

NEWSIN brief

Israelis kill 2 more Palestinians

AFP, Qalandiya
Israeli forces shot dead at least two Palestinians yesterday when heavy clashes erupted during an operation to destroy the West Bank home of an alleged attacker, the latest in a series of punitive demolitions. Violence since the start of October has killed 83 people on the Palestinian side -- including one Arab Israeli -- and 12 Israelis.

US transfers 5 Gitmo detainees to UAE

AFP, Washington
The United States has transferred five detainees from Guantanamo Bay to the United Arab Emirates, the Pentagon said Sunday, another step in a long-delayed plan to close the controversial military prison. The move means that 107 detainees remain at Guantanamo Bay, the Pentagon said in a statement.



UN chief to visit North Korea

BBC ONLINE
United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will visit North Korea this week, according to South Korean news agency Yonhap. Yonhap cited a senior UN source for its claim, which the UN has declined to comment on. If it goes ahead, it will be the first visit by a UN chief to the country in more than two decades.

Boko Haram destroyed 1,000 schools last year

AFP, Geneva
Boko Haram Islamists have destroyed an estimated 1,100 schools this year in their stronghold region surrounding Lake Chad, the United Nations envoy to the area, Toby Lanzer, said yesterday. Lanzer, who became the UN envoy to central Africa's restive Sahel region in July, said the targeted schools were in Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, the four countries most affected by the extremist uprising.

Antibiotic resistance levels alarming: WHO

AFP, Geneva
Antibiotic resistance, which can turn common ailments into killers, has reached dangerous levels worldwide, the World Health Organization warned yesterday, saying users still know too little about how antibiotics work. Antibiotic resistance happens when bugs become immune to existing drugs, allowing minor injuries and common infections to become deadly.



A man waves a French flag as several hundred people gather to observe a minute of silence in Lyon, France, yesterday. France led a minute's silence observed around the world yesterday in memory of the victims of Paris attacks on Friday, the worst-ever terror attacks on French soil.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Manhunt on for Paris culprits

Dozens arrested in France, Belgium; 2 charged

BBC ONLINE

A total of 23 people have been arrested and dozens of weapons seized in a series of raids on suspected Islamist militants across France, officials say.

The crackdown follows multiple attacks on bars, restaurants, a concert hall and a stadium in Paris on Friday, in which 129 people were killed.

Belgian police say two people arrested on Saturday have been charged with "participating in a terrorist attack".

They were among seven people detained in Belgium at the weekend.

Five of them were later released, including Mohammed Abdeslam, the brother of two suspects - Brahim Abdeslam, killed during the attacks, and Salah Abdeslam, who is on the run.

French PM Manuel Valls said the attacks had been organised from Syria. He added that the authorities believed new terror attacks were being planned in France and other European countries.

Two more Paris attackers have been named as Ahmad al-Mohammad and Samy Amimour, along with five already identified.

As well as the attackers themselves, investigators are also reported to be focusing on a Belgian of Moroccan descent who is described as the possible mastermind of the

attacks. Abdelhamid Abaoud, 27, lived in the Molenbeek neighbourhood of Brussels, as did two of the attackers, and is now believed to be based in Syria, where he has risen through the ranks of IS.

Police have named Brussels-born Salah Abdeslam, 26, as a key suspect, and a manhunt is under way. He was reportedly stopped by officers in the wake of the attacks while crossing into Belgium but then let go.

Belgian police carried out a raid in the Molenbeek neighbourhood, which is considered to be a heaven for jihadists, yesterday morning in an attempt to capture Salah Abdeslam, but no arrests were made.

French Police sources told news agencies that properties in the Paris suburb of Bobigny, as well as the cities of Grenoble, Toulouse and Lyon, had been targeted.

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve said 23 people had been arrested and dozens of weapons seized, including a Kalashnikov assault rifle and rocket launchers. More than 100 have been placed under house arrest.

Seven attackers died in the assault on the French capital, most of them after detonating suicide belts.

France is currently marking a second day of national mourning. A state of emergency declared by President Hollande remains in force. Thousands of extra police and troops are on the streets of Paris.



Belgian special forces police climb high on an apartment block during a raid in the Brussels suburb of Molenbeek, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

SHOW MUST GO ON

Minister urges French people to go to cafes and concerts

France declared that the show must go on yesterday, with the public urged to go back out to bars, concerts and restaurants in defiance of the terror attacks on Paris.

Culture minister Fleur Pellerin said musicians would "never stop putting on concerts" and claimed that in the face of "barbarism... culture is our biggest shield and our artists our best weapon".

Pellerin said the government was preparing a special fund to help get live entertainment up and running again and to aid with the cost of new security measures.

"French people will not stop going to concerts and sharing these moments of joy together which bind us all together," she said.

All major concerts, including a show by the rock group U2, were cancelled in the aftermath of the attack, but Paris' two biggest venues said they planned to reopen Tuesday.

US star Prince cancelled his entire European tour -- due to include dates in Vienna, Britain, Sweden and Paris -- "in light of the tragic events", the Interconcerts ticket

company said.

"We have to turn the lights back on," Alexandre Cammas of the trendy Fooding guide told AFP, as made he made a plea with Parisians to return to cafes, restaurants and entertainment venues as the city's museums and concert halls began to reopen Monday.

Almost all of those who died beyond the Bataclan were shot on cafe terraces and the French government at first urged people to stay indoors with one suspect still on the run.

With newspaper headlines proclaiming France was at war with the terrorists -- and clearly mindful of Napoleon's maxim that an "army marches on its stomach" -- the guide called on people to go out and eat and drink on Tuesday night so "that which makes France France should not be betrayed by our fears".

"Our objective is that on Tuesday evening people return to the bistros below their apartments," Cammas said after launching the Twitter hashtag #tousaubistro (Everyone to the bistro).

AFP, PARIS

Refugee passport found at carnage spot 'fake'

AGENCIES

A man has been detained in Serbia after he was found carrying a Syrian passport matching the same details as one found near the body of one of the Paris suicide bombers.

The document also carried the details of 25-year-old Almoammad Ahmad but with a different photograph to the one found on Friday.

It raises already serious concerns that the passport used to identify one of the attackers as a "refugee terrorist" was faked.

Whether the man who blew himself up outside the Stade de France did indeed travel through Greece and Macedonia, as the passport suggests, remains unclear.

Greek authorities have said they took the passport-holder's fingerprints and photo when he was registered there on the 3 October, and it is now up to the French authorities to match them to one of the attackers' bodies.

But according to the Serbian daily Blic, the existence of the second passport with the same data means "it is likely that the two men separately purchased false Syrian passports at the same forger in Turkey".

On Sunday, the European Commission president Jean-Claude Juncker urged political leaders not to be put off the programme already agreed for taking in more of those genuinely fleeing conflict. Those who attacked Paris were "criminals", Juncker said at the G20 summit in Turkey, "not refugees, not asylum seekers".

"Those who organised these attacks and those that perpetrated them are exactly those that the refugees are fleeing and not the opposite," he said.

Meanwhile, Germany's justice minister Heiko Maas yesterday warned against drawing a hasty link between refugees and perpetrators of the deadly Paris attacks, warning that the IS group could be trying to exploit the debate over Europe's migrant influx.



I ain't a terrorist

Sikh man photoshopped to look like a Paris attacker

BBC ONLINE

A Sikh man is trying to set the record straight after a doctored selfie went viral, making it seem like he was one of the Paris attackers.

Many of those using the photograph of Veerender Jubbial, including journalists, did not seem to realise the image had been digitally altered.

Veerender's original selfie shows him in a bathroom, wearing his turban. The altered image shows him wearing a vest with what appears to be explosives and his iPad has been made to look like a religious text.

Veerender says "millions who have seen the picture may falsely assume he is associated with the Islamist group. No one has claimed responsibility for photoshopping his photo and distributing it.

World leaders back drive for Paris climate deal

AFP, Antalya

Leaders of the world's top economies yesterday vowed to seek a deal to curb climate change at an upcoming UN conference in Paris, according to a draft statement drawn up in tough, all-night talks.

Negotiators at a Group of 20 summit in Turkey haggled into the early hours as Saudi Arabia and India initially refused to include specific goals such as limiting global warming to less than two degrees Celsius above pre-industrialised levels, sources said.

France, backed by the European Union (EU), is working furiously to make the climate talks a success and Paris officials bristled at the reluctance of some countries to include its basic objectives in the statement.

"Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time," said the draft communique obtained by AFP before it was

submitted for final agreement by national leaders gathered in the Turkish Mediterranean resort of Antalya.

"We reaffirm the below 2C degree climate goal," it said, underlining a "determination" to adopt a deal with legal force.

The blockbuster climate meeting will assemble 195 countries outside Paris from November 30 to December 11 in a bid to forge a post-2020 pact to roll back global warming.

France is eager to avoid the fate of Copenhagen talks in 2009 that also sought to craft a world climate rescue pact, but ended in near-fiasco amid splits between rich and emerging countries.

Observers also deplored the apparent failure to mention financing for developing countries to make the transition to clean



Mass grave of Yazidi women found in sinjar

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

A mass grave believed to contain the remains of more than 70 members of Iraq's Yazidi minority has been unearthed east of Sinjar town, following an offensive against IS by Kurdish forces.

IS overran the Yazidi territory of Sinjar in Iraq in August 2014 and began systematically killing, capturing and enslaving thousands of its inhabitants - in what the UN has said may have constituted an genocide.

The mayor of Sinjar and local Yazidis who visited the site described clumps of hair, bones, money and keys which they believed to older women from the village of Kocho.

BEIRUT BLAST Vs PARIS CARNAGE FB responds to criticism

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Facebook has changed its policy on its tools for allowing users to check whether people are safe after disasters, following huge criticism for having turned it on for the attacks in Paris but not in Beirut.

The site has long used the tool, called Safety Check, to allow people to mark themselves as safe in the aftermath of natural disasters. But the site turned it on for the first time after attacks in Paris on Friday night.

But many quickly pointed out that only a day before a double suicide bombing in Beirut left 43 people dead and 250 injured. The site didn't turn on the feature at all.

Many criticised the decision, including Lebanese blogger Joey Ayoub in a post that has been shared over ten thousand times. Ayoub said that the decision seemed to demonstrate that people's deaths in Beirut don't matter as much as those in Paris.

But Facebook has said that Friday's Paris attacks situation was the first time that it has

been turned on for anything other than a natural disaster, and that it marked the first time trying something new.

"Many people have rightfully asked why we turned on Safety Check for Paris but not for bombings in Beirut and other places," wrote Mark Zuckerberg in a Facebook post.

"Until yesterday, our policy was only to activate Safety Check for natural disasters. We just changed this and now plan to activate Safety Check for more human disasters going forward as well.

"Thank you to everyone who has reached out with questions and concerns about this. You are right that there are many other important conflicts in the world. We care about all people

equally." The feature works by sending out a notification to all of those people that Facebook thinks is in an affected area, asking if a user is safe. Users can then mark that they are safe, generating an update that will be published to their friends, and other people will get a notification or check on



AFTERMATH OF PARIS CARNAGE

Anonymous launches war on IS

Anonymous has declared "war" on IS, in response to the attacks in Paris that left over a hundred people dead. In a video posted soon after the attacks, a person claiming to represent the group warns members of Islamic State that it intends to hunt them down. It said that it would "unite humanity" in the operation, which it claimed would use hacking to weaken the group. "Anonymous from all over the world will hunt you down," said the voice in the video, which included footage of the group's famous Guy Fawkes mask and was in French. "You should know that we will find you and we will not let you go. We will launch the biggest operation ever against you."

INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

UK foiled 7 attacks in last 6 months

British intelligence services have foiled seven terror attacks in the past six months in the UK while earlier response to such warning had originated from al-Qaeda and the area between Pakistan and Afghanistan, Prime Minister David Cameron said yesterday. He said the plots were on a smaller scale as compared to Paris but added the attacks in the French capital could happen anywhere. The UK government's new funding will be invested in security and intelligence agencies to provide 1,900 new officers, an increase of 15 per cent, at MI5, MI6 and GCHQ.

PTI, London/antalya

7 US states shut doors to refugees

Five US governors yesterday said they would not allow Syrian refugees to be settled in their states, joining Alabama and Michigan and contending it is too dangerous to let in people from that war-torn country following Friday's deadly Paris attacks. Republican governors of Texas, Arkansas, Indiana, Louisiana and Mississippi said their states would no longer help support the Obama administration's goal of accepting 10,000 Syrian refugees in the coming years.

REUTERS, WASHINGTON