**Matts Warns of Escalation into War if DPRK Attacks U.S.**

WASHINGTON - U.S. Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis warned on Monday that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) fired at the United States, the situation could spiral into "full-fledged war." "If they [DPRK] fire at the United States, it could escalate to a level beyond all predictions," Mattis told reporters.

"If they [DPRK] fire at the United States, I'm assuming they hit the United States, I'm assuming that's game over," he added. According to Mattis, "in those situations" launched by the DPRK was headed for U.S. territory, Mattis said it would "take it out of a" if a missile was headed for any U.S. territory. If a missile is "inspired by the direction of Guam but not hit the U.S. territory," Mattis said, "then the focus is not an issue we take up however now, we will not allow it to happen." The DPRK military said in a statement Thursday that it had launched a "precision" missile that would be "in the process of targeting Guam within the next few minutes." The White House said President Donald Trump had directed the U.S. military to be ready to fire back at the Korean Peninsula.

**Still Interested in Dialogue with N.Korean: US**

SEOUL, South Korea - U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said on Monday that he had no comment on North Korea's announcement that it had completed plans to test a hydrogen bomb, but "in general" his country was interested in dialogue and it was always prepared to sit down and talk with the North Koreans.

"We are interested in dialogue and the United States is always prepared to sit down and talk with the North Koreans," Tillerson told reporters at the State Department in Washington, adding: "I don't have any comment on the North Korean statement." The U.S. and South Korea's military command were on high alert after the North's claim of completing plans to test a hydrogen bomb.

**Brits Seek “Temporary Customs Union” with EU to Avoid Trade Chaos after Brexit**

LONDON - Britain on Tuesday presented a proposal to the European Union that sought to negotiate a "temporary customs union" with the EU, in an attempt to reduce trade barriers ahead of Brexit talks. A "final agreement" will be reached in the next round of negotiations, which is scheduled to start late next week.

"We believe it can offer a solution to the single market, and the EU has clearly stated that we have to accept the single market," Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May told reporters. "The proposal will not be a preference, but a legal reality of the future relationship between the UK and the EU.

The official document, the first in a series of "transitional arrangements" to reveal the British government's strategy in the post-Brexit period, was published after two countries leaders met in Brussels about an approach to the Brexit negotiations.

**Russia's Draghi's Sussex to Press the Reform**

LUXEMBOURG - Western sanctions have not ex- ercised "particularly negative impact," Draghi said on Monday, but the continent-wide industrial sector and its ability to absorb shocks have been "significant," the Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi said.

"We would say it adapted itself very well, and tried to continue its path," Draghi told reporters at a joint press conference.

**Poland and EU's Points of View on Several Issues**

WARSAW - Poland's government has clashed with EU institutions several times recently, notably on the issues of judicial reform, the system of education, the protection of investors and the fiscal deficit. The EU official document proposed on the post-Brexit period discrimination in the EU.

The Polish judiciary system, launched by the Malenka Law and Justice minister, is controversial in the European Union, which witnessed many scathing comments from the European Union. The EU stressed that the law takes effect, and "the post-Brexit period discrimination in the EU.

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**Abe, Trump Hold Telephone Talks on Korean Peninsula Issue**

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and U.S. President Donald Trump held their first telephone talks on Monday to discuss the rapid deterioration in the relationship between the two countries over the nuclear crisis in North Korea and Japan's security concerns.

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**Iran, Russia Presidents Discuss Syria on Phone**

TEHRAN - Iranian President Hassan Rouhani and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin discussed the situation in Syria on the telephone on Monday. Rouhani and Putin agreed to continue to work to put an end to the war conflict in the country. They also held a phone conversation in Iran on Monday.

The conversation was aimed at discussing the situation in the Syrian war peace talks which are set to take place in Astana at the end of this month, according to Iranian state IRNA agency.

**Tajikistan, Pakistan, Afghanistan Vice Foreign Minister Discusses Karhina Power Plant Construction**

JAYSHGARH (India): Vice Foreign Minister Dr. Mohammad Saeed Hashmi on Thursday reviewed the construction progress of the power plant which is under construction in the northern Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The vice foreign minister is on a three-day visit to the state to review the implementation of the various agreements signed between India and Pakistan.

"To this end, the concerned parties have agreed to extend the deadline for completion of the project," Dr. Hashmi said during a meeting with the joint secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs.

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