closer as Kremlin asserts regional influence**

The National (UAE), Youssef Hamza, 2018 10 21

Cairo - A growing rapprochement between Egypt and Russia is seeing a return to a Cold War era in which Cairo was Moscow's closest and most strategic Arab ally. But as decades of mistrust come to an end and a firm alliance begins to take shape, the new dynamic has few similarities to what the world witnessed in the 50s and 60s, when Egypt relied heavily on the Soviet Union to arm and develop while it engaged in an existential fight against Israel. It was a time of global polarisation that left most non-aligned Third World nations like Egypt little choice but to join either the Soviet or US-led camp. As power dynamics shift and Washington reduces its military involvement in the Middle East, Moscow's growing role in the region - and particularly in Syria - adds geopolitical significance to the union. For Egypt, the alliance reflects President



Abdel-Fattah el Sissi's drive to win back the country's role as a regional powerhouse and benefit from Moscow's own growing standing. So far Russia has used its influence in Syria to allow Egypt to mediate a series of regional cease-fires between government forces and their opponents there - a move that has given Cairo a small foothold in a country whose future could determine the fate of the region. Syria has also come to represent a place where their shared beliefs take shape, including a zero-tolerance policy toward militant Islam and a shared conviction that a hasty departure by President Bashar Al Assad would plunge Syria into a vicious cycle of bloodshed and fragment the country. Egypt's old alliance with the Soviet Union began to unravel in 1972 when the late president Anwar Sadat ordered the expulsion of thousands of Soviet military advisers and began to inch closer to the United States.

### **Libya: Haftar to Launch Military Operation to Liberate South**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Khalid Mahmoud, 2018 10 20

Cairo - The Libyan National Army leadership stated that it is planning a wide-scope military operation in the south of the country to eradicate the Sudanese, Chad, and local opposition groups and gangs. The spokesman for the Libyan National Army, Brigadier General Ahmad al-Mesmari, said that Libyan National Army commander Khalifa Haftar is planning to eradicate Sudanese, Chad and local insurgent groups that are threatening the national and strategic security in the south. Mesmari told Asharq Al-Awsat newspaper that the army won't allow these members to use the Libyan territories as long as they threaten the country's security and stability. He added that the dilemma facing the army is the current embargo imposed by the international community against arming the Libyan National Army. The Libyan parliament called on Haftar, Thursday, to send military reinforcements urgently to Southern Libya in order to expel Chad opposition gangs that are having ongoing clashes with residents there. Moreover, Mesmari refused to respond to reports on an imminent announcement to be made on Wednesday regarding an agreement to unify the Libyan military institutions. He announced in a brief statement on his Facebook account the resumption of the meetings in Cairo among the committees of unification of the Libyan military institutions. Further, Obeidat tribe held a protest in the port of Al-Harika in Tobruk, nearby the border with Egypt, against appointing Ali Al-Issawi as the new minister of economy in the GNA.

### **Xenophobia: 9 Nigerian-Owned Shops Burnt In South Africa**

Daily Independent, 2018 10 22

South Africa - As Xenophobia on Sunday reared its ugly head again in South Africa, Nigerians have lost more than nine shops to arsonists in Hillbrow, central Johannesburg. The Publicity Secretary of Nigerian Union in South Africa, Mr Habib Miller, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on the telephone from Pretoria on Monday that South Africans allegedly committed the act. Miller said that the union had informed the Nigerian Mission in South Africa and was expecting their response to the development. Nine Nigerian businesses have been looted and burnt. The incident began on Sunday and continued till Monday, Oct. 22. Businesses affected range from restaurants, internet cafe, bar, groceries and stores. At the time of the incident, electricity in the area was cut off. One of the businesses affected is owned by Mr C.J. Ubah, a bar owner at Fife Street," he said. Miller called on the police to come to the rescue of Nigerians by protecting their lives and property. The union is monitoring the situation. We have not received any report of casualty on any Nigerian, but the situation is still tense because there are fears that the looting will resume in the night. We have also advised Nigerians in the area to adopt safety measures by being alert," Miller said. NAN reports that xenophobic attacks on Nigerians in South Africa hit a high magnitude in 2016 but it had occurred in 2015, when a series of attacks were carried out on nationals of foreign countries. In that attack nationals of Zimbabwe and Nigeria bore the brunt of the violence. That particular incident was attributed to the inciting words of the Zulu king who called on all foreigners to leave the country.

**Liberia: Locals of Lofa County Want Justice In Land Crisis After Suffering AFL Terror**

FrontPage Africa, Alaskai Moore Johnson, 2018 10 22

Monrovia, Oct. 22 – FrontPageAfrica has in its possession two letters and photographs in which Lofa citizens in Kormai Town have called on the Minister of Justice to intervene in a land crisis in which the Attorney of that county is accused of using soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) to 'terrorize' them. The first letter dated April 24, 2018, with subject: 'Letter of complaint against Cllr. J. Luther Sumo - County Attorney, Lofa County,' said on March 3, 2018, "the County Attorney terrorized and intimidated the citizens of Kormai town with armed men from the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), assigned in Voinjama City, Lofa County." Lofa County Att'y Cllr. J. Luther Sumo in chat with some of Kormai town's workers. Kormai's citizens further stated in their letter: "The armed men put the people of Kormai Town at gun point, whilst the citizens were working on a communion farm; asking them to drop their working tools on grounds that they were encroaching on government land. This action of the armed men under the command structure of the County Attorney of Lofa County (Cllr. J. Luther Sumo) led to the citizens of the town aforesaid mentioned, especially women and children to flee into the bushes overnight, since indeed the County Attorney threatened to return with a reinforcement." A follow up letter was sent on September 13, 2018, to Justice Minister Frank Musah Dean reminding him of their earlier letter but nothing had been done, according to the Kormai townspeople. "Sir, we have done several follow-ups on said complaint since April of current year and have received no redress. We have been told by Assistant Minister of Justice Mr. Wesseh A. Wesseh that the Town Chief of Kormai Town come to Monrovia for investigation into the aforesaid case."

**La Libye à la 4ème réunion sur la sécurité des frontières à N'Djamena**

PANAPRESS - Pan African News Agency, 2018 10 22

Tripoli, Libye (PANA) - La Libye va prendre part avec le Soudan, le Niger et le Tchad à la quatrième réunion sur le renforcement de la sécurité frontalière des quatre pays, prévue le 24 octobre à N'Djamena, la capitale tchadienne, et regroupant les ministres des Affaires étrangères, de la Défense, et des organes de la défense et de la sécurité intérieure. Cette réunion de deux jours a pour objectif de lutter contre le terrorisme, les mouvements suspects aux frontières, la traite des êtres humains, le trafic de drogue et les crimes transfrontaliers, et de mettre en place des projets de développement dans les zones frontalières communes, a indiqué lundi une source auprès des experts libyens devant prendre part à cette rencontre. Le terrorisme, le trafic des armes, le crime transfrontalier, la migration clandestine et la traite des êtres humaines sont florissants aux frontières communes entre ces quatre pays, ce qui constitue un défi nécessitant la conjugaison de leurs efforts pour juguler ces phénomènes qui contribuent à l'insécurité dans la région. (Rapport complet)

**Mali : un mort dans l'attaque contre une mission militaire près du Burkina Faso**

Agence Congolaise de Presse, 2018 10 21

Kinshasa, 21 octobre 2018 (ACP). - Un soldat malien a été tué et deux autres blessés samedi par des hommes armés dans la localité de Boulékessi (nord), près de la frontière burkinabè, a appris l'AFP dimanche d'une source militaire et d'un élu local. L'information sur la mort du soldat a été confirmée par un élu local, parent de la victime. Les militaires maliens sécurisaient la foire hebdomadaire de Boulékessi. Trois terroristes armés ont foncé sur eux en tirant aussitôt suivi par la riposte de l'armée régulière. Mais un militaire est mort et deux ont été gravement blessés, a déclaré cet élu. Après les premiers coups de feu, la panique a saisi le marché, entraînant la fuite de civils, selon la même source. Un renfort de l'armée est arrivé dimanche à Boulékessi, a indiqué à l'AFP une autre source militaire. Le nord du Mali était tombé en mars-avril 2012 sous la coupe de groupes jihadistes liés à Al-Qaïda, à la faveur de la déroute de l'armée face à la rébellion à dominante touareg, d'abord alliée à ces groupes qui l'ont ensuite

évincée. Les jihadistes en ont été en grande partie chassés ou dispersés à la suite du lancement en janvier 2013, à l'initiative de la France, d'une intervention militaire, qui se poursuit jusqu'à ce jour. Cependant, les violences jihadistes ont non seulement persisté, mais se sont propagées du nord vers le centre et le sud du Mali, puis au Burkina Faso et au Niger voisins, se mêlant souvent à des conflits intercommunautaires. (Rapport complet)

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## Americas • Amériques

### **Brésil: les partisans de Bolsonaro manifestent à travers le pays**

RFI, François Cardona, 2018 10 22

Rio de Janeiro - Au Brésil, à une semaine du deuxième tour de l'élection présidentielle, les partisans de Jair Bolsonaro, le candidat d'extrême droite, ont manifesté partout dans le pays. Sao Paulo, Brasilia, Rio de Janeiro, etc. Une démonstration de force alors que Jair Bolsonaro est le grand favori des sondages et devancerait largement son rival, Fernando Haddad, du Parti des travailleurs. Ils étaient des milliers à arpenter Copacabana, tous vêtus de jaune et vert, les couleurs du Brésil, désormais celles des partisans de Jair Bolsonaro. Dans la foule, de très nombreuses familles. Comme celle de Lais, femme au foyer, accompagnée de ses deux filles et de son mari ingénieur. « Bolsonaro est le seul qui puisse réparer ce pays, dit-elle, parce que le Parti des travailleurs a tout détruit. Il faut tout changer. Bien sûr, Bolsonaro commet des excès, mais les autres aussi ! Ils envoient des fake news, des mensonges pour salir injustement Bolsonaro. »

### **In Mexico there will be no Border Patrol: Durazo**

CE NoticiasFinancieras, 2018 10 21

Mexico City - Alfredo Valadez Rodríguez Correspondent La Jornada Newspaper Sunday, October 21, 2018, p. 18 Zacatecas, Zac., With Andrés Manuel López Obrador in the Presidency, the Federal Police "will not be a Border Patrol" that pursues and contains the Central American migratory wave that crosses the country in its attempt to reach the United States, said Alfonso Durazo, proposed by the president-elect to occupy the Secretariat of Public Security. To an express question, the future official said: First, there will be a security strategy at the border, but not a border police. The Federal Police will continue to take care of the responsibilities that it has throughout the country. During a visit in Zacatecas to prepare the diagnosis of the entity in matters of public safety, Durazo met privately with the PRI governor Alejandro Tello Cristerna, offered a press conference, held a meeting with relatives of victims of high-impact crimes. exchanged views - behind closed doors - with the 30 local legislators. The next official announced that in the López Obrador government will come a new purge of all the police corporations in the country to exclude corrupt agents, because, unfortunately, many fall into that crime. "According to an evaluation carried out by international organizations, at the beginning of 2000 Mexico was ranked 53rd in the world corruption ranking. Vicente Fox left the country in the 70th place; Felipe Calderón in the 100th place, and we are currently in number 134, out of 175 countries evaluated," he said. Durazo also confirmed: We are not going to revive any political police at all and the Cisen will disappear, because this organization suffered historically deviations that led it to become a police to spy on politicians, journalists, activists and businessmen.

### **Waiting to cross, more than 2,000 migrants**

CE NoticiasFinancieras, 2018 10 22

Undisclosed dateline - While 2,200 Central American migrants remained stranded on the Rodolfo Robles border bridge, between Mexico and Guatemala, waiting to be admitted by the



authorities of our country, another group of 2,000 people who crossed the fords of the Suchiate River managed to reach Tapachula, Chiapas, despite the attempts of the Federal Police and personnel of the National Institute of Migration (INM) to take them to a shelter to regularize their stay. Led by the general commissioner of the Federal Police, Manelich Castilla Craviotto, authorities of the National Institute of Migration (INM) tried unsuccessfully to stop the advance of 2,000 migrants who managed to enter Mexico through the Suchiate River, and who walked from Ciudad Hidalgo to Tapachula, Chiapas, where they were received by residents. At the cry of "Yes it was possible!" And "Help us, do not return us!", The migrants advanced this Sunday, with a temperature of 29 degrees, from Ciudad Hidalgo, passed through Metapa, and reached the Miguel Hidalgo Park. Tapachula, Castilla Craviotto said that the Interior Minister, Alfonso Navarrete, gave the instruction not to use force and conduct themselves through dialogue with the group of members of the caravan, whom they invited on several occasions to the shelters to regularize their immigration status, situation that was rejected by the majority of foreigners. According to the information provided by the National Security Commission, the contingent that advanced from Ciudad Hidalgo to Tapachula, is made up of a small number of people who entered Mexico through illegal crossings of the Suchiate River, while the bulk of the contingent were Central Americans who were not part of the caravan, but who had been wandering around our country for weeks, and now saw the opportunity to advance towards the United States. They could repatriate more than 1,500 48 hours have passed since more than 4,500 migrants from Honduras and Guatemala - women, children and older adults, including - were stationed at the Rodolfo Robles international bridge, to try to cross into Mexico and continue on their way to the United States, where they seek refuge due to the crisis of violence, insecurity and lack of employment in their countries.

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## Asia • Asie

### Canada installs Chinese underwater monitoring devices next to US nuclear submarine base

South China Morning Post, Stephen Chen, 2018 10 22

Beijing - While the eyes of the world have been on the strategic tussle between Beijing and Washington in the South China Sea, Chinese scientists, with the help of the Canadian authorities, have succeeded in positioning four monitoring devices in waters just 300km (186 miles) off the United States' Pacific coast. The instruments, which use hi-tech sensors to monitor the underwater environment, are connected to the Ocean Network Canada (ONC), a grid of marine observatories stretching from the northeast Pacific to the Arctic. While the network is operated by the University of Victoria in British Columbia, its four new additions are the property of the Sanya Institute of Deep-sea Science and Engineering, a unit of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which also developed and built them. The devices were placed on the Endeavour segment of the Juan de Fuca Ridge by a remote-controlled submersible owned by the Canadian Coast Guard on June 27. Now fully operational, they can be used to provide real-time streaming of data to the Chinese institute's control centres in Sanya, a city on the island province of Hainan, and elsewhere. While the ONC confirmed it had sited the Chinese devices within its network, it declined to provide any information about them or say how they might be used. The Chinese institute was equally reticent, and while the Canadian foreign ministry acknowledged the receipt of a request for comment it did not immediately reply. The US state department said it had "nothing to say" on the matter. Some Chinese government research websites have suggested the positioning of the monitoring devices could be a precursor to China building its own network in the region.

### **China, ASEAN build military ties for regional peace**

China Daily, Zhang Zhihao, 2018 10 22

Beijing - China is expanding military cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to ease regional tension and promote peace, not to erode the United States' long-established defense ties with countries in the region, experts said. China and the 17 other countries at the Fifth ASEAN Defense Ministers' Meeting-Plus pledged on Saturday to jointly tackle terrorism and build confidence via practical measures, according to joint statements. The meeting was attended by the defense ministers from 10 ASEAN countries and their eight partners - China, Russia, the United States, Australia, India, Japan, New Zealand and the Republic of Korea. Two joint statements were issued: Preventing and Countering the Threat of Terrorism, and Practical Confidence-Building Measures. General Wei Fenghe, state councilor and defense minister, said in his speech that the Asia-Pacific region still faces many challenges in combating terrorism and only through joint efforts can these issues be overcome. During a ninth informal meeting between China and ASEAN defense ministers on Friday, Wei said China and ASEAN countries are close neighbors and China supports building an open and inclusive regional security framework with ASEAN. Wei said the People's Liberation Army will continue to strengthen communication with its ASEAN counterparts. Actions include setting up direct telephone lines between defense authorities, holding joint military drills, cooperating in disaster-relief and rescue operations and promoting dialogues between defense think-tanks and young military officials.

### **Chinese military taking strides toward mighty force**

Xinhua News Agency, 2018 10 21

Beijing - One year after the landmark 19th Communist Party of China (CPC) National Congress, the Chinese military has taken solid strides to build powerful armed forces. When delivering a report to the 19th CPC National Congress on Oct. 18, 2017, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, said that the modernization of national defense and forces should basically be completed by 2035, adding that the country's armed forces will have been fully transformed into world-class forces by the mid-21st century. To realize these goals, Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, stressed in his report efforts to enhance the political loyalty of the armed forces, strengthen them through reform and technology, and run them in accordance with the law. Xi stressed the comprehensive strengthening of CPC leadership and Party building in the armed forces to ensure a solid political guarantee for the building of a strong military at a Central Military Commission (CMC) meeting held in August. Shortly afterward, the CMC issued a document on the decision in order to strengthen Party building in the armed forces in the new era. Defense-related science, technology and weaponry have become a focus of the development of military-civilian integration. With achievements such as the BeiDou navigation system, supercomputer Tianhe-2 and the submersible Jiaolong, the integration has been digging deep into the areas of cyberspace technology, production of high-end equipment, marine resources and the space industry.

### **2 Koreas, US-led UN Command meet again at Koreas' border**

Associated Press, 2018 10 22

Seoul - Military officers from the two Koreas and the U.S.-led U.N. Command met again at the Koreas' border village Monday to examine an ongoing effort to disarm the area. Demetallizing the Panmunjom village inside the Koreas' heavily fortified border was among many agreements the Koreas struck in September to lower military tensions between the rivals. Under the deals, troops from the Koreas began clearing mines from Panmunjom earlier this month before withdrawing weapons and guard posts there. They eventually plan to have 35 unarmed personnel from each side guard the village. Monday's trilateral talks are the second in kind in

about a week. Officially, the village is jointly overseen by North Korea and the U.N. Command, a legacy of the 1950-53 Korean War that ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty. The talks are to review the demining work and discussing future steps in the area, South Korea's Defense Ministry said in a statement. As part of the September agreements, the two Koreas are removing mines from another frontline area where they plan their first-ever joint searches for the remains of soldiers killed during the Korean War. The Koreas also plan to establish buffer zones along their land and sea boundaries, and a no-fly zone above the border. General-level officers from the Koreas are to meet at Panmunjom on Friday to discuss more details about how to implement the tension-reduction deals, according to the South Korean Defense Ministry. Also Monday, officials from the Koreas separately met at their recently launched liaison office at the North Korean border town of Kaesong for talks on how to cooperate in forestry sectors.

#### **JAD remains 'threat' despite crackdowns**

Jakarta Post, Kharishar Kahfi, 2018 10 22

Jakarta - Jamaah Ansharut Daulah (JAD), a homegrown terror group affiliated with the Islamic State (IS) group, remains a threat in the country despite recent crackdowns, the latest report by Jakarta-based Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict (IPAC) has said. The report, issued on Oct. 18, said the terror group would continue to launch attacks even though law enforcers have been searching for its members across the country following deadly suicide bombings in Surabaya, East Java, in May. "The defeats of the IS in the Middle East have not weakened the determination of IS supporters to wage war at home since they can no longer get to Syria," IPAC director Sidney Jones said. Future attacks, the IPAC said, might occur after "a period of dormancy" in which surveillance eases and complacency returns. The IPAC predicted such attacks might occur outside East Java, especially in areas around the West Java-Central Java border, such as West Java's Cirebon and Indramayu, as well as Central Java's Tegal, which was described by the researchers as regions where a "critical mass of supporters was still active", showing a high degree of militancy. The areas, the report said, have been producing terrorists since the deadly Thamrin attack in Jakarta in January 2016. Poso in Central Sulawesi also came under the spotlight in the IPAC report, especially after earthquakes and a tsunami hit the province on Sept. 28, causing several prisoners to escape. While some returned, others are still at large to date. The National Police did not return The Jakarta Post's calls for comment.

#### **Military reaffirms commitment to fight terrorism**

Manila Bulletin, Martin A. Sadongdong, 2018 10 21

Manila - The military on Saturday renewed its vow to fight terrorism in the country amid the recent apprehension of three alleged members of Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) and the surrender of three suspected remnants of the Islamic State (ISIS)-inspired Maute terrorist group in Mindanao. In Patikul, Sulu, Lt. Gen. Arnel Dela Vega, commander of Western Mindanao Command (WesMinCom), said three alleged ASG terrorists were captured in an encounter in Barangay Maligay on Thursday. The three suspects were identified as Gafur Albani Absari, Medzfar Mangabong and Madjid Mangabong who were arrested by troops of the 5th Scout Ranger Battalion under Lt. Col. Mario Jomalesa. Dela Vega congratulated the troops "for the aggressive measures taken in order to ensure that criminals will never be free to roam in the province." The three ASG terror suspects were turned over to 501st Brigade for proper disposition and filing of appropriate charges in coordination with the Sulu Provincial Police Office. Meanwhile, in Masiu, Lanao del Sur, three suspected remnants of the Maute-ISIS terrorist group surrendered to Joint Task Force Ranao on Thursday through the local government officials. Lt. Col. Edgar Villanueva, commander of the 49th Infantry Battalion, said the three Maute-ISIS suspects were subjected to custodial debriefing after they surrendered to authorities.



### **South Korea's plans for no-fly zone area along North Korean border stirs debate**

Korea Herald, 2018 10 22

Seoul - Controversy has grown over South Korea's plan to establish a no-fly zone along the border with North Korea, prompting debate over the question of building trust with Pyongyang without compromising the military's reconnaissance capabilities. The two Koreas' defence chiefs agreed last month to ban aircraft flights over the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone and the surrounding area. The agreement was signed following a summit between President Moon Jae-in and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Pyongyang on Sept 19. The Moon Jae-in administration maintains that the measure is crucial to addressing the lack of military trust between the two countries, suggesting that preventing accidental clashes between forward-deployed units is key to reducing the risk of minor skirmishes escalating into an all-out war. "No-fly zone is essentially a confidence-building measure. ... Flying so close to the border area can be a source of major accidental military clashes," President Moon's special adviser Moon Chung-in told The Korea Herald at a security forum in Seoul last week. Effective Nov 1, the two Koreas will be banned from flying fighter jets, choppers, drones and even balloons inside the no-fly zone. The zone extends 40km north and south of the Military Demarcation Line in the east and 20km in the west for fixed-wing aircraft. The Defence Ministry said while the measure limits the capability to monitor North Korea's massive front-line units, the gap can easily be bridged by more advanced reconnaissance assets employed by superior commands and US Forces Korea (USFK).

### **S. Korea's nuke envoy heads to U.S. over N.K. nuclear issue**

Yonhap News Agency, 2018 10 21

Seoul - South Korea's top nuclear envoy is set to leave for the United States on Sunday to coordinate North Korea policy with Washington, Seoul's foreign ministry said. Lee Do-hoon, the country's representative for Korean Peninsula peace and security affairs, will visit Washington D.C. from Sunday to Tuesday to meet with his U.S. counterpart, Stephen Biegun. They are expected to discuss the progress of negotiations between the United States and North Korea, including preparations for a second summit between President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said Friday he hopes to meet with his North Korean counterpart "in the next week and a half or so" to continue planning for the summit between their leaders. Pompeo made his fourth visit to Pyongyang earlier this month in an effort to revive stalled denuclearization talks with North Korea. The North is calling on the U.S. to declare an end to the 1950-53 Korean War and soften sanctions in response to Pyongyang's measures such as the demolition of its nuclear test site. But the U.S. demands more concrete steps toward denuclearization -- for example, the listing of its nuclear weapons. The two nuclear envoys may also exchange views on South Korea's hope that the U.S. could exempt inter-Korean cooperative projects from sanctions, diplomatic sources said. At high-level talks held last Monday, South and North Korea agreed to start a joint project to modernize and eventually connect their railways and roads across their borders in late November or early December.

### **US, China and Russia join Asean in pledge to fight terror**

Straits Times, Lim Min Zhang, 2018 10 21

Singapore - Asean along with partners including the US, China and Russia yesterday pledged to strengthen regional cooperation in the fight against terrorism, with Singapore Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen saying that the devastating siege of Marawi last year must never be repeated. In a joint statement issued at the end of the 5th Asean Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus), the countries, which also include Australia, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea, said they will "undertake effective measures to counter terrorism", such as sharing of information and intelligence. "We stress that terrorism can only be defeated by a sustained

and comprehensive approach at the national and international levels," the statement added. The 18 defence ministers - whose combined militaries account for 90 per cent of the world's troops - also gave their support for the world's first multilateral air guidelines to reduce the likelihood of accidents involving military aircraft. Speaking to reporters after the meeting he chaired at the Shangri-La Hotel, Dr Ng said none of the 18 defence ministers there did not view terrorism as a "real and present threat". He said all agreed that the sharing of intelligence was the most important platform on which to fight terror, which was underscored by how much, in hindsight, the Marawi threat was underestimated. On Friday, Asean adopted the "Our Eyes" initiative, an Indonesian-led counter-terrorism intelligence-sharing platform that previously was between only six Asean countries. This effort was supported by ADMM-Plus ministers in the joint statement. In a second joint statement, Asean welcomed the adoption of the air guidelines to reduce the likelihood of accidents that could escalate into a conflict.

#### **N. Korean delegation arrives in Beijing to attend military forum**

Yonhap News Agency, 2018 10 22

Beijing - North Korea's move to participate in an international military forum organized by the Chinese government is drawing keen attention, amid ongoing negotiations over its denuclearization. The North's delegation, led by Kim Hyong-ryong, vice minister of the People's Armed Forces, and Song Il-hyok, deputy director general of the Institute for Disarmament and Peace under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Beijing on Monday ahead of the opening of the 8th Beijing Xiangshan Forum later this week. Song and other delegates were escorted out of the airport by officials from the North Korean Embassy and the Chinese government after landing at Beijing's Capital International Airport on an Air Koryo flight in the morning. They reportedly plan to attend the Xiangshan Forum, which will take place at the Beijing International Convention Center from Wednesday to Friday under the sponsorship of the China Association for Military Science and the China Institute for International Strategic Studies. The theme of the annual forum this year is "Building a new type of security partnership of equality, mutual trust and win-win cooperation," the organizers said, adding that topics of discussion will include "new ideas for and new approaches to international security governance." Representatives from about 30 countries, including defense ministers of 15 countries, plan to take part in the forum. A Beijing source, pointing to the visit of Kim, in particular, said there is a possibility of North Korea and China discussing bilateral military cooperation on the sidelines of the forum.

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#### **Middle East • Moyen-Orient**

##### **Tehran says still can't understand why Canada unilaterally cut ties**

Tehran Times, Mehdi Sepahvand, 2018 10 22

Tehran - Tehran still cannot understand why Canada unilaterally severed diplomatic ties with Iran, Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi told the Tehran Times on Sunday after a former Canadian diplomat had criticized Ottawa for the current diplomatic blackout. "This still remains an unanswered question for us," Qassemi said, adding Tehran has already held several meetings with the current Canadian administration with the hope to resume relations. Dennis Horak, the former Canadian diplomat, recently criticized the country's legal system for the current state of affairs between Ottawa and Tehran. The real reason the Liberal government hasn't been able to re-establish relations with Iran is due to its adherence to a "stupid" Canadian law allowing the seizure of Iranian assets, Horak said last week. Qassemi said Tehran considers as "a bizarre precedent" the ruling by the Canadian parliament that forbids the government from pursuing talks with Iran. "Iran has on many occasions decried this law, recognizing it as a flawed innovation in international law, violating governments' immunity." The

Iranian diplomat concluded by saying that Tehran is ready for "any measures and negotiations" that could facilitate services to Iranian nationals in Canada. "The Canadian government is aware of this issue." Six years ago, the previous Conservative government of Canada abruptly severed its diplomatic relations with Iran, shuttering its embassy in Tehran and expelling Iranian diplomats from Canada. The current Liberal government campaigned in 2015 on re-establishing diplomatic relations with Iran but it has been unable to deliver on that foreign policy promise.

#### **Canada gov't lacks necessary readiness to advance ties with Iran: Spox**

Islamic Republic News Agency, 2018 10 22

Tehran - The Foreign Ministry spokesman Sunday described ties between countries as a two-way process, saying Tehran is ready to hold dialogue to offer consular services to Iranian expatriates but it seems the Canadian government is not ready to push ties with Iran.

Commenting on the latest developments in Iran-Canada ties, Bahram Qasemi said that their longstanding ties are significant for both sides. "We do not yet understand unilateral severance of ties on behalf of Canada and the question still remains unanswered," Qasemi said, noting that an enactment by the country's parliament ordering the government not to pursue talks for resuming ties is setting a strange precedence. The Islamic Republic of Iran has on several occasions protested to the law in Canada and considers it a wrong base in the international law, as it rules out the governments' immunity, Qasemi said. The official further noted that Iran has held talks since liberals came to power in the country and has voiced its readiness for opening consulates, but it seems the Canadian government lacks readiness for taking serious steps in line with promoting ties with Iran. (Full Report)

#### **ISIL Plot for Terrorist Attacks in Iran Foiled**

Fars News Agency, 2018 10 22

Tehran - The Iraqi interior ministry announced that the country's intelligence forces have defused ISIL's plots to carry out terrorist attacks in Iran, Turkey and Iraq's Suleimaniyeh province. "The intelligence team which had infiltrated the terrorist groups could provide the quadrilateral coalition of Iraq, Syria, Iran and Russia with intelligence about ISIL's moves," the head of al-Soqour intelligence group at the Iraqi interior ministry Abu Ali al-Basari was quoted as saying by Iraq's SNG news agency on Sunday. He added that the terrorists had plots to carry out terrorist attacks in Turkey, Iran and Suleimaniyeh region, noting that the numerous airstrikes launched by the Russian fighter jets in Syria foiled the ISIL plots to infiltrate Iran, Iraq, Turkey and some of the European states and operations in Raqqa and Albu Kamal in Syria. The Quadrilateral Intelligence Sharing Center, with military attachés from Iran, Russia, Iraq and Syria, is headed by the Iraqi Military Information Organization since its foundation in 2015. The Quadrilateral Intelligence Sharing Center of Iran, Russia, Iraq and Syria holds different meetings to broaden cooperation in the fight against terrorism. The participants discuss activities of the four countries in the security and intelligence fields and present security reports on countering terrorism. Tehran, Moscow, Baghdad and Damascus have stressed the need to expand cooperation between the four countries in the fight against the ISIL terrorists and other terrorist groups.

#### **Iran, Russia Force Israel into Strategic Dilemma**

The Media Line, Victor Cabrera, 2018 10 22

Tel Aviv - Iran reportedly delivered GPS components to Hizbullah in Lebanon that will allow the group to transform rudimentary projectiles into precision-guided missiles, thereby increasing the threat to Israel. Western intelligence services believe Tehran has shifted its strategy by increasingly shipping weaponry directly to its proxy in Beirut, with a view to evading Israeli air strikes. The Israel Defense Forces has over the past two years conducted hundreds of attacks



in Syria to prevent such arms deliveries. Meanwhile, Russia last week upped its military support to the Assad regime with the transfer of three S-300PM-2 missile batteries whose radar and communication technologies are more sophisticated than those of the model deployed to Syria at the beginning of the month. That move, in turn, followed the downing of a Russian reconnaissance plane by Syrian forces, an incident the Kremlin blamed on Israel which minutes before had conducted an aerial operation against an Iranian military installation in Latakia. "Russia's delivery of advanced air defense systems to Syria has emboldened Iran to ramp up its shipments of weaponry to Hizbullah," Dr. Meir Litvak, Director of the Alliance Center for Iranian Studies at Tel Aviv University, contended to The Media Line. Nevertheless, Jerusalem repeatedly has vowed to continue conducting cross-border missions, both to prevent Tehran from establishing a permanent military presence in Syria and to inhibit the Iranians from supplying Hizbullah with arms. Hizbullah has an arsenal of more than 100,000 rockets and missiles, many of them housed in residential areas to protect them from attack.

### **Moscow: 88,000 Gunmen Eliminated in Syria in 3 Years**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Raed Jaber, 2018 10 21

Moscow - Russia's Defense Minister said on Saturday that almost 88,000 members of opposition factions have been killed in Syria since Moscow's intervention to back regime forces in 2015. "Over the course of the operation, a total of more than 87,500 gunmen have been eliminated and 1,411 settlements and more than 95 percent of Syria's territory has been liberated," Sergei Shoigu was quoted as saying at the fifth Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and ASEAN eight Dialogue Partners. Most ISIS militants have been liquidated, he added, stressing that Syrian armed forces currently control territory where 96 percent of the population resides. "Russian Aerospace Defense Forces have made over 40,000 flights, including 21,000 flights in the nighttime, over the course of the operation in Syria and delivered strikes at around 122,000 terrorist facilities," he explained. "Syria is now actively engaged in restoring the peaceful life," he noted, adding that the biggest concern is to resolve humanitarian issues and return refugees and displaced people to their homes. "As a result of concerted efforts of the Russian center for reconciliation of the conflicting sides, over 2,500 settlements from all over the country have already joined the reconciliation process," the minister said. He noted that 245,000 refugees had already returned to Syria, and about 2 million people expressed a desire to return to their homeland, adding that since mid-July, some 17,000 Syrians have returned home from Lebanon and Jordan.

### **Israel's Mossad chief says high-tech not always a spy's friend**

Reuters, 2018 10 22

Jerusalem - Spying is getting harder because the same technologies that catch terrorists can sometimes uncover foreign intelligence operations, the director of Israel's Mossad said on Monday. Joseph (Yossi) Cohen delivered rare public remarks at a budget conference held by Israel's Finance Ministry. That suggested he may have emerged from the shadows to safeguard the funds and personnel allotment that, according to Israeli daily Haaretz, have made Mossad "the second largest spy organization in the West" after the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Cohen described Mossad as the tip of Israel's spear against threats like Iranian nuclear and missile projects and Iranian backing for Palestinian Islamist Hamas militants. But, outlining challenges to covert Mossad officers such as facial recognition technology and digitally enhanced identification documents, he said: "Everywhere we go, we have to take into account the fact that security services are getting stronger." For normal people, this (technology) is good. For people who don't want it so much, the matter is of course a challenge of a different order." "You can imagine that a large part of the agency's problems or challenges speak to the fact that your passport is, essentially, in your fingerprint, in your retina, or in your face," Cohen said, describing such measures as often designed primarily for counter-terrorism rather than counter-

espionage. "This arena, which very much affects us, has changed beyond recognition and is ballooning." In 2010, the United Arab Emirates accused Mossad of killing a Hamas arms procurer in Dubai and published CCTV video of the fugitive hit team as well as their forged Western passports - an embarrassment for Israel, although it declined comment.

### **Saudi Arabia and Arab allies 'band together with Israel' in joint intelligence force**

Al Araby Al Jadeed, 2018 10 22

Jerusalem - Israel is taking part in a multi-national intelligence force, based in the Jordanian capital, alongside Arab powers Saudi Arabia, Egypt and UAE in order to quash the Islamic State group, Israeli newspaper Maariv reported on Saturday. The task force is constituted of intelligence personnel and special units from 21 countries, who are sharing intelligence information related to the militant organisation, said Yossi Melman, Maariv's intelligence correspondent, quoting the French website 'Intelligence Online'. According to the website, the force includes officers from Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the UAE and Egypt working alongside Israel, the US, the UK, France, Italy and others. Named "Operation Gallant Phoenix", the international force is the first ever public show of military cooperation between Israel and Saudi Arabia, despite many observers believing there has been covert cooperation between the two powers for many years. Milman said the Saudi Army chief of staff Fayyad bin Hamad al-Rawaili, met one-to-one with his Israeli counterpart Gadi Eisenkot during a meeting of military heads in Washington last week. Milman added that Mossad chief Yossi Cohen had already taken part in a conference in New York discussing means of confronting Iran, alongside the Saudi foreign minister Adel al-Jubeir. He pointed out that Israeli weapons dealers, cyber experts and security strategists had made covert visits to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain recently. Milman also said that Israel's participation in the multi-national force alongside the Arab countries serves as recognition of Tel Aviv's ability to provide accurate and important intelligence. He also pointed out that Jordan is fast becoming the centre for the multi-national force working against IS, after the group's rise to prominence in neighbouring Syria, adding that Amman's role reflects the depth of cooperation and long-running ties between Jordan and the West.

### **Jordan's king announces return of full sovereignty as he cancels Israeli land deal**

The National (UAE), Taylor Luck, 2018 10 22

Amman - Jordan will cancel a land-annexing article in its peace treaty with Israel, King Abdullah announced on Sunday in a move celebrated by many across the country who long believed Tel Aviv had taken ties with its neighbour for granted. In a meeting with Jordanian political figures at the royal palace, King Abdullah announced his decision to terminate an agreement in the kingdom's 1994 peace treaty that allowed the Israeli government and farmers to annex Jordanian lands of Baqoura and Ghamr near the border. "Baqoura and Ghamr are Jordanian lands and will remain Jordanian and we will exercise full sovereignty over our territory," the King said as he announced the decision, a Royal Court statement reported. "In such difficult regional circumstances, our priorities are to protect our interests and do everything that is necessary for Jordan and Jordanians," the monarch added. The two areas in the fertile Jordan Valley, the breadbasket for Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian territories, are recognised Jordanian territory with temporary Israeli land ownership rights. Under the 1994 Wadi Araba treaty, Jordan recognised Israel's ownership of the lands for a 25-year-period, an arrangement that would automatically renew for another 25 years unless one side announced its decision to end the agreement one year before the renewal kicks in. What makes Baqoura, known to Israelis as Naharayim, Hebrew for "two rivers," particularly valuable is that it marks where the Yarmouk River meets the Jordan River, providing vital water supplies. Al Ghamr lies in the southern Jordan Valley. Both have been developed by Israeli farmers for decades. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry promptly informed the Israeli government of its intentions. The King even took to Twitter himself to post a rare tweet explaining the decision.

### **Donald Trump makes 'major mistake' in announcing withdrawal from arms control treaty**

The National (UAE), Campbell MacDiarmid, 2018 10 22

Undisclosed placeline - The confirmation by Donald Trump that the US will leave a Cold War-era nuclear weapons treaty with Russia is "a major mistake" and another sign of intensifying geopolitical rivalry between the two powers that increases the risk of a new weapons race, arms control experts have said. President Trump told reporters in Nevada on Saturday that the US would withdraw from the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) treaty. The agreement eliminated an entire class of ground-launched medium-range missiles with a range between 500 and 5,500 kilometres, which resulted in nearly 2,700 missiles being destroyed and helped ease a dangerous deadlock in Europe. "Russia has violated the agreement. They've been violating it for many years and I don't know why President Obama didn't negotiate or pull out," President Trump said. In July 2014, President Barack Obama accused Russia of breaching the treaty by extending the range of an existing short-range missile. Russia in turn accuses the US of breaching the treaty on several technical grounds. Both sides reject the allegations against them. In the wake of the Ukraine crisis in 2015, Russia formally withdrew from the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, another pillar of the post-Cold War security system. That treaty had aimed to prevent surprise attacks and large-scale offensive operations between Nato and Russia by setting caps on deployable troop numbers and armaments. Another significant nuclear arms reduction bilateral agreement, new START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty), is due to expire in 2021 with no talks scheduled on an extension.

### **Russia claims to have killed thousands of ISIS militants in Syria**

The National (UAE), Mina Aldroubi, 2018 10 21

Baghdad - Russia has claimed that almost 88,000 militants have been killed in Syria since Moscow intervened in backing government forces three years ago. "Over the course of the operation, a total of more than 87,500 rebels have been eliminated, 1,411 settlements have been liberated and more than 95 per cent of Syria's territory," Russian Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu said on Saturday. Moscow's air forces started launching strikes in support of President Bashar Al Assad's government in September 2015. "Most of the rebels have been liquidated," Mr Shoigu was quoted as saying at a forum in Singapore in a ministry statement. More than 40,000 bombing missions have taken place, hitting about 120,000 targets of "terrorist" infrastructure, Mr Shoigu said. The defence minister said that "Syrian armed forces currently control territory where more than 90 per cent of the population lives". Experts say the claims were yet another act of Russian propaganda. "Where does one even get a number like that? Is it simply tallying total claimed death tolls from all reported strikes, for example?," Aymenn Al Tamimi, fellow at the Middle East Forum told The National. "The statement talks about 95 per cent of Syria's territory as 'liberated'. The Syrian government certainly would not share that view in light of areas outside its formal control that have a US troop presence," he said. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a UK-based war monitoring group, says some 365,000 people have been killed during the seven-year civil war.

### **US puts \$5 million bounty on head of Al Qaeda leader in Yemen who urged attacks over Jerusalem**

The National (UAE), Staff Report, 2018 10 20

Abu Dhabi - The United States on Thursday offered a \$5 million reward to find an Al Qaeda leader in Yemen who urged worldwide attacks on Jews and Americans after Washington recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital. The Saudi-born Khalid Batarfi is a veteran of the militant fighters who backed the Taliban in Afghanistan and has become a senior leader of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, which the United States considers the global network's deadliest branch. In a video released in January, Batarfi called President Donald Trump's precedent-breaking declaration on Jerusalem "a declaration of a new Jewish-Crusader war" and



called on Muslims to "rise and attack the Jews and the Americans everywhere". The US State Department said it was offering \$5 million to anyone who could lead authorities to Batarfi or contribute to his arrest or prosecution. The US also raised from \$5 million to \$10 million the reward offered for Qasim Al Rimi, considered the emir of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. He is already under US and UN sanctions after being linked to a deadly 2008 attack outside the US embassy in Yemen and for his alleged support to Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the so-called underwear bomber who unsuccessfully tried to blow up a US-bound flight on Christmas Day in 2009. Formed by the 2009 merger of Al Qaeda's Saudi and Yemen operations, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula took advantage of the national disarray caused by Houthi advances in 2015. The group carved out its own territory despite being frequently targeted by US drones. Special Yemeni forces, backed by UAE and Saudi Arabian forces, have since driven Al Qaeda fighters out of most of their southern Yemen strongholds - including the city of Mukalla. But local commanders warn the group still poses a threat through its network of sleeper cells.

### **Iran Arms Shipments to Hezbollah Pass through Doha**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Staff Report, 2018 10 21

Undisclosed placeline - Iran has been increasing its shipments of advanced weaponry to the Lebanese "Hezbollah" party, deliveries that now include Global Positioning System (GPS) components to make previously unguided rockets into precision guided-missiles, said American and western intelligence sources according to a Fox News report. One of the Iranian flights arrived in Lebanon three days ago, officials tell Fox News. Iran's Fars Air Qeshm flight number QFZ-9950 departed Tehran International Airport on Tuesday at 9:33 am local time, and flew to an unknown destination, according to flight data obtained by Fox News. Later in the day, the Boeing 747 jet touched down in Syria's capital Damascus before continuing on to Beirut, arriving just past 2 pm. On Wednesday evening, the Iranian cargo plane departed Beirut for Doha, Qatar arriving just after midnight local time, and returned to Iran's capital Thursday at 6:31 pm. Western intelligence sources said the Iranian cargo plane carried weapons components, including GPS devices to make precision-guided weapons in Iranian factories inside Lebanon. The United States and Israel, as well as other western intelligence agencies, have offered evidence that Iran has operated similar weapons factories in Syria and Yemen, in addition to Lebanon, said Fox News. Western sources told Fox News the weapons components from this week's chartered 747 flight from Tehran were bound for these Hezbollah secret sites near the Beirut airport to target Israel in the future.

### **Hamas Caps Confrontations Level on Border**

Asharq Al-Awsat, Kifah Zaboun, 2018 10 20

Ramallah - Hamas has limited confrontations' level on the border of Gaza Strip with Israel on the 30th Friday of "Great March of Return and Breaking the Siege", in what seems to be a response to the UN and Egyptian efforts to settle the situation in the strip. "The most important message tomorrow is the masses gathering in a peaceful manner," Khaled al-Batsh, a senior leader of Palestinian Islamic Jihad and an organizer of the march, wrote in a statement. "The March of Return is continuing until its goals are attained," he wrote, calling on participants not to give Israeli snipers a reason to open fire at them. Egypt, in cooperation with UN's Middle East peace coordinator Nickolay Mladenov, sponsors discussions with Hamas and Israel for the sake of restoring calm and alleviating siege imposed by Israel on the sector for a decade. Director general of the Egyptian General Intelligence Directorate Ayman Badie met Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh then traveled to Israel to meet National Security Adviser Meir Ben-Shabbat and senior officials in Shin Bet within the ongoing communication procedure to reach calm in Gaza. The Israeli military was on high alert Friday ahead of the clashes expected afternoon and evening, coming two days after a rocket with a 20-kilogram warhead exploded outside a house in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba early Wednesday morning. Reliable sources told Asharq Al-

Awsat that Israel insists on facilitation in the crossings' operation in return for calm, but a long-term agreement entails first the return of detained Israeli soldiers and citizens.

#### **Nasrallah: Saudi cover for Yemen war collapsing**

Lebanon Daily Star, Staff Report, 2018 10 20

Beirut - Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah Friday used controversy around the disappearance of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi to call on Saudi Arabia to end its involvement in the war in Yemen, adding that the kingdom's image had been severely damaged. During a televised speech that touched on domestic and regional matters, Nasrallah addressed the disappearance of Khashoggi earlier this month, saying that Hezbollah and the "axis of the resistance" had refrained from taking political advantage of the situation, despite the accusations facing Saudi Arabia. Khashoggi, a U.S. resident and Washington Post columnist critical of Riyadh's policies, disappeared on Oct. 2 after entering the Saudi consulate in Istanbul. Turkish reports say the journalist was murdered and dismembered inside the consulate. Saudi Arabia has denied any involvement in the case. Nasrallah suggested that the controversy caused by Khashoggi's disappearance was calling attention to Saudi Arabia's involvement in the war in Yemen. An Arab coalition intervened in Yemen in 2015 to support President Abed Rabbou Mansour Hadi's government against the Iran-backed Houthi rebels. "I want to address Saudi Arabia and Saudi leaders and [tell them] that today is the right time to take a courageous decision to stop the war on Yemen," Nasrallah said. "They should be aware that the international cover that they had in the war on Yemen is beginning to collapse, especially after this incident. Saudi Arabia's image in the world is in a worse position than at any point in the past hundred years."

#### **75 Al Houthis killed in Hodeida attacks**

Gulf News, Ramadan Al Sherbini, 2018 10 22

Aden - Seventy-five Iran-allied Al Houthi militiamen were killed in a series of air strikes by an Arab alliance and fighting with the government forces in the port city of Hodeida, military sources said Sunday. An "elaborate" coalition air raid targeted a meeting of Al Houthi commanders in the Red Sea city and killed at least 15 of them and injured others, sources in the pro-government forces, the Giants Battalions said. Coalition jets, meanwhile, targeted the militants' positions and reinforcements in the district of Al Durayhimi south of Hodeida, leaving more than 30 Al Houthis dead, they said. Fierce clashes also raged between the Giants Brigades and Al Houthi militias on the outskirts of Al Durayhimi, killing 30 more extremists. The fighting erupted after Al Houthis made an attempt to infiltrate the government forces' positions in the area, according to the sources. In recent weeks, government forces, supported by the coalition's air power, have intensified their bombardment of Al Houthi rebels in and around Hodeida, which has been under the militants' control since October 2014. Hodeida in western Yemen is strategically important because of its harbour, which is a lifeline for millions of Yemenis, as most of the commercial imports and relief supplies enter through it to the country. The coalition accuses Al Houthis of taking advantage of their control of the port to obtain weapons from their Iranian patrons as well as confiscate aid intended for Yemenis in order to sustain their war efforts.

#### **King Salman sacks intelligence officers, advisor to the court**

Gulf News, Habib Toumi, 2018 10 21

Manama - King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud has relieved Ahmad Bin Hassan Bin Mohammad Asiri, the Vice-President of General Intelligence, and Saud Bin Abdullah Al Qahtani, Advisor to the Royal Court, of their posts. In a second order, King Salman terminated the services of Assistant Chief of General Intelligence, Maj. Gen. Mohammad Bin Saleh Al Rumaih,

Assistant to the Head of General Intelligence for Human Resources, Major General Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Shaya and the Director of the General Directorate of Security and Protection at the General Intelligence General Rashad Bin Hamed Al Mohammadi. The sacking of the high-ranking officers and official was announced shortly after the kingdom's Attorney General said that Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi died during a fistfight at the general consulate in Istanbul. "Preliminary investigations carried out by the Public Prosecution Office in the disappearance of Saudi citizen Jamal Bin Ahmad Khashoggi revealed that the discussions that took place between him and the persons who met him during his presence at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul led to a brawl and a fist fight, which led to his death, may his soul rest in peace," the Attorney General said in a statement. "The Public Prosecutor's Office affirms that its investigations continue in this case with 18 detainees so far, all of whom Saudi nationals, in order to uncover and announce all the facts, and to hold accountable all those involved in this case and bring them to justice."

### **Khashoggi case to be tried in Saudi courts**

Gulf News, Habib Toumi, 2018 10 22

Manama - The case of slain Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi will be looked at by Saudi courts as the kingdom's judiciary has full autonomy to deal with it, Saudi Arabia's justice minister has said. The incident occurred inside the Saudi consulate, which is considered Saudi soil, and the judicial process will take place in Saudi Arabia, Waleed Al Samaani said. Riyadh early on Saturday said Khashoggi was killed in a brawl on October 2 at its general consulate in Istanbul. So far, 18 suspects, all Saudi nationals, have been arrested in Saudi Arabia as the investigation into the killing continues. King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz sacked the deputy head of the intelligence services, a senior advisor at the Royal Court and three senior officers. He also gave directives to form an ad-hoc commission to restructure and overhaul the Saudi Intelligence Presidency. The commission, chaired by Crown Prince Mohammad Bin Salman, comprises the ministers of interior and foreign affairs, the head of the Royal Court, the head of the intelligence services, the head of state security and two more members with vast experience in intelligence and security services. "The directives and decisions ordered by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques following the sad and painful incident that resulted in the death of Jamal Khashoggi are a continuation of the state's approach to strengthening justice in accordance with the tolerant Sharia, and the leaders' interest in all citizens and their safety and well-being everywhere," Al Samaani said.

### **Iraqi intelligence penetrates IS group, foils attacks in many countries: report**

Xinhua News Agency, 2018 10 22

Baghdad - Russia-led coalition in Syria launched effective airstrikes against Islamic State (IS) militants in Syria based on reports of the Iraqi intelligence after its members penetrated IS group, an Iraqi newspaper reported on Sunday. The coalition also thwarted plans by the extremist militants to carry out attacks in several countries, state-owned al-Sabah newspaper said. The Russia-led coalition, including Iraq, Iran and Syria, killed dozens of IS militants in airstrikes on their positions in Hajin area in eastern Syria recently. Abu Ali al-Basri, head of intelligence office in Iraqi Interior Ministry, said "the Iraqi intelligence which penetrated the terrorist organization, provided the Russia-led coalition with intelligence information about the positions and movement of Daesh (IS group) militants," the newspaper quoted Basri as saying. The Iraqi intelligence unveiled plans by IS group to carry out attacks in Turkey, Iran and al-Sulaimaniyah province in northeastern Iraq, Basri said. "A series of airstrikes by Russian aircraft, based on reports from the Iraqi intelligence service named al-Suqour Cell, also foiled Daesh's plans to infiltrate into Iraq, Iran, Turkey and European countries," Basri added. "The extremist organization is planning to recruit IS militants who fled their former strongholds in Syria and Iraq, in order to send them to Turkey, France, Eastern Asia and North Africa," Basri



confirmed. "The fled terrorists are from different nationalities, including Arabs," Basri said, adding "the Iraqi intelligence provided the targeted countries with the names of the terrorists."

#### **Israël détient Adnan Gheith, le gouverneur palestinien de Jérusalem**

RFI, Marine Vlahovic, 2018 10 22

Les Territoires palestiniens - Adnan Gheith, représentant de Jérusalem-Est pour le compte de l'Autorité Palestinienne a été placé en garde à vue par Israël. Selon son avocat, ce responsable politique est soupçonné d'avoir participé à l'enlèvement d'un Palestinien, sur fond d'affaire immobilière. Adnan Gheith, le gouverneur palestinien de Jérusalem a été arrêté samedi soir par les forces de sécurité israéliennes. Quelques heures plus tôt, Jihad Al Faqeeh, le chef des services secrets palestiniens à Jérusalem-Est a connu le même sort. Tous deux sont soupçonnés d'avoir participé à l'enlèvement d'un résident palestinien de la ville trois fois sainte. Ce qu'ils nient précisent leurs avocats. Selon les médias israéliens, cette personne portée disparue qui possède également la nationalité américaine était activement recherchée pour son implication dans la vente de biens immobiliers à des juifs dans la vieille ville de Jérusalem ; l'homme est détenu depuis maintenant deux semaines dans les geôles de l'Autorité palestinienne.

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#### **Eastern Europe • Europe de l'Est**

##### **Kremlin vows to respond to US pullout from INF by measures to restore military balance**

TASS, 2018 10 22

Moscow - Russia's possible response to the US withdrawal from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF Treaty) will be measures on restoring military balance, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters on Monday. "The breaking of the INF Treaty's provisions forces Russia to take measures on ensuring its own security," Peskov said, noting that in the future Washington would start directly developing the systems banned under the treaty. "If this system is developed, steps from other countries, and in this case of Russia, on restoring balance in this sphere are needed," he said. Russian President Vladimir Putin has stated this many times, Peskov noted. The Kremlin spokesman stressed that the US is in violation of the treaty, while Russia remains committed to the document. "President Putin on various occasions has rejected all accusations against Russia pertaining to violations of the INF Treaty," he said.

##### **Kyiv Appeal Court Orders Detention Of Olympic Champion Podkopayeva's Ex-Husband Nahornyi Without Option Of Bail**

Ukrainian News, Serhii Bosak, 2018 10 22

Kyiv - On Monday, the Kyiv Appeal Court has ordered detention of Tymofii Nahornyi, ex-husband of Ukrainian Olympic Champion Lilia Podkopayeva, without an option of a bail. Olena Hytlanska, the spokesperson of the Security Service of Ukraine, said this to Ukrainian News Agency. According to her, the Kyiv Appeal Court considered a motion of prosecutors on Monday and satisfied it. As Ukrainian News Agency earlier reported, the Security Service of Ukraine says the Federal Security Service (FSB) of Russia has recruited Tymofii Nahornyi. Nahornyi was released from a remand prison on paying UAH 0.5 million of bail. He is suspected of high-treason. (Complete report)

**FSB recruited businessman Nahorny to create political party to destabilize situation in Ukraine - SBU, Intelligence Service**

Interfax: Ukrainian General Newswire, 2018 10 22

KYIV. Oct 22 (Interfax-Ukraine) - A spokesman for the State Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and the Main Directorate of Intelligence of Ukraine's Defense Ministry has announced that Tymofiy Nahorny, a businessman, a volunteer, and former husband of [1996 Olympic champion] Liliya Podkopyayeva, had been given an assignment by the Federal Security Service (FSB) of the Russian Federation to establish a political party in Ukraine to promote Russia's foreign policy interests and destabilize the situation in Ukraine. "During the pretrial investigation, which is being conducted by the SBU's Investigation Department in the City of Kyiv and Kyiv Region under the procedural administration by the Kyiv City Prosecutor's Office, we received information that the above-mentioned public figure had been recruited by the Russian FSB," Oleh Valendiuk, head of the SBU's Main Directorate in Kyiv and Kyiv region announced at a news briefing in Kyiv on October 22. He said that Nahorny was assigned by his handlers from the FSB to establish and develop a political party as an instrument to promote Russia's foreign policy interests and as an element for the destabilization of the situation in Ukraine. "That entity was supposed to take part in the elections, lobby for and protect the interests of Russia, prevent Ukraine's entry into the EU and NATO, and call for granting the Russian language an official state language status in our country," Valendiuk said. (Complete report)

**Lithuanian intelligence body allocated EUR 7.7 mln to finish its building complex**

Baltic Daily - Political/Social News, Saulius Jakucionis, 2018 10 22

VILNIUS, Oct 22, BNS - The Lithuanian state investment program earmarks more than 7.7 million euros for completing the construction of a complex of buildings of the State Security Department, or VSD. Next year's draft central government budget, which has been recently submitted to the parliament for approval, provides over 1.9 million euros for the complex under construction in Vilnius' Pilaite neighborhood. Another 5.8 million euros are to be allocated for the project in 2020. VSD would give no details about how exactly the money would be spent. "The state investment project is slated for completion by 2020. I can't offer any further comment because this is classified information," Aurelija Katkuvienė, the intelligence agency's spokeswoman, told BNS. The total cost of the project was earlier estimated at 80.5 million euros. VSD says its new complex complies with NATO's modern security level standards. (Complete report)

**Ukraine says Russia enlisted activist to set up loyal party**

BBC Monitoring Ukraine & Baltics (Ukrayinska Pravda), 2018 10 22

The Security Service [SBU] has said that [Ukrainian] businessman and civil activist Tymofiy Nahorny was supposed to set up a political party to promote Russia's interests. "On the task from FSB supervisors, the civil activist had to set up and develop a political party as an instrument of promoting Russia's foreign policy interests and an element of destabilising the situation in Ukraine," the head of the SBU directorate in Kiev and the Region, Oleh Valendyuk, told a briefing [in Kiev on 22 October]. According to the investigation, Nahorny's political force was supposed to participate in the election. Lobbying Russia's interests was supposed to consist of preventing Ukraine from joining the EU and Nato and raising the issue of granting the Russian language the official status. According to the SBU, Russia's FSB recruited Nahorny. Ukrainian law enforcers provided video records allegedly showing the businessman talking about being detained and recruited in Moscow. The suspect has been in contact with Russian special services since 2013.

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## Western Europe • Europe de l'Ouest

### **Grèce: des anarchistes s'en prennent à l'ambassade du Canada, dégâts**

Agence France Presse, 2018 10 21

Athènes - Des membres d'un groupe anarchiste grec ont détérioré, tôt dimanche matin, la façade de l'ambassade du Canada à Halandri, banlieue nord d'Athènes, pour protester contre les actions d'une compagnie canadienne d'or présente dans le nord du pays, selon la police. Personne n'a été blessé, selon la même source. Les attaquants, au nombre d'une dizaine, ont également jeté de la peinture rouge sur la façade et ont très vite pris la fuite, selon l'Agence de presse grecque, Ana. Selon une vidéo diffusée sur internet, l'action été revendiquée par "La collectivité anarchiste Rubicon" pour protester contre "le soutien de l'ambassade aux compagnies canadiennes d'or" comme Eldorado Gold, présente dans le nord de la Grèce. De nombreuses manifestations contre les investissements controversés de cette compagnie ont eu lieu ces dernières décennies en Grèce ainsi que de nombreux recours à la justice grecque, des habitants et des ONG l'accusant de dommages environnementaux. Rubicon a revendiqué de nombreuses actions ces dernières années en Grèce, commises souvent par des groupes d'une dizaine ou vingtaine de personnes, contre des bâtiments publics, des sociétés, des banques et des ambassades, provoquant des dégâts mais pas de blessés. La police procède sporadiquement à des arrestations. La dernière action en date de même genre avait eu lieu le 17 septembre contre l'ambassade d'Iran, visant à exprimer, "la solidarité" du groupe avec "les Kurdes d'Iran". (Rapport complet)

### **Angela Merkel puts on hold arms sales to Saudi Arabia**

Deutsche Welle, Ben Knight, 2018 10 21

Berlin - German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Sunday that Germany would put arms exports to the kingdom on hold for the time being, given the unexplained circumstances of dissident journalist Jamal Khashoggi's death. The chancellor said Riyadh had not put the full facts of Khashoggi's demise "on the table." "First, we condemn this act in the strongest terms," she told a press conference after speaking to members of her Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party. "Second, there is an urgent need to clarify what happened — we are far from this having been cleared up and those responsible held to account." "Thirdly, I agree with all those who say that the, albeit already limited, arms exports can't take place in the current circumstances," she said.

### **Invisible and dangerous: The Salafist scene in North Rhine-Westphalia**

Deutsche Welle, 2018 10 22

Berlin - There are more Salafists in North Rhine-Westphalia than in any other German state. The scene has all but vanished from the public eye in its stronghold. But it is still very active, as DW is told by numerous sources. "Speak after me," the red-bearded German convert and Salafist preacher Pierre Vogel says as he publicly summons the young woman. Cheered on by an enthusiastic crowd in the pedestrian zone of the western city of Offenbach, she does exactly that, and repeats the words of the Islamic profession of faith. That was in 2010. The conversion was filmed and uploaded to YouTube — just one example of the many videos shared online from the heydays of Salafist missionary work in Germany. Until 2016, the scene had a self-confident and sometimes aggressive public appearance. Bearded men in baggy pants and flowing white robes such as Pierre Vogel regularly distributed free German-language editions of the Koran in market squares and pedestrian zones. As part of their "LIES!" campaign (German for "Read"), key figures of Germany's Salafist scene publicly preached their radical interpretation of Islam as converts were invited to join "Islam seminars" up and down the country. Vogel's people also offered leisure activities such as barbecues and football in an effort to create a parallel Islamic society. Today there are no more "LIES!" booths on German market



squares. In 2016, the Ministry of the Interior banned the Salafist association The True Religion, which had organized the national Koran distribution campaign. The association, as Germany's domestic intelligence agency, the BfV, wrote at the time, "represented an ideology that strikes out the constitutional order without replacement, advocated armed jihad and represented a unique recruitment and collection basin for jihadi Islamists in Germany as well as for those who wanted to leave for Syria or Iraq out of jihadi Islamist motivation." Since the ban, radical Salafists have avoided public gatherings. But they have not disappeared. "Most activities take place beyond the field of vision of the majority of society," notes Kaan Ormion, a consultant for the deradicalization agency Hayat, which works throughout Germany.... Overall, the Salafist scene in Germany has changed considerably since its beginnings in 2003 and 2004, says the BfV's Freier. "In the beginning, we mainly had a German-speaking scene. The primary goal in the early stages was missionary work." Many of the protagonists at that time had previously been "religious illiterates" who knew very little about Islam — even if their parents were Muslim. In the ensuing years the scene has become more and more violent. "The climax was reached with the many trips in the direction of Syria, when it was no longer about changing our democracy, but about establishing a caliphate state in the Middle East," Freier explains. With the military decline of IS, Freier has observed the formation of "whole Salafist families" who are "gradually consolidating the scene. We now have a Salafism here, which no longer needs a caliphate state, and which needs no ideologization from outside. It is developing more and more into a domestic extremism." The scene has closed itself further off from mainstream society. Families grow into networks. Missionary work happens privately and indoors — in contrast to the past, when new Salafist converts recited the profession of faith openly in German market places. On Tuesday, read part II of our series on Salafism: From Germany to Islamic State: Christian's journey

#### **Gauche et droite, des extrêmes fichés**

La Nouvelle Gazette, 2018 10 21

Charleroi - Les noms d'une vingtaine de militants d'extrême gauche et d'extrême droite figurent sur la liste de l'OCAM, rapportent Het Nieuwsblad, Gazet van Antwerpen, Het Belang van Limburg et De Standaard samedi. Les compétences de la liste de l'OCAM ont été étendues par décret royal. La base de données ne se concentre plus exclusivement sur les musulmans radicalisés. Depuis lors, les noms de 23 personnes ont été ajoutés à cette liste, dont seize sympathisants de l'extrême gauche et sept autres d'extrême droite. Dans la première catégorie, il s'agit d'anarchistes violents du groupe francophone « La Cavale », qui sont poursuivis par le parquet. Ils s'opposent en particulier à la construction de la prison de Haren. Du côté de l'extrême droite, on retrouve un homme de Flandre Orientale, chef de file du groupe néo-nazi « Bloed, Bodem, Eer en Trouw. » Il a été condamné à quatre ans de prison pour terrorisme. Dries Van Langenhove, le fondateur de Schild en Vrienden, ne semble pas figurer sur cette liste, selon les titres de Mediahuis. Au même titre que la Sûreté de l'Etat, l'OCAM tient logiquement à l'œil les groupes extrémistes. « Dans le cadre du plan radicalisme, la Sûreté de l'Etat coopère avec d'autres services en vue de suivre les menaces venant de l'extrême droite, notamment au sein d'un groupe de travail au niveau national et au sein des task forces locales », avait ainsi avoué Koen Geens voici peu. « L'objectif est d'étendre la banque de données commune Foreign Terrorists Fighters en englobant celle des Homegrown Terrorists Fighters, comprenant le terrorisme d'extrême gauche et d'extrême droite. L'extrême droite, en Europe et en Amérique du Nord, a commis ou commandé une dizaine d'attentats ces deux dernières années. Certains d'entre eux ont pu être déjoués. » (Rapport complet)

#### **Le mentor de Fouad Belkacem libéré**

Le Soir, Ludvine Ponciau, 2018 10 20

Wallonie - Le prédicateur londonien a aussi été condamné en Belgique. Il avait aidé le leader de Sharia4Belgium à développer son organisation terroriste. Le prédicateur radical Anjem Choudary, condamné en 2016 à cinq ans et demi de prison par la justice britannique pour avoir appelé à soutenir l'État islamique, a quitté la prison de Belmarsh, dans le sud-est de Londres, vendredi matin. Cet avocat d'origine pakistanaise de 51 ans avait appelé à soutenir le groupe radical dans une série de vidéos postées sur YouTube après avoir prêté allégeance au chef de l'Ei, Abou Bakr al-Baghdadi. La justice considère également qu'il a participé à la radicalisation d'une centaine de jeunes Britanniques mais que son influence s'était étendue bien au-delà, notamment aux Pays-Bas, en France et en Belgique. Considéré comme l'une des dernières grandes figures du « Londonistan », la mouvance radicale islamiste de Londres, Anjem Choudary est également bien connu des services de police et de renseignements belges et français qui l'avaient d'ailleurs interrogé au cours de sa détention. Selon une étude menée par le groupe de défense antiraciste anglais Hope Not Hate et appuyée par un expert de la lutte contre la radicalisation, certains djihadistes recrutés par le prédicateur ont perpétré ou tenté de perpétrer des attaques terroristes chez eux et à l'étranger... Choudary a été libéré après avoir purgé la moitié de sa peine (celle infligée lors de sa condamnation en 2016). Toujours considéré comme l'un des terroristes les plus dangereux d'Angleterre, il sera soumis à un régime de surveillance pour le temps restant, avec une série de restrictions. Il lui est interdit de prêcher et de se rendre dans les mosquées. Il ne peut disposer que d'un seul téléphone et ne pourra surfer sur internet qu'après en avoir obtenu la permission. Il ne sera autorisé à fréquenter que les personnes pour lesquelles les autorités auront marqué leur accord. Évidemment, il lui est interdit de quitter le territoire.

**Surveillance footage shows Saudi 'body double' in Khashoggi's clothes after he was killed, Turkish source says**

CNN, Staff reporters, 2018 10 22

Istanbul — A member of the 15-man team suspected in the death of Jamal Khashoggi dressed up in his clothes and was captured on surveillance cameras around Istanbul on the day the journalist was killed, a senior Turkish official has told CNN. CNN has obtained exclusive law enforcement surveillance footage, part of the Turkish government's investigation, that appears to show the man leaving the consulate by the back door, wearing Khashoggi's clothes, a fake beard, and glasses. The same man was seen in Khashoggi's clothing, according to the Turkish case, at the city's world-famous Blue Mosque just hours after the journalist was last seen alive entering the consulate on October 2. The man in the video, identified by the official as Mustafa al-Madani, was allegedly part of what investigators have said was a hit squad, sent to kill the journalist at the Saudi consulate during a scheduled appointment to get papers for his upcoming wedding. Saudi Arabia has presented a shifting narrative of what happened to Khashoggi. After weeks of denying involvement in Khashoggi's disappearance, Saudi Arabia said that he was killed in the Istanbul consulate, saying his death was the result of a "fistfight." A Saudi source close to the royal palace later told CNN that the Washington Post journalist died in a chokehold. On Sunday, its foreign minister, Adel al-Jubeir, went further, describing Khashoggi's death on Fox News as a "murder" and a "tremendous mistake." He also said they "don't know where the body is." "We are determined to uncover every stone. We are determined to find out all the facts. And we are determined to punish those who are responsible for this murder," he said in the interview.

**Turkey issues Interpol 'red notice' for prominent journalists in exile**

The National (UAE), Andrew Wilks, 2018 10 21

Istanbul - Journalism in Turkey has come under renewed scrutiny after an Istanbul court issued an international arrest warrant for two prominent writers living overseas. In a hearing against journalists linked to the Cumhuriyet newspaper, the 27th High Criminal Court said it would

request the issuance of Interpol "red notices" for Can Dunder and Ilhan Tanir. The order notifies all Interpol member states that the individual has pending arrest warrants. Mr Dunder, the newspaper's former editor-in-chief, and Mr Tanir, its ex-Washington correspondent, currently live in Germany and the US respectively. In April, more than a dozen Cumhuriyet staff were convicted of supporting groups such as the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), the far-left Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front and the Gulenist movement, which Ankara holds responsible for a 2016 coup attempt. All three are listed as terrorist organisations in Turkey. Mr Dunder, Turkey's most prominent journalist-in-exile, dismissed the court's demand for the notices, which are issued by Interpol at the request of a member state, and he said the agency would disregard it because "they know the real intentions" of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Turkish courts have called for Mr Dunder to be extradited on at least two occasions since he went to Europe in the wake of his May 2016 conviction for revealing state secrets in a Cumhuriyet article documenting the transport of arms to Syria by Turkey's spy agency. Since the July 2016 attempted coup, Turkey has emerged as the world's top jailer of journalists with 73 behind bars in 2017, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists.

**Exclusive: Turkey believes MBS bodyguard took Khashoggi body part to Riyadh**

Middle East Eye, Staff Report, 2018 10 21

Istanbul - Turkish authorities believe part of Jamal Khashoggi's body was transported out of Turkey by one of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's bodyguards, sources have told Middle East Eye. Maher Abdulaziz Mutrib, an intelligence officer implicated in the killing of the Saudi journalist, is thought to have taken the body part out in a large bag, the sources said. Mutrib, who is often seen travelling with the heir to the Saudi throne, left Istanbul on 2 October, the day of Khashoggi's death, on a private jet that departed at 18:20 local time. His bags were not checked as he passed through the VIP lounge at Ataturk airport and neither was the plane, with tail registration HZ-SK1. This was because the plane left before the alarm was raised. A second plane was searched from top to bottom and nothing was found, according to the sources. Mutrib, who carried a diplomatic passport, appeared to be in a hurry, they said. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan vowed on Sunday to reveal the "naked truth" over the killing of Khashoggi, saying that he would make a new statement on the case on Tuesday. "We are looking for justice here and this will be revealed in all its naked truth, not through some ordinary steps but in all its naked truth," Erdogan told a rally in Istanbul. Erdogan held a phone call with US President Donald Trump on Sunday where the two leaders agreed the Khashoggi case needed to be clarified "in all its aspects," a Turkish presidential source said. Saudi Arabia, which on Friday finally admitted after 17 days that its officials had killed Khashoggi, says it does not know the body's whereabouts. Anonymous Saudi officials have told media that the body was rolled into a carpet and handed to a "local collaborator" to be disposed of. However, on Sunday a Turkish source told MEE that Khashoggi's body was cut into 15 pieces.

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## EXECUTIVE MEDIA SUMMARY / SOMMAIRE EXÉCUTIF DES NOUVELLES

Friday, October 26, 2018 / le vendredi, 26 octobre 2018

07:30 / 7h30

### Top Stories / Faits-saillants

**Huawei lobbies MPs to thwart U.S. 5G boycott effort.** Key executives at Huawei Canada have been lobbying members of Parliament from all parties in an effort to convince them that the Chinese telecom giant does not pose a national security threat to Canada, according to the federal lobbying registry. The lobbying campaign began in late August after Australia followed the lead of the United States and blocked Huawei from providing equipment for its 5G mobile network. Earlier this month, two members of the U.S. Senate select intelligence committee - Republican Marco Rubio and Democrat Mark Warner - wrote to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, urging him to ban Huawei from providing the next-generation mobile technology. Huawei vice-president of corporate affairs Scott Bradley and Jake Enwright, director of corporate affairs, have been seeking out meetings with members on the House of Commons public safety and national security committee and other MPs. Mr. Bradley is a former Liberal candidate whose company is a sponsor of the Liberal-connected Canada 2020 think tank, while Mr. Enwright is a former communications director to Conservative Leader Andrew Scheer. Conservative MP... The lobbying registry shows Huawei executives met with eight MPs - six Liberals, one Conservative and one NDP. The most recent meeting on the registry took place on Oct. 4. Mr. Kent said the Huawei executives played down any national security concerns about Huawei and insisted the testing of Huawei equipment in what are referred to as "white labs" overseen by the **Communications Security Establishment** is adequate. In their letter to Mr. Trudeau, the U.S. senators raised the prospect that a Canadian embrace of Huawei technology in its 5G networks could affect the sharing of sensitive and confidential information between the Five Eyes intelligence-sharing allies. Canada, the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand constitute the Five Eyes, which allows police, prosecutors and spies in the member countries to exchange information to prevent espionage and terrorism. Liberal MP John McKay, chair of the committee on public safety and national security, said the two executives stressed to him that there is no need to bar Huawei from providing 5G equipment in Canada. "They feel that Australia made a mistake and that this is not the way to go," he said. "Their argument is that they have been in business in Canada for more than 10 years, that they have a working relationship with the **Communications Security Establishment [CSE]** and that they feel that they have complied with everything."... Mr. Dubé said he was not entirely reassured when **Scott Jones**, the new head of the **CSE's Cyber Security Centre**, told MPs last month that the federal government has a robust system of testing facilities for Huawei equipment and software to prevent security breaches - one he suggested is superior to those of some of Canada's allies. Mr. Jones also said Ottawa is leery about excluding firms such as Huawei because it believes reducing the number of telecom equipment suppliers would mean Canada would be more vulnerable if one vendor's equipment was infected.... **The chiefs of six U.S. intelligence agencies and three former heads of Canada's spy services have said publicly they consider Huawei one of the world's top cyberintelligence threats** and that its 5G technology could be used to conduct remote spying, maliciously modify or steal information or even shut down systems. *Globe and Mail* (No public link available/liens public non-disponible)

**Travel ban worried Canadian agency. Officials were concerned Trump order would allow U.S. to spy on Canada.** Donald Trump's 2017 attempt to ban travel from Muslim-majority countries sent Canada's electronic spies scrambling to understand its impact on their operations - and the long-standing alliance with their U.S. counterpart. The **Communications Security Establishment** was sufficiently concerned that they asked for assurances from their U.S.

partners, the National Security Agency, that the wording of Trump's executive order would not allow the Americans to spy on Canada. At issue was the section of the attempted travel ban, revealed by Trump in January 2017, that suggested U.S. privacy laws should only apply to U.S. citizens and permanent residents. **On the day the ban was announced, one CSE manager wrote that their staff asked if that undermined the long-standing agreement between Canada and the U.S. to not "undertake activities" - spy - on each other. "Essentially the question was 'does this mean that the U.S. will not abide by the agreement that we do not undertake activities against our partners?'"** the manager, whose name has been censored from the documents, wrote. The answer was a resounding no. But it's notable that the agency even had to ask. Canada and the U.S. are part of the Five Eyes alliance, a tightly-knit intelligence alliance that dates back to the Second World War. "It is important to note that this executive order focused on the implementation of immigration laws within the U.S.," **CSE spokesperson Evan Koronewski** in an email to the Star. **"CSE did not expect it to impact the National Security Agency's commitment to the Five Eyes relationship ... and sought confirmation from the NSA.** (The) NSA reiterated its commitment to the long-standing Five Eyes principles to protect the privacy of each other's nationals as a cornerstone of the ... relationship." **Leah West, a former Department of Justice national security lawyer, said she wasn't surprised that CSE reached out for clarification from the Americans.** She said when confronted with foreign laws, she would typically want to reach out to counterparts in the other country for their expertise before advising a client.... **Former CSE Chief Greta Bossenmaier**, who is now national security adviser to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, asked the agency to assess the flurry of early executive orders from the Trump administration for impacts on CSE's operations. According to the documents, stamped "Canadian Eyes Only" and released under access to information law, Bossenmaier's office was particularly concerned about the travel ban. CSE confirmed to the Star on Wednesday that the travel ban and no impact on the agency's operations. Toronto Star (No public link available/lién public non-disponible)

**CSIS - No mentions in the mainstream media: / SCRS - Pas de mentions dans les médias traditionnels.**

## **United States / États-Unis**

Federal authorities investigating a spate of pipe bombs sent this week to several prominent critics of President Trump have turned their attention to southern Florida, believing that a number of the devices were mailed from there, two people briefed on the matter said Thursday. The focus on Florida came as three more devices were found, the F.B.I. said. Two were addressed to former Vice President **Joseph R. Biden Jr.** in Delaware and a third to the actor **Robert De Niro**, who lives and works in Lower Manhattan. All 10 of the similar-looking packages discovered since Monday bore return addresses from Representative **Debbie Wasserman Schultz**, a Democrat whose district is in southern Florida. And **Kirstjen Nielsen**, secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, told *Fox News* on Thursday that some of the packages were sent from within the state. Information collected by the United States Postal Service focused attention on certain Florida postal centers, including one in Opa-locka that the Miami-Dade Police Department's bomb squad and K-9 unit swept on Thursday as a "precautionary measure." The continuing wave of bombs has prompted an intense nationwide investigation into whether Trump critics or others vilified by the right are being targeted. The New York Times

## **United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni**



The UK government has been accused of endangering diplomatic relations with Belgium after its **"exceptional" refusal to cooperate with an inquiry into GCHQ's alleged hacking of Belgacom**, the country's biggest telecoms company. For at least two years ending in 2013, the **British intelligence service was probably spying within the state-owned company's networks on the instruction of UK ministers**, according to leaks from a judicial inquiry presented to Belgium's national security council this week. When asked by the Belgian federal prosecutor's office to cooperate with the investigation into the alleged hacking, the UK Home office is said to have refused, claiming: "The United Kingdom believes that this could jeopardise our sovereignty, security and public order." According to the Belgian newspaper *De Standaard*, the prosecutor's office regarded the response as "exceptional between EU states, and something that could lead to a diplomatic incident". **Sophia in 't Veld**, a member of the European parliament's committee on civil liberties, justice and home affairs, tweeted in response to the media report: "Remarkable attitude towards other European countries, pre or post Brexit." The Belgian prime minister, **Charles Michel**, declined to comment. The GCHQ operation, if proven, would be the first documented example of an EU member state covertly hacking into the critical infrastructure of another. The Guardian

**Tommy Robinson** has been invited to speak at the US Congress by a group of Republican politicians. The far-right figurehead, whose real name is **Stephen Yaxley-Lennon**, is waiting to see if American authorities will approve a visa for the event scheduled for 14 November. He was previously refused entry to the US because of criminal convictions for violence, drug possession and public order offences. The **Middle East Forum (MEF)**, an American think tank that has been funding pro-Robinson protests in Britain, said it has invited Robinson for a two-day trip to Washington alongside the right-wing **David Horowitz Freedom Center**. If he is permitted to enter the US, Robinson will speak to the **Conservative Opportunity Society** at the invitation of Republican representative **Paul Gosar** and six other members of Congress. The Independent

#### **Australia, New Zealand / Australie, Nouvelle-Zélande**

The US and its allies, including Australia, are poised to condemn Saudi Arabia and impose punitive measures after CIA chief **Gina Haspel** provides **Five Eyes intelligence network** with specific details of gruesome murder of **Jamal Khashoggi**. *The Washington Post* reported the CIA director had heard a seven-minute tape-recording of the torture and killing of 59-year-old Khashoggi that took place inside the Saudi Arabian consulate in Istanbul on October 2. Ms Haspel had gone to Istanbul to review all of the available evidence, a visit that comes as Donald Trump hardens his rhetoric against a country that is a key trading partner and strategic bulwark against Iran in the region. Australia will be privy to some of Ms Haspel's intelligence, as will **Five Eyes** partners Britain, **Canada** and New Zealand. The Australian

Australia's military and cyber spy agency will undergo a **public re-positioning campaign** — one of its most significant since its intelligence role was first recognised in 1977 — amid growing global threats to national security, cyber defence and demands for accountability. **Australian Signals Directorate** director-general **Mike Burgess** will next week deliver a speech in which he will say it is time for the agency to step **"out of the shadows"** as it faces escalating demands on its resources, including countering daily cyber-attack amid rising Russian activities. Mr Burgess's speech to the **Australian Strategic Policy Institute** on Monday is being billed as the first major speech since April, when the ASD was given independent statutory agency status within the Defence portfolio. It will be one the rare times an ASD director-general has spoken publicly about the agency, whose motto is: "Reveal their secrets, protect our own." The Australian has confirmed that **Mark Simkin**, a former senior adviser to both **Tony Abbott** and **Malcolm Turnbull** and a former ABC foreign correspondent, has been appointed to a newly

created role as the ASD's **strategic communication's director to help lead the campaign to publicly re-position the agency.** The move to a more public footing mirrors moves by equivalent agencies among the **Five Eyes network** — Australia, US, Britain, Canada and New Zealand — including the **US National Security Agency** and the **UK Government Communications Headquarters.** There have been increasing demands on the ASD to provide technological advice and alerts to Australian business and industry. The Australian

## **Global/Global**

**Following the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, Austria and the European Parliament have urged for a bloc-wide halt on arms exports to Saudi Arabia. Germany also backed the proposal, but other key exporters remain silent.** As outrage over the killing of Jamal Khashoggi continues to grow, more countries within the European Union are reconsidering their weapons exports with Saudi Arabia, with Austria calling for an EU-wide ban on Friday. Austrian Foreign Minister Karin Kneissl, whose country currently holds the EU's rotating presidency, said that Khashoggi's killing was the last straw in a line of abuses, including the Qatar crisis and the "terrible war in Yemen." Deutsche Welle

**A Turkish court on Friday sentenced a German man to six years and three months in prison for membership of a terrorist organization.** In addition, he received a further suspended sentence of one year and eight months in jail for entering a military exclusion zone. Since last year, a number of German citizens have been detained in Turkey, putting serious strain on relations between Berlin and Ankara. Patrick K. was arrested near the Turkish-Syrian border on March 14. Turkish authorities claim to have found an email that Patrick K. sent to the Kurdish People's Protection Unit (YPG), the armed faction of the Democratic Union Party (PYD), according to German public broadcaster ARD, citing the Turkish indictment. In the email he allegedly offered to fight for the group in exchange for help. Deutsche Welle

**Dans l'enquête sur le meurtre du journaliste saoudien Jamal Khashoggi, le procureur général d'Arabie saoudite se rendra dimanche 28 octobre à Istanbul.** Il devrait avoir accès à de nouveaux éléments actuellement en possession des autorités turques. Le président turc **Recep Tayyip Erdogan a en effet affirmé ce vendredi que les autorités turques étaient en possession «d'autres éléments» de preuve liés au meurtre de Jamal Khashoggi.** Le procureur saoudien a évoqué une possible préméditation dans le meurtre du journaliste et opposant tué le 2 octobre; un nouveau changement de position. Le président turc, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, a annoncé dans un discours ce matin que le procureur général d'Arabie saoudite était attendu, dimanche 28 octobre, à Istanbul, pour une rencontre avec son homologue turc. Le président a également affirmé détenir d'autres éléments de preuve liés au meurtre de l'opposant disparu dans le consulat saoudien le 2 octobre dernier. RFI

**Kremlin sees no grounds to question the Saudi Royal Family's statements on its non-involvement in the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said.** He dismissed as inappropriate reporters' question whether the Kremlin believed the Saudi Royal Family was not involved in the journalist's murder. "There is the king's official statement, there is the crown prince's official statement. Actually, no one should have any grounds not to believe (them)," the Kremlin spokesman stressed. According to Peskov, the Kremlin welcomes Riyadh's determination to thoroughly investigate Khashoggi's murder. TASS

**Although Israel has greatly expanded its intelligence cooperation with foreign countries in recent years, it may miss opportunities to collect intelligence from allies and adversaries alike**

without certain structural changes, an intelligence center article warned. The center is highly influential and has surprisingly close links to Israeli intelligence agencies. There is frequent cooperation between Israel and the "five eyes" – US, England, Australia, New Zealand and Canada – but even with allies, such cooperation has limitations unless there are imperative reasons to share information. Jerusalem Post

**Former spy chief Datuk Hasanah Ab Hamid** pleaded not guilty in a Sessions Court here to committing criminal breach of trust (CBT) involving US\$12.1mil (RM50.3mil) of government funds. The former Malaysian External Intelligence Organisation (Meio) director-general claimed trial before Judge Azman Ahmad yesterday. The 61-year-old was accused of committing CBT at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya between April 30 and May 9 this year. The Star Online (The Sun, New Straits Times)

The **Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty** was crafted in 1987 by then US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev, with both nations agreeing to eliminate all of their ground-launched nuclear and conventional missiles with ranges between 500km and 5,500km (310 miles to 3,420 miles). But both sides have accused the other of violating the treaty in recent years. Al Jazeera

**Russian President Vladimir Putin** has warned of a new arms race if the United States pulls out of weapons treaties, and said Russia would respond "in kind" to any new US missiles placed on European soil. At the weekend, US President Donald Trump sparked concerns globally when he said he would ditch a key Cold War-era nuclear weapons pact, the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. China Daily

Days after approving a gender-balanced cabinet, **Ethiopia's parliament** on Thursday appointed **Sahle-Work Zewde as the country's president**, making her Africa's only female head of state. A highly experienced career diplomat, Ms Sahle-Work is the first woman to hold the position. And although the role is mostly ceremonial, her appointment has great symbolic weight in a country beset by communal violence. The National (UAE)

## **Social Media Activity/Activité sur les médias sociaux**

### **Twitter**

#### **NATIONAL SECURITY / SÉCURITÉ NATIONALE**

Stewart Bell @StewGlobal

Would-be ISIS member's advice on what to wear to jihad (wear jogging pants & sweats, like you're going to "pick up a few ladies") is pretty solid proof he's never actually spoken to a lady.

Globalnews.ca

U.S.-backed Kurdish forces have captured several Canadians who were alleged ISIS fighters, as well as their wives and children. Now, their families are asking the government for help bringing them home.

CBC Politics

Court rules tomorrow on appeal of Hassan Diab's release from French prison

<https://ift.tt/2JhGift> #hw #cnpol



StewGlobal

1. Families want government to bring back 16 Canadians held by Kurdish forces in Syria  
<https://t.co/UZjdZYgFlb>

StewGlobal

2. That's three more than was previously known, putting further pressure on the Trudeau government.

StewGlobal

3. Meanwhile, a pro-ISIS group issued a statement about the capture of Canadian ISIS member Muhammad Ali, using him as an example of the "harmful destiny" they face if they stray from ISIS territory. <https://t.co/UZjdZYgFlb>

#### **CYBER SECURITY / CYBERSÉCURITÉ**

FRANCE 24 English

BA says 185,000 more customers affected in cyber attack <https://f24.my/3sol.t>

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity Retweeted STOP THINK CONNECT™

A3b: A #CyberAttack on the Emergency Services Sector, for example, could disable first responders' abilities to communicate, leaving countless Americans without protection and aid.  
#CISRMoth #ChatSTC #CyberAware

Sky News

Data commissioners: The most powerful people you've never heard of

CPO Magazine @cpomagazine

SMS-based two-factor #authentication should not be considered 'strong' in the face of a determined #cyberattack.