MIGRANT CRISIS

Turkey remands 4 over Aylan's death

AFP, Ankara Turkish authorities yesterday remanded four Syrian suspected traffickers in custody on charges of causing the tragic deaths of 12 migrants including a threeyear-old toddler in the Aegean that sparked horror worldwide, local media reported. Aylan Kurdi was buried on Friday in the Syrian town of Kobane. Aylan's four-year-old brother, Ghaleb, and their mother, Rihana also drowned when their boat sank.

Three charged over **Austria lorry deaths** REUTERS, Sofia

Bulgarian authorities said they have charged three men in connection with the deaths of 71 migrants whose bodies were found in an abandoned refrigeration lorry on a highway in Austria. The Bulgarian prosecutor's office, in a statement, said that the three men were charged with being part of an organized crime group. They face up to 16 years in prison for trafficking in Hungary plus murder charges in

Doors open to Syrian refugees: Argentina PTI, Buenos Aires

Argentina's cabinet chief said today that the South American nation is willing to welcome more Syrian refugees fleeing their country's civil war. Anibal Fernandez said that the government eased the entrance of Syrians through a program begun last year, but he didn't specify how many of the refugees had arrived so far. Neighboring Uruguay welcomed 42 Syrian refugees who arrived in October 2014.









(From bottom, anti-clockwise) A migrant carries a child as they wait to board a train after crossing the Macedonian-Greek border near Gevgelija, Macedonia; an Afghan refugee child wears a thermal blanket moments after arriving on a dinghy on the Greek island of Lesbos; a man holds his child as he sits in a Germany-bound bus at the Keleti rail station, Hungary; and people take part in a demonstration asking for a change in the refugee policy in Europe, at Republique square in Paris, France, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS, AFP

EU foreign chief urges countries to adjust to new reality

AGENCIES EU foreign affairs head Federica Mogherini said the refugee influx, which has opened

deep divisions in the bloc, is here to stay and member states must adjust to that new reality. "It is here to stay; the sooner we accept it, the sooner we will be able to respond effectively (and) united as Europeans," Mogherini said after a two-day informal

meeting of EU foreign ministers. "It affects all of us. A few months ago, it was Italy, Greece and Malta. Now it is Hungary and it could (be the) turn of other

member states in the future," Mogherini said. The crisis has exposed sharp rifts in the 28nation bloc, with Merkel: no legal limit to asylum-seekers

Germany leading calls to take in many more people fleeing war and upheaval in the Middle East and North Africa.

However, newer eastern member states led by Hungary bluntly oppose European Commission plans for mandatory quotas and a permanent admission mechanism, saying that would only encourage more migrants to risk their lives coming to Europe.

The foreign ministers meeting, which as an informal gathering discussed policy but took no decisions, was overshadowed by dramatic events as thousands of migrants stranded for days in Budapest were bused to Austria en route to Germany.

Austrian Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz said their plight and the growing human cost

biggest refugee crisis since World War II.

'Crisis is here to stay'

Germany can take

Italy calls for shared asylum policy

Austrian police said 4,000 people crossed into the country early Saturday morning, with the number predicted to rise to 10,000.

Italian President Sergio Mattarella yesterday calledfor shared asylum rules in the European Union, saying thousands of migrants approaching Europe should not be seen as enemies.

Speaking via video link to a conference in northern Italy, Mattarella said he was hopeful the bloc was finally on the road to common rules, after Germany and France joined Italy last week in urging the EU to take a more centrally coordinated approach.

Mattarella said the Dublin Regulation, which requires people seeking refuge in Europe to do so in the first country where they set foot, should be replaced with shared, updated rules in order to

spread the burden more fairly.

Meanwhile, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that her country won't stop anyone from seeking asylum, as thousands of migrants desperate to leave Hungary made their way westward to Germany and Austria.

German officials recently predicted that up to 8,00,000 migrants would arrive by the end of the year, many of them refugees fleeing

war and persecution in Syria, Iraq and Eritrea. "The right to political asylum has no limits on the number of asylum seekers, Merkel told the Funke consortium of newspapers in an interview.

Finland PM offers his home to refugees

REUTERS, Helsinki

Finland's Prime Minister Juha Sipila yesterday said he would offer his home

to refugees. As EU leaders struggle to agree policies to cope with a huge influx of migrants, many fleeing war in Syria, Sipila said his home in Kempele, northern Finland, was little used at the moment and would house asylum seekers from the

start of next year. "We should all take a look in the mirror and ask how we can help," Sipila told national broadcaster YLE.

He said an EU plan to distribute 120,000 refugees arriving in Greece, Italy and Hungary to countries around the European Union should be voluntary and hoped Finland could

show an example. Finland's government yesterday doubled its estimate for the number of asylum seekers in the country this year to up to 30,000.

S Arabia welcomes Iran deal after Obama meet

at the White House on Friday.

REUTERS, Washington

Saudi Arabia is satisfied with assurances from US President Barack Obama about the Iran nuclear deal and believes the agreement will contribute to security and stability in the Middle East, a senior Saudi official said on Friday.

Saudi King Salman met with Obama at the White House on Friday to seek more support in countering Iran, as the Obama administration aimed to use the visit to shore up relations after a period of tensions.

The visit is the king's first to the US since ascending to the throne in January 2015, and comes after the US agreed to a nuclear deal with Iran in July.

The US-Saudi relationship has suffered strain because of what Riyadh sees as Obama's withdrawal from the

region, a lack of direct US action against President Bashar al-Assad in Syria, and a perceived US tilt towards Iran since the 2011 Arab uprisings. But the countries share many strategic objectives and depend on each other on a number of core

security, economic, and political issues. Speaking after the meeting between Obama and Salman, Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir said Obama had assured the Saudi king that the agreement prevents Iran from acquiring a nuclear

weapon, includes inspections of military and suspected sites, and has a provision for the snapback of sanctions if Iran violates the agreement.

Under those conditions, al-Jubeir said, Saudi Arabia supported the deal.

"Now we have one less problem for the time being to deal with, with regards to Iran," al-Jubeir said. "We can now focus more intensely on the nefarious activities that Iran is engaged in the region."

Gulf Arab states had previously expressed

their support for the Iran nuclear deal, but fear that the lifting of sanctions on Iran would enable it to pursue destabilizing policies in the Middle East.

Salman skipped Gulf Arab summit at Camp David in May, a move widely seen as a Saudi King Salman met with Obama diplomatic snub over Obama's Iran strategy.

Saudi Arabia and Iran are opposed on a number of regional issues, especially the 4 1/2-year-long Syrian civil war and unrest in Yemen, where a coalition of Arab states led by Riyadh, assisted by the US, are targeting

Iran-allied Houthi forces. Saudi Arabia remains the world's largest oil exporter, and its commitment to pumping oil freely despite a recent price decline has helped contribute to sustaining the US economic recovery.

brief

'Ukraine truce upheld for first time'

'It has a very

simple solution'

Egypt tycoon offers to

buy island for refugees

An Egyptian billionaire is

offering to buy an island for

people fleeing to Europe

from war-torn countries in

region's wealthiest men, said

"there is no limit" on what he

is willing to spend to buy an

island from Italy or Greece --

where thousands have been

arriving -- to provide the

island," Sawiris tweeted. He

even suggested a name for

of empty islands off of

Greece and Italy that could

handle 100,000 to 200,000

people. And he rejected a

suggestion that it was a

tion," he told CNN Friday.

"It's a very simple solu-

Sawiris said, "I some-

"They sell the island to

times think the politicians

me and I'll make a tempo-

rary shelter for these people.

I'll make a small port or

marina for the boats to land

there. I'll employ the people

to build their own homes,

their schools, a hospital, a

university, a hotel," he said.

tive of telecom group

Orascom TMT, said the

people would be free to

return home at any time or

cials were not available to

comment on the proposal.

Greek and Italian offi-

stay on the island.

Sawiris, the chief execu-

"ridiculous" idea.

don't have a heart."

He said there are dozens

the new country: "Hope."

"Greece or Italy, sell me an

refugees with a new home.

Naguib Sawiris, one of the

the Middle East and Africa.

CNN ONLINE

AFP, Kiev

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko yesterday said that the Western-backed truce signed in Minsk in February had been respected this week for the first time, despite pro-Russian rebels claiming a civilian had been killed. Poroshenko added that soldiers were still perishing in the conflict zone by stepping on landmines or in car crashes, but that

France mulling Syria air strikes on ISIS

none had died in battle.

AFP, Paris

France is considering conducting air strikes on Islamic State in Syria, joining an international coalition led by the United States, Le Monde newspaper said on its website yesterday, quoting an unnamed "high level source". Government officials declined to comment on the report, saying President Francois Hollande would express his views on the matter at a

news conference tomorrow. Major pensions overhaul for India army veterans

AFP, New Delhi

Three million Indian army veterans won a decades-long battle yesterday to change the way their pensions are calculated, as the government bent to protesters' demands and announced it would overhaul the controversial scheme. Under the newly agreed 'One Rank, One Pension' (OROP) deal, ex-servicemen will now receive a pension based on 2013 salaries, to be re-fixed every five years -- irrespective of when they retired.

13 Hazaras killed in Afghanistan

AFP, Mazar-i-sharif

Unknown gunmen Saturday killed 13 minority Hazaras travelling in two vehicles in a usually tranquil northern Afghan province. The victims, all male passengers, were plucked from their vehicles and shot dead from close range in a rare attack targeting ethnic minorities. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the incident.

47 killed as rebels battle ISIS in Syria

AFP, Beirut

A battle between Islamic State group jihadists and rebels for control of an opposition stronghold in northern Syria has killed at least 47 fighters, a monitor said yesterday. Twenty Islamist and

other rebel fighters were killed in the clashes in Aleppo province throughout Friday, along with 27 ISIS jihadists, the Britainbased Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said. The fighting centred on the

town of Marea, a key rebel bastion that ISIS has been trying to capture for months. The Observatory said

fighting was ongoing around the town, which rebel forces still control, as well in villages in the surrounding area. Marea is one of the most

significant rebel-held towns in northern Aleppo and lies on a key supply route running to the Turkish border. ISIS has targeted the

territory it already holds in

Aleppo province.

town for months, seeking to expand westwards from

Clinton says 'sorry' for email confusion

REUTERS, Washington

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton said she was sorry that her use of a personal email account while secretary of state had caused confusion, and blamed herself for "not thinking a lot" about the matter when she took the job.

In her most contrite comments yet about an issue that has plagued her White House bid, Clinton, who was secretary of state from 2009 to 2013, on Friday said she had made a mistake by not using a government email account. But she maintained she had done nothing wrong and did not apologize explicitly for using a private email account for her work as America's top diplomat. "At the end of the day I am sorry that

this has been confusing to people and has raised a lot of questions but there are answers to all these questions," the former first lady told MSNBC in an interview.

Clinton, front-runner to be the Democratic Party nominee in the November 2016 election, has faced

nents since it emerged in March that she used her own email account on an unsecured private server in her New York home for official business. Republicans say she flouted rules on record-keeping and transparency.

Doubts over Clinton's trustworthiness have damaged her numbers in opinion polls, allowing liberal Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders to narrow the gap with her before the first contests early next year to pick the Democratic Party

nominee for the election.

steady criticism from political oppo-

Clinton said that while she should have acted differently, she had done nothing wrong. "It was allowed and it was fully above board. The people in the government knew that I was using a personal account," she said.

was a "wake up call" for Europe to resolve its

YEMEN CRISIS Saudi-led forces suffer deadliest day

AFP, Sanaa

The UAE bombarded Yemeni rebels with air strikes yesterday as it mourned 45 of its soldiers among dozens killed in the deadliest day yet for the Saudi-led coali-

Media in Riyadh said 10 Saudi soldiers died in Friday's missile attack in the battleground eastern oil province of Marib. The strike hit an arms

depot, triggering huge explosions that the exiled Yemeni government said also killed five Bahraini coalition troops. The UAE denounced the

attack as "cowardly" and said it would not sap its commitment to the coalition's mission to restore exiled President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi. The Iran-backed Shia

Huthi rebels hailed the missile strike as "revenge" for six months of deadly coalition air raids.

Treatment of migrants evokes memories of Europe's darkest hour



NEW YORK TIMES ONLINE

In Hungary, hundreds of migrants surrounded by armed police officers were tricked into boarding a train with promises of freedom, only to be taken to a "reception" camp. In the Czech Republic, the police hustled more than 200 migrants off a train and wrote identification numbers on their hands with indelible markers, stopping only when someone pointed out that this was more than a little like the tattoos the Nazis put on concentration camp inmates.

Razor-wire fences rise along national borders in Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary and France. Many political leaders stoke rising nationalism by portraying the migrants as dangerous outsiders whose foreign cultures and Muslim religion could overwhelm cherished traditional ways. "It was horrifying when I saw those images of police

putting numbers on people's arms," said Robert Frolich, the chief rabbi of Hungary. "It reminded me of Auschwitz. And then putting people on a train with armed guards to take them to a camp where they are closed in? Of course there are echoes of the Holocaust." This migrant crisis is no genocide. The issue through-

out the Continent is how to register, house, resettle or

repatriate hundreds of thousands of migrants and refu-

gees, a daunting logistical challenge. But perhaps not since the Jews were rounded up by Nazi Germany have there been as many images coming out of Europe of people locked into trains, babies handed over barbed wire, men in military gear herding large crowds of bedraggled men, women and children. At the same time, the images may reveal a deeper

truth about Europe and its seeming unpreparedness for a crisis so long in the making: While extolling the virtues of human rights and humanism, it remains, in many parts, a place resistant to immigration and diversity. As a result, some here are reacting in ways that recall

some of the Continent's darkest impulses. "They must be oblivious because who would do that if they had any historical memory whatsoever," said Kenneth

Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch. "It's amazing, really. Certainly those images of the trains can't help but conjure up nightmares of the Holocaust." Rabbi Frolich was especially struck by the lies used to manipulate the migrants.

"They tell them that the train was going to Austria and then take them to a camp instead," the rabbi said. "... it is very similar to what happened to Jews in the 1940s."