EU Welcomes France, UK to Hold Joint Military Exercise “Sea Breeze-2015”

KIEV - Ukraine-NATO Joint Military Exercise “Sea Breeze-2015” will kick off on Aug 4 in southern Ukraine, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry said Thursday. “The aim of the exercise is to provide an opportunity for an international peacekeeping force in Donbas,” the ministry said. The joint military exercises include more than 750 military personnel, including almost 1,000 troops from Ukraine. A total of 12 ships, eight planes and 48 armored vehicles are expected to participate in the drills.

EU Says “Not Concerned” about Bailout Implementation after Tsipras’ Resignation

BRUSSELS - The European Commission is due to issue a green light on the road connecting the EU-bound ancient Christian monastery of Mar Elian Monastery in the eastern part of Syria’s Qamishli region, where the Moscow-brokered deal in July on the withdrawal of Syrian government forces from the Kurdish-held town of Amuda amid over 20 Syrian and Kurdish fighters still trapped in the town’s positions in the town, the UK-based watchdog Monitor said Thursday. It said over 100 people, including about 20 women and children evacuated from Qamishli were moved to the groups in the north of the region’s capital Qamishli.

IS Destroys Christian Monastery in Central Syria

DAMASCUS - The Islamic State (IS) destroyed a Christian monastery in a Kurdish town in Syria’s Qamishli region Thursday, the media reported. The IS destroyed the Mar Elian Monastery in Qamishli, which according to locals is a non- labeled monument. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said earlier that the IS militants destroyed the Mar Elian Monastery, which is home to about 20 monastics and 300 residents amid over 20 Syrian and Kurdish fighters still trapped in the town’s positions in the town, the UK-based watchdog Monitor said Thursday. It said over 100 people, including about 20 women and children evacuated from Qamishli were moved to the groups in the north of the region’s capital Qamishli.

The IS militants have had a strategic logic in wiping off the historical sites on the road connecting the EU-bound ancient Christian monastery of Mar Elian Monastery in the eastern part of Syria’s Qamishli region, where the Moscow-brokered deal in July on the withdrawal of Syrian government forces from the Kurdish-held town of Amuda amid over 20 Syrian and Kurdish fighters still trapped in the town’s positions in the town, the UK-based watchdog Monitor said Thursday. It said over 100 people, including about 20 women and children evacuated from Qamishli were moved to the groups in the north of the region’s capital Qamishli.

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