

REFUGEE CRISIS

Obama orders US to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees

President Barack Obama has ordered his team to admit at least 10,000 Syrian refugees next year, the White House said yesterday, amid criticism that the United States has not done enough.



PHOTO: AFP

Migrants and refugees wait under the rain to cross the Greek-Macedonian border near the village of Idomeni, in northern Greece, yesterday.

EU divided over refugee quotas Record migrants arrive at Serbia-Hungary border deepening crisis

AGENCIES Europe was increasingly divided over its refugee crisis yesterday as record numbers of migrants streamed through the Balkans into Hungary, forcing Austria to suspend cross-border train services.

expected rail traffic across the German border to resume later in the day, after police ordered services to be suspended due to an influx of migrants.

Germany so far this year, with 37,000 in the first eight days of September. The European parliament backed Juncker's plans yesterday and they will now have to get the go-ahead from member states.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS EU parliament backs refugee plan Germany says 450,000 arrived since January Austria cuts rail link to Hungary Danish-German rail services partly resumes

Europe states reap what it has sown

There is something almost Biblical about the mass exodus of desperate people fleeing Syria and other war-torn and impoverished countries. For European governments, struggling to manage the crisis engulfing their borders, the Bible has a succinct lesson they might do well to ponder: "For whatever one sows, that will he also reap."



political reform, painfully opened by US and British troops after 2003, was slammed shut by a sectarian-minded, Iranian-dominated Shia majority government in Baghdad. Western politicians let this happen.

ISIS puts foreign hostages 'for sale'

Two men stand in yellow jumpsuits, staring toward the camera with a chilling message posted below their portraits: "FOR SALE."



(From left, clockwise) Local residents are rescued from their flooded home by a helicopter in Joso, Ibaraki Prefecture; a hotel building falls into the floodwaters at Nikko mountain resort in Tochigi prefecture; people are rescued from vehicles by firefighters in Ibaraki prefecture. Dozens of people were trapped in buildings and several were missing after powerful floods ripped through parts of Japan yesterday, in the wake of torrential rains.



PHOTO: REUTERS, AFP

MILITARY SUPPORT TO SYRIA REGIME Russia defiant Vows to supply Assad with everything he needs to avert 'Libyan scenario'

A defiant Russia yesterday said it was ready to increase military support to Syria's Bashar al-Assad if needed, dismissing suggestions it could hamper Western efforts to fight Islamic State militants.



ISIS attack on Syria air base kills 54

Jihadists of the Islamic State group edged closer to a strategic airbase in eastern Syria in heavy clashes that left 54 fighters dead, a monitoring group said yesterday.

US intel analysts revolt over rosy ISIS assessments: report

More than 50 US intelligence analysts have complained that senior military officials altered reports so as to downplay the strength of Islamic State and al-Qaeda's branch in Syria, the Daily Beast reported Thursday.

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