

# Karadzic's genocide charges reinstated

AFP, The Hague

The UN's Yugoslav war crimes court yesterday reinstated a genocide charge against former Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, overturning an appeal an earlier decision by trial judges. Appeal judges said the trial chamber "erred in fact in concluding that there was no evidence" of genocidal intent in relation to the killings allegedly carried out by Bosnian Serbs of Muslims and Croats in Bosnian municipalities from March to December 1992.

Karadzic, 68, now faces 11 charges, including two counts of genocide as well as accusations of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

He denies the allegations against him, all of which relate to his role in the Balkan country's 1992-95 inter-ethnic war, in which 100,000 people were killed and some 2.2 million others left homeless.



A Bosnian Muslim woman, survivor of Srebrenica 1995 massacre, mourns over body casket of her relative, at memorial cemetery in village of Potocari near Eastern-Bosnian town of Srebrenica, on July 10, 2013. Potocari Memorial cemetery was undergoing preparations for another mass burrial yesterday, when 409 newly identified bodies will be put to final rest.

PHOTO: AFP

# Mandela 'responding to treatment': Zuma

AFP, Johannesburg

Nelson Mandela continues to respond to treatment but remains in a critical condition 34 days into his hospital stay, South Africa's presidency said yesterday.

On the day that the country marked 50 years since a police raid that led to Mandela's life sentence, President Jacob Zuma offered an upbeat assessment of the anti-apartheid hero's condition.

"Former President Nelson Mandela continues to respond to treatment, and is still in a critical but stable condition," the presidency said, after Zuma visited Mandela for the second time in 24 hours.

Mandela, who turns 95 next week, was rushed to a Pretoria hospital on June 8 with a recurring lung infection.

His health appears to have improved slightly in recent days. Buyelekhaya Dalindyebo, who is one of Mandela's nephews and king of his Thembu tribe, told AFP on Wednesday that the former statesman was "conscious".

Doctors are said to have ruled out switching off Mandela's life support machines unless there is serious organ failure.

Court documents filed on behalf of the family last month described Mandela's condition as "perilous", with one claiming he was in a "vegetative state".

During Mandela's hospitalisation -- his longest since leaving prison in 1990 -- South Africans have marked a series of anniversaries of major events in the peace icon's life. Anti-apartheid veterans on Thursday commemorated half a century since 18 members of Mandela's African National Congress were arrested in a police raid on Liliesleaf farm in Rivonia, near Johannesburg. The 1963 Rivonia treason trial that followed led to most of the activists being sent to Robben Island.

# Back to typewriters

Kremlin's way of avoiding leaks

AFP, Moscow

A Russian state service in charge of safeguarding Kremlin communications is looking to purchase an array of old-fashioned typewriters to prevent leaks from computer hardware, sources said yesterday.

The throwback to the paper-strewn days of Soviet bureaucracy has reportedly been prompted by the publication of secret documents by anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks and the revelations leaked by former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

The Federal Guard Service, which is also in charge of protecting President Vladimir Putin, is looking to spend just over 486,000 rubles (\$14,800) to buy a number of electric typewriters, according to the site of state procurement agency, zakupki.gov.ru. The notice on the site was posted last week.

Pro-Kremlin newspaper Izvestia said the state service was looking to purchase 20 typewriters because using computers to prepare top-secret documents may no longer be safe.

"After scandals with the distribution of secret documents by WikiLeaks, the exposes by Edward Snowden, reports about Dmitry Medvedev being listened in on during his visit to the G20 summit in London, it has been decided to expand the practice of creating paper documents," the newspaper quoted a FSO source as saying.

Unlike printers, every typewriter has its own individual pattern of type so it is possible to link every document to a machine used to type it, Izvestia said.

# Islamists can join Egypt govt

Says PM; US says Morsi rule wasn't democratic

AFP, Cairo

Egypt's premier yesterday said he does not rule out Muslim Brotherhood members in his cabinet, even as the group vowed to keep defying the army's ouster of president Mohamed Morsi.

Hazem al-Beblawi, who was appointed on Tuesday, told AFP in a telephone interview he was still considering the makeup of his interim government after Morsi's overthrow in a popular military coup last week.

"I don't look at political association... If someone is named from (the Brotherhood's) Freedom and Justice Party, if he is qualified for the post" he may be considered, Beblawi said.

"I'm taking two criteria for the next government. Efficiency and credibility," he added.

Morsi's Muslim Brotherhood has already rejected a Beblawi offer to join the new government, and called a mass rally on Friday against what it called "a bloody military coup".

The developments come more than a week after Morsi was overthrown by the military, sparking deadly clashes and deepening divisions in the Arab world's most populous country.

Meanwhile, the United States said it was pressing ahead with plans to deliver four F-16 fighters to Egypt, a US official said.

President Barack Obama's administration has said it is examining whether the military takeover constitutes a coup, which under US law would force Washington to freeze any aid to Egypt.

Meanwhile, Egypt's interim rulers yesterday welcomed remarks from the US State Department describing the rule of toppled leader Mohamed Morsi as undemocratic.

US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said on Wednesday Morsi's government "wasn't a democratic rule".

"What I mean is what we've been referencng about the 22 million people who have been out there voicing

their views and making clear that democracy is not just about simply winning the vote at the ballot box."

The new US remarks were warmly received by the interim government and swiftly denounced by Mursi's Muslim Brotherhood.

In Cairo, an anti-Morsi camp was also planning a rally, to mark the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, following weekly prayers in Cairo's Tahrir Square today, raising the possibility of further violence following a week of bloodshed after Morsi's July 3 ouster.

In the bloodiest incident, clashes around an army building on Monday left 53 people dead, mostly Morsi supporters.

After a year in power through Morsi, the Brotherhood is now in tatters, with much of its leadership detained, on the run or keeping a low profile.

Police were hunting the Brotherhood's Supreme Guide, Mohamed Badie, after a warrant was issued for his arrest on Wednesday, in connection with the violence.

# THE OTHER MALALAS



CNN ONLINE

As Malala Yousafzai, the 16-year-old Pakistani schoolgirl shot by the Taliban for campaigning for girls' education, prepares to lead the first ever youth takeover of the United Nations General Assembly today, we meet five other female campaigners around the world.

**URMILA:** The 22-year-old comes from a family of bonded farmers in Nepal and was sold as a child servant, known as a Kamalari, at the age of six. After she was freed 11 years later, Urmila started school with the help of NGOs and began fighting for the rights of Kalamari girls, a campaign that has taken her to meet Nepal's president and prime minister. Urmila will be presented with a Youth Courage Award for Education by the UN Special Envoy for Global Education today.

**FATMATA:** Fatmata, an 18-year-old high school student from rural Sierra Leone, became passionate about issues from child marriage to domestic violence and street children after taking part in Plan International's Girls Making Media project. She now presents a program on a local community radio station, and has also given talks at her school on corporal punishment and gender-based violence in schools. Fatmata recently shared her story and ideas at the 56th session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

**PARVATI PUJARI:** Parvati Pujari, 22, grew up in a Mumbai shanty town and saw her eldest sister get married at the age of 12. With the help of a local NGO, Parvati attended school and resisted her parents' plans for an early marriage. With a flair for sports, Parvati started working in junior sports development for Magic Bus, an organization which had supported her since she was a child, while studying for a degree in commerce. She also participates in sports such as rugby at national level and for local football teams.

**MARCELA:** Marcela, 17, is determined to break the cycle of discrimination against girls in her community near El Salvador's capital, San Salvador. She has joined a project, Cultura de Paz, aiming to raise awareness of social issues and challenges among her community's youth. Another project close to Marcela's heart is VOCES, through which she shares information on the rights of children via radio and video.

**FABIOLA:** As a secondary school student in rural Cameroon, Fabiola, 19, became a member of Plan Cameroon's Youth Empowerment through Technology, Arts and Media project, producing youth media to raise awareness around gender issues and help girls' access their rights.

# New claims of hidden nuke site in Iran

AFP, Paris

An exiled Iranian opposition group claimed yesterday to have evidence of a hidden nuclear site located in tunnels beneath a mountain near the town of Damavand, 70 kilometres northeast of Tehran.

The Paris-based militant group the People's Mujahedin of Iran (MEK) alleges the site has existed since 2006. The group also claims the recently elected president Hassan Rohani had a "key role" in the programme. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) remained non-committal about the MEK's claims.

# Historic milestone for robotic flight



AFP, Aboard USS George H.W. Bush

A bat-winged drone touched down smoothly on the deck of a US aircraft carrier on Wednesday, marking a historic milestone for robotic flight.

The US Navy's X-47B floated down toward the carrier USS George H.W. Bush at reduced speed and then caught an arresting wire on its tail hook, bringing it to a stop in a textbook landing, as reporters and top brass watched.

"You saw the future today," Navy Secretary Ray Mabus told journalists afterward.

The experimental plane had taken off about an hour earlier from the Patuxent River naval air station in Maryland before arriving at the carrier about 80 miles off the Virginia coast at about 1:40 pm local time (1740 GMT).

Naval pilots require years of training to learn how to land a fighter jet on a carrier floating at sea, one of the most daunting tasks in aviation.

But Wednesday's unprecedented landing by an unmanned plane showed that sophisticated computer software could perform the same task, guiding a robotic aircraft safely onto the deck of a ship at sea.

# Nearly 6m die from smoking every yr

AFP, Panama City

Despite public health campaigns, smoking remains the leading avoidable cause of death worldwide, killing almost six million people a year, mostly in low- and middle-income countries, the World Health Organization said Wednesday.

If current trends hold, the number of deaths blamed on tobacco use will rise to eight million a year in 2030, the WHO said in a briefing unveiled at a conference in Panama.

About 80 percent of tobacco-related deaths forecast for 2030 are expected in low- and middle-income countries, the report added.

"If we do not close ranks and ban tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship, adolescents and young adults will continue to be lured into tobacco consumption by an ever-more aggressive tobacco industry," said WHO Director-General Dr Margaret Chan.

"Every country has the responsibility to protect its population from tobacco-related illness, disability and death."

Among the dead this year, five million were tobacco users or former users, while more than 600,000 died from second-hand smoke, according to the WHO.

Tobacco use is believed to have caused the deaths of 100 million people in the 20th century.



# LatAm demands answers from US on spying

AFP, Mexico City

From its neighbor Mexico down to Argentina, Latin American nations are demanding answers from the United States after a report of vast US spying on close allies and leftist critics alike.

Governments voiced a mix of outrage and concern after the Brazilian daily O Globo, citing documents leaked by fugitive former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden, said several nations were targets of US electronic surveillance.

The snooping included lifting data on leftist Venezuela's oil and military purchases and Mexico's drug war and energy sector as well as mapping the movements of a Marxist guerrilla group in Colombia, the newspaper said.

Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto said Wednesday his government had asked for "an explanation to clear up" the spying claims and that if they turn out to be true, "it would be completely unacceptable."

Pena Nieto, however, said the two allies still maintained relations of "respect and cordiality."

The Mexican daily Excelsior reported Wednesday that Pena Nieto's predecessor had allowed the United States to install a system to intercept phone calls and Internet chatter.

Mexico and the United States have worked closely in the battle against drug trafficking in recent years, with the US government earmarking \$1.9 billion in law enforcement training and equipment.

O Globo said other countries targeted by the National Security Agency were Argentina, Ecuador, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Paraguay, Chile, Peru and El Salvador.

The issue will be on the agenda of Friday's summit of the Mercosur trade bloc, which includes Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela. The leaders of Bolivia and Honduras were also invited to the talks in Montevideo.

# 'Ouster of Assad risks chemical catastrophe'

AGENCIES

Syria's huge array of chemical weapons could fall into the hands of militants if President Bashar al-Assad was toppled, with "catastrophic" consequences, according to a report by a committee published on Wednesday.

Britain's foreign intelligence services had no doubt Syria owned "vast stockpiles" of such weapons, including mustard gas, sarin, ricin and VX, the deadliest nerve agent, parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee (ISC) said in its report.

"There has to be a significant risk that some of the country's chemical weapons stockpile could fall into the hands of those with links to terrorism, in Syria or elsewhere in the region - if this happens, the consequences could be catastrophic," the committee said.

The conflict in Syria has killed 100,000 people, driven a 1.7 million more abroad as refugees and left swathes of urban Syria in ruins, although neither the violence nor economic collapse has truly shaken Assad's power base.

Nonetheless there was a risk of "a highly worrying proliferation around the time of regime fall", the head of Britain's Secret Intelligence Service told the committee.

Both forces loyal to Assad and rebels involved in the two-year uprising against the president have been accused of using chemical weapons during fierce fighting.

Syria is one of seven countries not to have joined a 1997 convention banning chemical weapons.

Last month, the United States said Assad's forces had used the nerve agent sarin on a small scale multiple times against opposition fighters, an assessment with which the British government said it agreed.

On Tuesday, Russian's UN envoy reported that Russian scientific analysis had indicated that Syrian rebels had also used sarin in an attack on the city of Aleppo in March.

The report said that Britain's spy chiefs believed al-Qaeda groups and individual militants who have gained expertise and experience in Syria posed the biggest emerging threat to the West.

