



A full moon, known as the Blue Moon, is seen next to the Statue of Liberty in New York on Friday. The next two pictures are taken in Glastonbury Tor, Britain and New York, US. The name blue moon is in fact somewhat of a misnomer as, rather than being literally tinted with the colour, the phenomenon is an additional full moon that appears on top of the monthly regular. Blue moons are not as rare as other celestial events, but there won't be another for three years, until January 31, 2018.



PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS

## PM returns to Yemen from Saudi exile

AFP, Aden

Yemeni Prime Minister Khaled Bahah flew into the southern port of Aden yesterday, after pro-government forces ousted Shiite rebels from the city, an airport source said.

Bahah fled into exile with President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi and the rest of his government when the rebels entered Aden -- their last refuge -- earlier this year.

Impoverished Yemen has been rocked by months of fighting between the Huthi rebels and Hadi loyalists, who have received air support from a Saudi-led coalition. Thousands have been killed and millions are in need of aid.



## Clinton healthy, quite wealthy

Report says Clintons earned nearly \$141m in 8 years

AGENCIES

Hillary Clinton is healthy and "fit to serve" as US president, her doctor affirmed YESTERDAY, as the Democratic White House frontrunner also revealed details about her family's substantial personal wealth. Hillary and Bill Clinton earned nearly \$141 million over the course of eight years and paid \$43 million in federal taxes, according to tax returns her campaign released yesterday.

In a lengthy statement and on her campaign website, Clinton detailed that she and her husband, former president Bill Clinton, paid more than \$43 million in federal taxes from 2007 to 2014, over \$13 million in state taxes and donated nearly \$15 million to charity over the same period.

The couple earned a total of \$140.9 million, with an adjusted gross income of \$139.1 million, the returns show.

In 2013 alone Hillary Clinton earned \$8.5 million from 36 speaking engagements, according to the data released Friday.

Bill Clinton earned at least \$13 million from 41 speeches in the same period, including a trio of speeches in China over three straight days that earned him \$1.7 million.

Physician Lisa Bardack of Mount Kisco Medical Group in New York said Clinton, 67, was enjoying a healthy lifestyle and has fully recovered from the effects of a concussion suffered in 2012 -- an incident which had prompted questions about her health.

"She is in excellent physical condition and fit to serve as president of the United States," Bardack stated in a letter distributed by the Clinton team.

## President declares state of emergency

Report says Rohingyas being turned away from safe shelters

BBC ONLINE

Myanmar's president yesterday declared a state of emergency in four regions after heavy floods left 27 people dead.

Monsoon rains over many weeks have led to flooding in most of the country (also known as Burma).

Myanmar's President Thein Sein declared a state of emergency in four regions - Chin, Magwe, Sagaing and Rakhine.

Thousands of people are sheltering in monasteries, but one report said people from the Rohingya Muslim minority were turned away from some shelters.

The Myanmar Times said security forces turned away Rohingya Muslims from abandoned schools and community centres in the western Rakhine state.

The United Nations says 140,000 people in Rakhine are living in camps near the region's capital, Sittwe. Most are Rohingya Muslims.

Myanmar has suffered heavy rain and landslides for weeks, but wind and rain from Cyclone Komen added to damage in recent days.

Mg Mg Khin, the director of disaster management with Myanmar's Red Cross, told the BBC that the country was facing "a big disaster" and that there was a risk of more rain over the coming weeks.

The Red Cross was waiting for information on the extent of damage to refugee camps in Rakhine, he added.

All but one of Myanmar's 14 provinces were affected by the rains, and aid groups were struggling to reach those affected, the AFP agency quoted one director of the social welfare ministry as saying.

The states of Chin and Rakhine have been worst affected, the Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper reported.

Areas close to the former capital, Yangon, have also been badly affected.

## Landslide buries a whole village in Manipur

At least 20 killed

TNN, Imphal

At least 20 people were killed when a landslide buried a whole village in the remote Joupi area of Indian state Manipur's Chandel district bordering Myanmar yesterday, police said.

A team of police and rescue workers rushed to the site - Joumol, a small Kuki-dominated hamlet under Khengjoy block.

The neighbouring villagers were unable to clear the huge earth masses enveloping the village.

"The exact number of casualties would be known after the evacuation work is complete. So far, we have learnt that 20 villagers were killed while one survived in the worst ever landslide in Manipur in the recent times," an official said.

## Wing part arrives in France for probe into MH370 link

AFP, Paris

A piece of Boeing 777 wreckage that washed up on an Indian Ocean island arrived for analysis in France early yesterday, after Malaysian authorities said the part almost certainly came from missing flight MH370.

Paris' Orly airport website confirmed the Air France flight transporting the piece of wreckage landed at 6:17am from the French island of La Reunion.

A police escort will accompany the two-metre part, encased in a wooden crate, on its journey by road to a defence ministry laboratory near the southwestern city of Toulouse.

If confirmed, the discovery would mark the first breakthrough in a case that has baffled aviation experts for 16 months.

The Malaysia Airlines flight disappeared on March 8, 2014, en route from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing with 239 people on board.

Malaysian and French experts will begin their analysis of the part, identified as a flaperon, on Wednesday, as well as fragments of a suitcase discovered nearby, according to an informed source.

Residents of Saint Andre, the beachside town where the flaperon was found, said a police officer inspected the beach early yesterday.

"I believe that we are moving closer to solving the mystery of MH370. This could be the convincing evidence that MH370 went down in the Indian Ocean," Malaysia's deputy transport minister Abdul Aziz Kaprawi told AFP.

US aerospace giant Boeing said in a statement Friday that it would send a technical team to France to study the plane debris at the request of civil aviation authorities.

Some warn that one small piece of plane debris is unlikely to completely clear up one of aviation's greatest puzzles.

Australian Deputy Prime Minister Warren Truss said while the part "could be a very important piece of evidence", using reverse modelling to determine more precisely where the debris may have drifted from was "almost impossible".

MH370 was one of only three Boeing 777s to have been involved in major incidents, along with the downing of flight MH17 over Ukraine last year and the Asiana Airlines crash at San Francisco airport in 2013 that left three dead.



Mystery of MH370

## Laden relatives killed in UK plane crash

AFP, Yateley

Members of Osama bin Laden's family were among four people killed when a private jet crashed into a car auction lot in Britain, Saudi Arabia's embassy in London said yesterday.

While the embassy did not identify the dead, a source close to the family speaking to AFP and Saudi media indicated that they were bin Laden's stepmother Raja Hashim, his sister Sanaa, the sister's husband Zuhair Hashem, and a Jordanian pilot.

The Saudi-registered Phenom 300 jet came down on Friday as it tried to land at Blackbushe Airport, a small airfield in Hampshire, southern England.

The Saudi ambassador "offered his condolences to the sons of the late Mohammed bin Laden and their relations for the grave incident of the crash of the plane carrying members of the family at Blackbushe airport," a statement posted on the embassy's Twitter account said.

The embassy also said it would work with British authorities to investigate the incident and repatriate the bodies for burial in Saudi Arabia.

Osama bin Laden, the leader of the al-Qaeda militant network and the man behind the 9/11 attacks, was killed by US special forces in Pakistan in 2011.

His father Mohammed, a construction magnate with 54 children, died in a plane crash in Saudi Arabia in 1967.

British media reported that the aircraft had taken off from Milan's Malpensa airport in Italy.

Relatives of Palestinian youth Laith al-Khaldi mourn during his funeral near the West Bank city of Ramallah, yesterday. Al-Khaldi died yesterday at a West Bank hospital following a clash with Israeli troops near Ramallah, Palestinian hospital officials said. The confrontation was one of three in a matter of hours in which Palestinians died from Israeli-Palestinian violence on one of the most tense days in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip in recent months.



PHOTO: AFP, REUTERS



## Want to boost brain power? Climb trees

MAIL ONLINE

If crosswords are too easy and Sudoku a touch boring, why not go and climb a tree?

A study found that childish pastimes such as climbing trees, running barefoot and crawling dramatically boost memory.

Working memory - the type of memory we use every day to remember phone numbers, follow directions and use a shopping list - improved by 50 per cent.

Those who don't want to find their inner child will be glad to hear that squash, tennis and football are likely to have a similar effect.

Like climbing a tree, they feed the brain with information about everything from balance to orientation and give it a good workout.



## Syria forces push back rebels in Hama

Dozens killed

AFP, Beirut

Nearly 40 government and opposition fighters have been killed as Syrian regime forces pushed rebels back from an area bordering President Bashar al-Assad's heartland, a monitor said yesterday.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 20 regime forces and 19 rebels from the Army of Conquest alliance had been killed in 24 hours of clashes in Hama province's Sahl al-Ghab region.

The area borders Latakia province, a bastion of support for Assad and home to his ancestral village.

Earlier this week, the rebel alliance began a major offensive in the area, taking around 17 strategic hilltops and other positions, including a power plant.

## Iraqi Kurds want PKK pullback

Says Turkey air campaign against militants risks civilian casualties as death toll mounts

AFP, Arbil

Kurdish rebels of the PKK should take their war with Ankara out of Iraqi Kurdistan to prevent Turkish air strikes from causing civilian casualties, the region's leadership said yesterday.

"The PKK (Kurdistan Workers' Party) must keep the battlefield away from the Kurdistan region in order for civilians not to become victims of this war," the office of the region's president Massud Barzani said in a statement.

Turkey has carried out hundreds of raids against the Kurdish rebel group's mountain bases on either side of the Iraqi border.

The PKK itself has admitted to only a handful of deaths in its ranks but the official Turkish news agency Anatolia yesterday put the figure at around 260, although it gave no source.

Several civilians have been killed and wounded in the air campaign, which Ankara launched a week ago following a wave of attacks in Turkey.

Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party has often been at odds with the PKK but has long allowed its fighters to take shelter from the Turkish army in remote mountain regions on the Iraqi side of the border.

In the same statement, the presidency also urged the PKK and the Turkish government to

resume a peace process which the recent violence has all but shattered.

"The Kurdistan presidency is clear in demanding that the PKK keep its military bases away from the region in order not to give the Turkish government any justification when it bombs civilians," Kifah Mahmud, a Barzani adviser, told AFP.

"If the PKK did not have bases inside the



Tayyip Erdogan



Massud Barzani

region, Turkey would not be bombing civilians," he said.

"The region's presidency has asked the PKK to take its forces out, especially since there is an agreement between the Iraqi and Turkish governments allowing Turkish forces to enter the Iraqi side."

Ankara and Baghdad signed a "hot pursuit"

agreement in the era of now executed dictator Saddam Hussein, allowing both sides to hunt down Kurdish rebels 15 kilometres into each other's territory.

Mahmud said the agreement was still valid.

Barzani's party has enjoyed good relations with Turkey, a major investor and trading partner for the autonomous region.

The Kurdistan Regional Government later issued a statement taking a softer line, simply demanding both sides shift their battle away from populated areas.

"We urge Turkey to refrain from bombing villages and populated area in the region, at the same time we urge the PKK to keep its forces, bases and institutions away from villages and populated areas," the statement said.

Targeted by Turkey's raids since last week were several training camps in the mountains north of Dohuk, in the western part of the Kurdistan region, near the border with Syria.

The Qandil mountains, which lie to the north-east of regional capital Arbil, have also been targeted. It is where the PKK's political leadership has been based for years.

At least six people, including two women, were killed in Turkish air strikes on the village of Zarkel, near the Qandil mountains on Saturday, local officials said.