

# Trump: if GOP Drops Me, 'I'll Stop Funding the Republican Party'

The Republicans' money train will come to a screeching halt if the party doesn't squarely back its presidential nominee, Donald Trump warned Thursday.

Trump issued the warning on Fox News' "O'Reilly Factor," in response to a question about Republican National Committee Chair Reince Priebus reportedly threatening to pull back party funds and reallocate them to other races.

"He just put out a press release. And he just put



out a tweet it's untrue," Trump said. He added: "And I mean,



if it is true, that's OK, too. Because all I have to do is stop funding the Repub-

lican Party." The Trump campaign and the RNC entered into

a joint fundraising agreement in May which benefits the campaign, the

national party, and state parties across the nation. Trump raised about \$80 million in July, with \$64 million coming from the joint effort with the RNC. Trump said he'd be able to determine the day after Election Day whether the Republican Party was sufficiently helpful. "I will let you know on the 9th, on November 9th ... when we find out whether or not that is all good," Trump told guest host Eric Bolling. Trump was in Florida for Campaign Rallies and to Raise Money. (Agencies)

## Hillary Clinton Promises to Oppose TPP Trade Deal if Elected President

WASHINGTON - U.S. Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton on Thursday reassured her supporters that she would oppose the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement if elected president. "I will stop any trade deal that kills jobs or holds down wages, including the Trans-Pacific Partnership," Clinton said in a speech laying out her economic plans in the state of Michigan. "I oppose it now, I'll op-

pose it after the election and I'll oppose it as president," Clinton said, adding that she would appoint a trade prosecutor to ramp up enforcement of existing trade deals. Clinton's hard line to the TPP came after Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump on Monday attacked her over trade deals. Trump said Clinton "will enact the TPP" if elected president, which he claimed would have a devastating impact ... (More on P4)...(25)

## U.S. Calls on Russia, Ukraine to Reduce Tension in Crimea

WASHINGTON - The United States urged Russia and Ukraine to avoid the escalation of tension in Crimea, the State Department said Thursday. "We are extremely concerned about the increased tension near the administrative boundary between Crimea and Ukraine," Elizabeth Trudeau, spokesperson for the State Department, said at a regular press briefing. Tensions between Russia and Ukraine have been escalating as Russian Presi-



dent Vladimir Putin on Wednesday accused Kiev of plotting terrorist attacks in Crimea and vowed to take additional measures to ... (More on P4)...(26)

## Russia Deploys Advanced Air Defense System in Crimea

MOSCOW - An anti-aircraft missile regiment based in Crimea has received a new S-400 Triumf air defense missile system, the Russian Defense Ministry said Friday. The regiment will take part in a strategic command-and-staff military drill after preparations are completed, the press service of Russia's Southern Military District said. The S-400 Triumf, by far Russia's most advanced surface-to-air missile system, is capable of hitting an airborne target at a dis-

tance of up to 400 km with medium- and long-range missiles. Tensions between Russia and Ukraine have been escalating as Russian President Vladimir Putin on Wednesday accused Kiev of plotting terrorist attacks in Crimea and vowed to take additional measures to ensure the safety of the infrastructure and citizens there. However, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko denied Russia's accusations, calling them "preposterous and cynical." (Xinhua)

## UN to Help Iraq Curb Widespread Corruption

BAGHDAD - The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) signed Thursday an agreement with the Iraqi government to tackle the widespread corruption that is paralyzing its economy and institutions as the country is fighting to defeat the Islamic State (IS) militant group. "The UNDP stands ready to support the reform process in any way we can. Reforms are difficult and sensitive but with Daesh (IS group) nearly defeated, strengthening governance is a top priority," a



UN statement quoted Lise Grande, the UNDP representative and UN humanitarian coordinator for Iraq, as saying. Under the terms of the agreement, the UNDP will recruit international investigators to help ... (More on P4)...(27)

## 14 Killed, over 46,000 Affected by Niger Floods

NIAMEY - Torrential rains witnessed in Niger in recent weeks have left at least 14 people dead, five injured, 46,296 affected and led to destruction of a lot of properties across the country. To respond to this emergency humanitarian situation, the state has deployed 326 tons of food assistance, said a government statement on Thursday. "Authorities were in consultations with the country's technical and financial partners to bring non-food aid," it said. Niger, a Sahelian state that is poor and dry, is always confronted with severe food crises mostly caused by drought or floods. The rainy seasons lasts for three months between July, August and September. Early this week, the Niger Basin Authority issued a statement warning of possible risks of serious floods in Niamey, the Nigerien capital, following heavy rains witnessed in the last month in the river Niger zone. (Xinhua)

## U.S. House Report Finds Manipulation of Counter-IS Intelligent Assessment at Central Command

WASHINGTON - Senior leaders at U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) manipulated intelligence assessments on the campaign against the extremist group the Islamic State (IS) to present a rosier picture, a U.S. House preliminary report said on Thursday. The 15-page report by a House Republican task force detailed "persistent problems" at the CENTCOM starting in mid-2014 that caused "production and dissemination of intelligence products that were inconsistent with the judgements" of senior CENTCOM analysts.



According to the report, the leadership environment within the CENTCOM deteriorated after then-commander Marine General James Mattis and other senior leaders left in 2013, with 40 percent of CENTCOM analysts responding to surveys saying that they had experienced an attempt to distort or suppress intelligence in the past year. Two patterns existed in the senior-level edit of intelligence assessments, said the ... (More on P4)...(28)

## Duterte Says he Won't Apologize for his Remarks on U.S. Envoy

MANILA - Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said on Friday that he will not apologize to U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Philip Goldberg, saying the envoy did not even bother to apologize when they saw each other many times in the Malacanang presidential palace. "I will not apologize for anything. He did not even apologize to me. Why should I apologize to him?" Duterte told reporters in Jolo, Sulu where he was visiting. "He started it. We met several times in Malacanang, and he never said 'hey buds, I'm sorry,' but it was an off-the-cuff statement or something like that," Duterte said. He said he was really offended by the statements that Goldberg made during the campaign period. "Why would make those statements during election time?" Duterte said. "Who will not be offended by those remarks during an election period?" Goldberg criticized then presidential candidate Duterte for making light of ... (More on P4)...(29)

## Turkey Says 32 Diplomats Recalled after Coup Still Missing

ANKARA - Turkey's foreign minister said on Friday that 32 diplomats were recalled after a coup attempt, but they have not returned yet. The 32 are among 208 Foreign Ministry personnel who were recalled to be assigned at the ministry's headquarters, Mevlut Cavusoglu told a joint press conference with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif. Cavusoglu said they are also investigating media reports that a Turkish diplomat at Turkey's embassy in Bangladesh has fled to Russia. The top Turkish diplomat announced that a U.S. delegation will visit Ankara on Aug. 23-24 for talks about the extradition of Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who is accused by the Turkish government of being behind the July 15 ... (More on P4)...(32)

## S. Korean Shares Rise to this Year's High on Foreign Purchase

SEOUL - South Korean shares rose Friday to this year's high as foreigners turned into net buyers in the main bourse. The benchmark Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI) added 1.67 points, or 0.08 percent, to settle at 2,050.47. Trading volume stood at 372.62 million shares worth 4.54 trillion won (4.11 billion U.S. dollars). It marked the first time in nine months that the KOSPI topped 2,050 points, helping the main index rise to the highest in 2016. Foreign investors shifted into net buyers with a purchase of ... (More on P4)...(30)

## UN Security Council Urges Early End to Conflicts in Sudan

UNITED NATIONS - The UN Security Council on Thursday welcomed the signing by Sudanese opposition groups of an African Union (AU)-brokered roadmap for ending conflicts in Sudan, and urged all signatories to work for an early return of lasting peace in the African country. In a press statement issued here, the 15-nation UN body welcomed the signing on Aug. 8 of the Roadmap Agreement by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), the Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM)-Minni Minnawi, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North ... (More on P4)...(31)

## Nieghbor News

### Chinese Tourists Spend \$2 Bln in Russia Last Year: Federal Tourism Agency

MOSCOW - Chinese tourists took a fancy to shopping in Russia, spending over 2 billion U.S. dollars in 2015, recent figures from a report of the Russian federal tourism agency Rostourism showed. "The Chinese are responsible for 5 to 20 percent of revenues of major malls of Moscow and St. Petersburg," the agency said. Rostourism said Chinese tourists prefer buying luxury goods, watches,

cosmetics and Russian jewelry. There has also been an increase in demand for luxury rooms in hotels. Last year, Russia received more than 1.2 million Chinese tourists, which is 87 percent more than in 2014, the agency said. The number of tourists arriving in Russia from China on a visa-free exchange basis in the first quarter of this year exceeded 35,000, or 47 percent more than a year ago. (Xinhua)

### 'Iran, Russia, Turkey Must Cooperate Together'

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (L) gives a joint press conference with his Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu in the Turkish capital, Ankara, August 12, 2016. Iran's foreign minister has emphasized the importance of the roles played on the regional arena by the Islamic Republic, Russia, and Turkey, saying the three countries should cooperate and engage in dialog with one another. Mohammad Javad Zarif, who is in the Turkish capital on a state visit, met with his Turkish counterpart Mevlut Cavusoglu on Friday, discussing bilateral cooperation and regional issues. This is the first visit by a high-

ranking Iranian official to Turkey since the July 15 failed coup attempt in the country. Iran was the first country to condemn the putsch. After holding talks with Cavusoglu, Zarif said at a joint presser with him that they had discussed the removal of impediments to bilateral cooperation but said differences remained between Tehran and Ankara. He said more talks were needed to resolve those differences. The Turkish foreign minister, for his part, thanked the Iranian government and nation for supporting the legitimate Turkish government after the failed coup and said Iran had been the first country to condemn the putsch. (Presstv)

### BISP Undertakes Survey to Filter Unwarranted Elements

ISLAMABAD - The government has initiated a nationwide survey to verify beneficiaries and include those eligible for financial assistance in the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP). Surveyors had started the pilot project phase in Haripur district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where fresh data of those receiving support was being prepared, names being deleted of those whose financial position had improved and names of those pushed

below the poverty line being included in data bank. The survey will complete by 2018. BISP chairperson MNA Marvi Memon chaired a meeting held on Thursday to review last year's progress and discuss modus operandi of the new survey. Participants were informed that the first-ever survey on such a large scale was being undertaken through tablets to avoid inclusion and exclusion errors while deleting fake beneficiaries. (Dawn)

### Tajikistan to Participate in SCO Peace Mission Exercise in Kyrgyzstan

DUSHANBE - A task force of the Ministry of Defense of Tajikistan (MoD) will participate in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization anti-terrorism drill, dubbed Peace Mission 2016, which will take place in Kyrgyzstan's western region of Issyk-Kul from September 6-13, Colonel Faridoun Mahmadalizoda, a spokesman for a MoD,

told Asia-Plus in an interview. According to him, Tajik task force will be led by Colonel Jahongir Nazaraiyev, the chief of the Staff of the Mobile Troops of the Tajik Defense Ministry. SCO's traditional biannual an-terrorist exercise, dubbed Peace Mission, has been conducted since 2007. In 2007... (More on P4)...(33)

### Uzbekistan, France Mull Co-Op Prospects

TASHKENT - Topical issues and prospects of bilateral trade, economic and investment cooperation between Uzbekistan and France were discussed by representatives of Uzbekistan's Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, Investments and Trade and the head of French diplomatic mission in Tashkent, Jacques-Henri Els. Results of the sixth session of the Uzbek-French intergovern-

mental trade and economic cooperation commission, held in July in Tashkent, were also discussed during the meeting, according to Uzbek ministry's message. During the meeting of the intergovernmental commission, it was noted that both Uzbekistan and France attach great importance to expanding and deepening the mutually beneficial trade and economic, in ... (More on P4)...(34)