

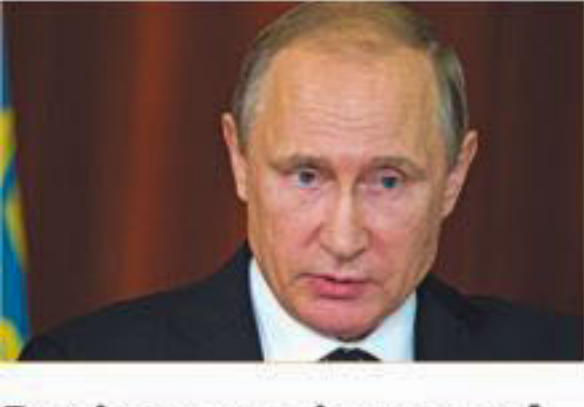
NEWSIN brief

Duterte needs six more months for war on drugs

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has asked for a six-month extension for his war on drugs, saying there are too many people involved in the narcotics trade and he "cannot kill them all". Some 3,000 people have been killed since Duterte won May elections in a landslide on a vow to kill tens of thousands of criminals in an unprecedented blitz to rid the country of illegal drugs in six months.

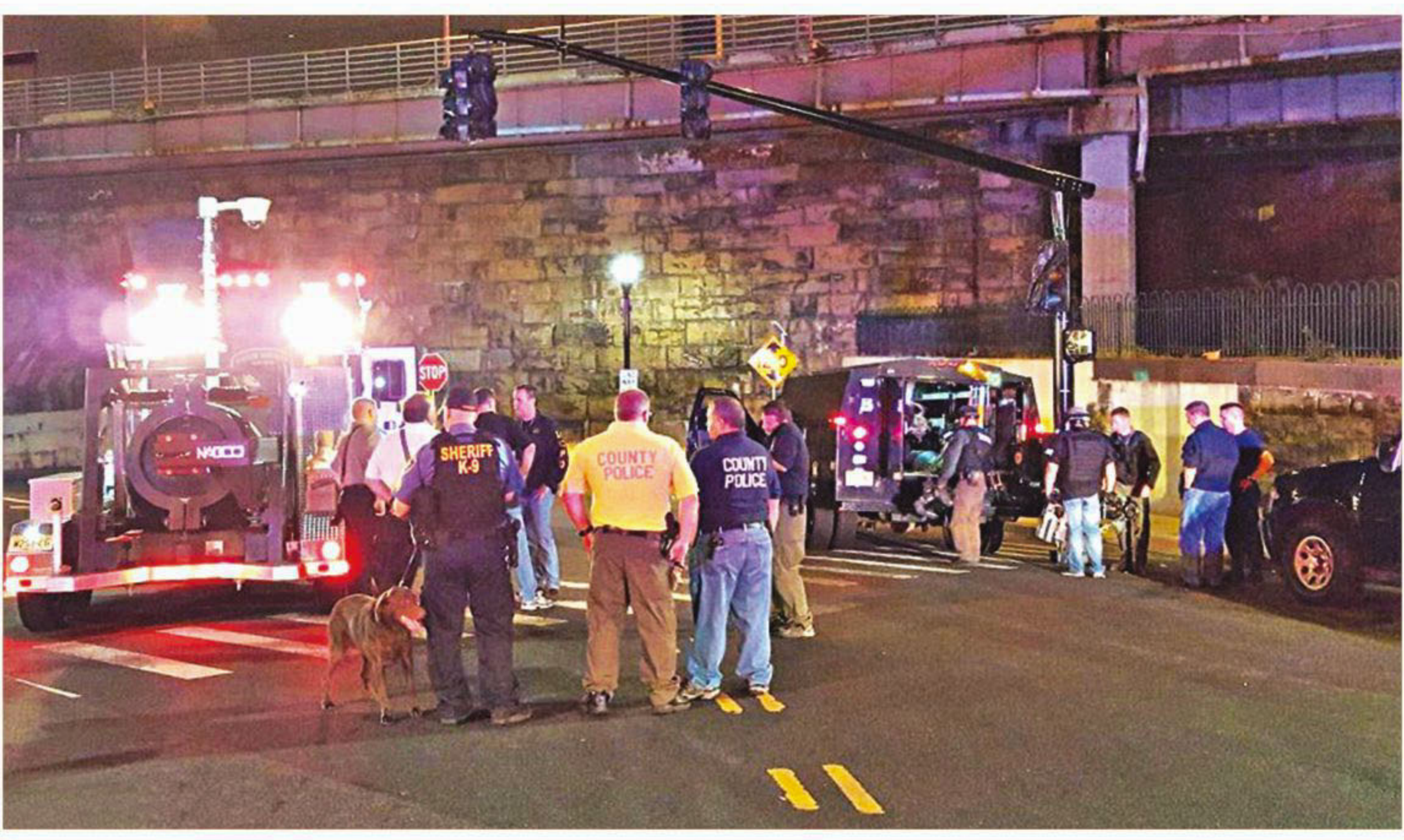
US 'friendly fire' kills eight Afghan police

A US air raid has killed eight Afghan policemen who were battling the Taliban, officials said yesterday, the first apparent "friendly fire" incident since American forces were given greater powers to strike at insurgents. The incident happened on Sunday in the Tali area of the southern province of Uruzgan, where the Taliban recently attempted to overrun the provincial capital Tarin Kot in a major security breach.



Putin party in record election win

Russia's ruling United Russia party has won a record number of seats in parliamentary polls that could pave the way for President Vladimir Putin to glide to a fourth term in 2018 elections. With more than 98.3 percent of the ballots counted, United Russia had garnered 54.2 percent of the votes for parties, giving it a constitutional majority in parliament, according to results announced yesterday morning.



On Sunday night, investigators examine a suspicious device found in a trash can near a train station in Elizabeth, New Jersey, USA that forced the suspension of service on the busy Northeast Corridor line. Elizabeth Mayor Christian Bollwage said two men called police and reported seeing wires and a pipe coming out of the package after finding it at about 9:30 pm.

Syria truce ends

Aleppo aid stuck in Turkey; rebels could push further south in Syria: Erdogan

Two 20-truck aid convoys destined for eastern Aleppo with enough supplies to feed 185,000 people for a month are still stuck in Turkey, a UN spokesman said yesterday, hours after a ceasefire in Syria expired. The UN has said it does not have sufficient security guarantees from all sides in the conflict, now in its sixth year, to be able to deliver to eastern Aleppo, which is held by rebels battling to topple President Bashar al-Assad. The aid has been sitting at the border for around a week. The UN also wants to deliver to other hard-to-reach areas in Syria, but says it has not received necessary permissions from the Syrian government to proceed, reports Reuters. The seven-day ceasefire declared by the Syrian army expired at midnight with no announcement of its extension. A Syrian rebel official said the truce had ended, and there was no hope the eastern Aleppo aid would be delivered. Meanwhile, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday that Turkey could create a 5,000-square-kilometre safe zone in Syria by pushing further south in its military operation in the country. Turkey launched its operation in northern Syria on August 24, sending in tanks and special forces to support opposition fighters in a bid to remove Islamic State (IS) extremists and Kurdish militia forces from its border. Russia's defence ministry yesterday appeared to bury a week-long Syria ceasefire brokered with the United States, saying rebel violations made it "pointless" for government troops to uphold the truce. "Considering that the conditions of the ceasefire are not being respected by the rebels, we consider it pointless for the Syrian government forces to respect it unilaterally," Lieutenant General Sergei Rudskoy said in a televised briefing.

UN holds first-ever summit on refugees

The UN rights chief yesterday made a rousing appeal to confront the world's "race-baiting bigots" at the first-ever summit on refugees and slammed the United Nations for failing to end the war in Syria. World governments pledged at the summit to scale up efforts to confront the biggest refugee crisis since World War II, adopting a political declaration that human rights groups have criticized as almost meaningless. "This should not be a comfortable summit," Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein told the gathering at the UN General Assembly. "The bitter truth is, this summit was called because we have been largely failing. Failing the long-suffering people of Syria, in not ending the war in its infancy," said the UN high commissioner for human rights. In a toughly-worded speech that drew loud applause from the hall, Zeid took aim at "bigots and deceivers" and pointedly said "some of them may well be in this hall this morning." "The defenders of what is right and good are being outflanked, in too many countries, by race-baiting bigots, who seek to gain, or retain, power by wielding prejudice and deceit, at the expense of those most vulnerable," he said. The rights chief spoke of "an epidemic of amnesia" among leaders "who seem to have forgotten the two world wars" and warned that the darkest chapters of history could return to be played out again. The summit kicked off a week of high-level diplomacy as world leaders are set to address the annual General Assembly meeting, which this year will be dominated by the conflict in Syria. A record-breaking 65 million people are on the move worldwide, fleeing wars such as the carnage in Syria, repression and poverty, including 21 million refugees competing for too few resettlement opportunities. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched a global campaign against xenophobia, saying it would seek to "turn fear into hope." "We must change the way we talk about refugees and migrants," said Ban. US President Barack Obama will host a second summit today at which some 40 countries will make new offers of aid, either by taking in more refugees or supporting access to education and jobs.

World leaders pledge to scale up efforts to confront the biggest refugee crisis adopting a political declaration

How should world tackle refugee crisis?

As world leaders gather in New York for a major UN summit on the refugee and migrant crisis, aid chiefs called on rich countries to shoulder their fair share of responsibility. Here humanitarian experts outline what they want to see:

FILIPPO GRANDI, UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES
The countries belonging to the richer world must recognise their responsibility to provide timely and dependable humanitarian funding while robustly investing in communities that host large numbers of refugees. Host countries should increase opportunities for refugee adults to work and children to go to school. All should undertake to address the drivers and triggers causing record numbers to flee.



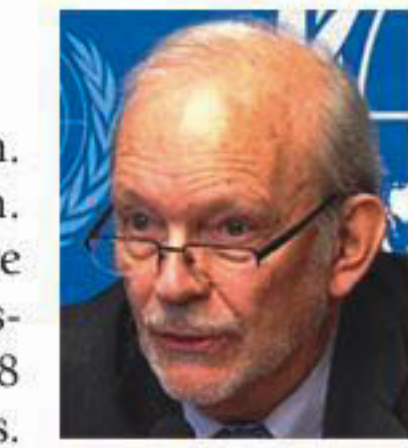
JAN EGELAND, SECRETARY GENERAL NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL
Most importantly, we have to tackle the root causes of displacement. How come we find hundreds of billions to wage wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen and elsewhere, and so little for diplomacy and development that prevent conflict? Secondly, we need a global framework where states share responsibility, and are held publicly accountable.



MALALA YOUSAFZAI, NOBEL LAUREATE, CO-FOUNDER MALALA FUND
Prime ministers and presidents have chosen 'survival' as their theme for refugee discussions this year. Why have they set the bar so low? We can no longer be satisfied with a world where fishing children from the ocean and bandaging their wounds represents the summit of our ambition for refugees. How long can a refugee girl be out of school before she is forced into an early marriage or child labour? Yet young refugees are future leaders on whom we will all depend for peace.



ANTHONY LAKE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UNICEF
We must pay attention to the children. Every day, the crisis gets worse for them. Worldwide, 50 million children have migrated across borders or been displaced within their own countries - 28 million uprooted by horrific conflicts. Without protection, nutrition or education, what can the future hold for these children - and thus for the future of their societies? But if they are accepted and protected today they can be a source of stability and economic progress.



LAURIE LEE, CEO CARE INTERNATIONAL
Governments must do more for women and girls. Many refugees are resorting to using dangerous routes, paying people smugglers, and using unsafe boats. Women are particularly vulnerable, as they are often responsible for children, and they are at risk of sexual exploitation. World leaders need to commit to providing additional safe and legal routes to claim asylum.



Tell-all map in Pashto exposes plotters

The suicide squad that attacked the Army camp at 12 Brigade headquarters in Uri carried along with their arms and ammunition a mission plan which was annotated in Pashto, highly placed sources said. The map retrieved from the terrorists revealed that they were to kill unarmed troops, then storm a medical aid unit near the brigade administrative block and blow themselves up in the officers' mess. Sources said the map deciphered by military experts indicated that the terrorists were drawn from the banned terror group, Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan (SSP) that recently started working under Jaish command and calls itself "Guardians of the Prophet". The SSP cadre directly operates under Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar, sources said. Azhar has publicly likened JeM's goals to that of the SSP, a Sunni Muslim terror group affiliated to Pakistani Deoband. Taliban draws its inspiration from the Pakistani Deoband. Sources said the suicide squad attacked the administrative block where unarmed soldiers were refilling diesel in barrels from fuel tanks. The terrorists lobbed 17 grenades in three minutes, which ignited the dump and resulted in a massive fire burning barracks and tents in a 150-metre radius. Thirteen soldiers were burnt alive instantaneously and 32 soldiers were critically injured with severe burns. With the diesel dump ablaze, due to smog and subsequent explosions, the terrorists got disoriented and headed straight towards soldiers' barracks. One terrorist was gunned down in the barracks by a 19-year-old Dogra soldier, who, while challenging the other three, sustained a severe head injury when a bullet hit his helmet, sources said. Since the barracks were vacant, the terrorists took a defensive position in the side barracks of two floors and 16 rooms. Later, four commandos stormed the building and eliminated the other three terrorists.

RAID ON KASHMIR BASE



An Israeli police dog sniffs a Palestinian man as a border policeman performs a body search on him near the area following a stabbing attack on two Israeli police officers near Jerusalem's Old City yesterday.

Trump gets skewered

Clinton finds support at TV's Emmy awards
As the US presidential election draws near, television's stars didn't hold back on their opinions at Sunday's Emmy awards, some taking jobs at Republican nominee Donald Trump while others voiced support for Democratic hopeful Hillary Clinton. During his opening monologue, Emmy host Jimmy Kimmel called out producer Mark Burnett, the producer of reality series "The Apprentice" and "Celebrity Apprentice" which Donald Trump hosted, saying "who is to blame for the Trump phenomenon? That guy." "If Donald Trump gets elected and he builds that wall, the first person we are throwing over it is Mark Burnett," Kimmel said,



Indonesian haze killed over 100,000: study

A smog outbreak in Southeast Asia last year may have caused over 100,000 premature deaths, according to a new study released yesterday that triggered calls for action to tackle the "killer haze". Researchers from Harvard and Columbia universities in the US estimated there were more than 90,000 early deaths in Indonesia in areas closest to haze-belching fires, and several thousand more in neighbouring Singapore and Malaysia. The new estimate, reached using a complex analytical model, is far higher than the previous official death toll given by authorities of just 19 deaths in Indonesia. "If nothing changes, this killer haze will carry on taking a terrible toll, year after year," said Greenpeace Indonesia forest campaigner Yuyun Indradi. "Failure to act immediately to stem the loss of life would be a crime." A spokesman for Indonesia's environment ministry did not immediately have any comment. Indonesian authorities have previously insisted they are stepping up haze-fighting efforts, through such actions as banning the granting of new land for palm oil plantations and establishing an agency to restore devastated peatlands. The haze is an annual problem caused by fires set in forest and on carbon-rich peatland in Indonesia to quickly and cheaply clear land for palm oil and pulpwood plantations.



NAM summit backs Maduro

Slams US 'interference' around the world voicing concern over violence in Syria, Iraq and Palestinian territories
But it was a key diplomatic encounter for Maduro, who has been left increasingly isolated as Venezuela's oil-dependent economy has skidded into crisis amid a collapse in global crude prices, fueling calls for his ouster. The leftist leader, who accuses the United States of backing opposition attempts to remove him in a "coup," emphasized that the summit had backed his government's condemnation of US sanctions that declare Venezuela a threat to US national security. "It's a total economic war; we will be winning it," Maduro insisted at the closing event. The White House says that language is a formality for imposing targeted sanctions, but Maduro has lambasted it as alarmist. Venezuela took over the rotating presidency of the Non-Aligned Movement from Iran at the meeting. It will hold it for the next three years. Maduro looks keen to recast the group as a bulwark against "interventionism" and "neo-colonialism," analysts say. Both words were oft-invoked at the summit. Syria had harsh condemnation for the United States after a US-led coalition strike killed dozens of Syrian soldiers Saturday.

