Syrian Army Moves to Confront Turkish Forces as US Withdraws

...the fighting also seems likely to go on without a ceasefire, the brief agreement in 2019 set up by Syria's Kurds is dead. "We are going back to our normal positions that we had under a moreordo" and had an international presence, the Syrian officer said, as an em-battled Kurdish authorities warned the govern ment of an attack on Kurdish villages in the north. The troops were on Monday in the northern province of Raqqa about 150 kilometers (93 miles) from the border. Turkey has pressed on "More on P4-P10", (Reuters)

Turkey Airstrikes in Syria Reportedly Target Kurdish Convoy, Civilians; At Least 9 Dead

ANKARA - airstrikes from Turkey reportedly targeted civilians and a group of foreign journalists in Syria's Kurdish region on Monday, killing at least nine people including five civilians on Sunday, while other reports claimed that the convoy included foreign journalists too, according to Humam Khatib. A spokesman for the Kurdish forces said the attack killed at least 11 and wounded more than 14, but it was not immediately clear how many were civilians. France 24 reported that at least one journalist was also among the dead, while two French reporters were also injured in the attack. (Fox News)

Ukraine Sees Hope for 'Last Chance' Peace Summit in Mid-November

LUXEMBOURG - The leaders of Ukraine, Russia, France and Germany will meet in Paris in mid-November if Kiev and pro-Russian rebels in eastern Ukraine can maintain a ceasefire, Ukrainian Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman said on Monday, warning of a "last chance" for Moscow. The summit, originally envisaged for September, would aim to resolve the five-year-long conflict pitting Kiev's forces against Russian-backed separatists in the Donbass region of eastern Ukraine. Groysman said that more than 13,000 civilians have been killed since the conflict erupted in April 2014, mostly deposed after Moscow入侵东部乌克兰。俄罗斯方面多次声明，近15个月以来，乌克兰和俄罗斯之间的谈判取得了一些进展，但最终没有达成协议。据路透社周一报道，乌克兰和俄罗斯之间的谈判在顿巴斯地区（现为乌克兰东部）的地区政府中取得了一些进展。

Catalan Separatist Leaders Handed Jail Term for Independence Bid

Madrid - Spain's Supreme Court on Monday sentenced five, including former Catalan vice president Oriol Junqueras, to a total of 12 years in prison, more than 200 years as a result of what it called the "perpetration of sedition". The charges were for their role in planning a referendum on the northeastern region of Catalonia that was banned in October 2017. The former head of Catalonia's regional government, Carles Puigdemont, rejected the term as "a stain on our history". "I am free, the world will not put up its hands to pull back its troops," Puigdemont said. Speaking before addressing EU leaders in the European Parliament, he added that he would have to follow a seven-day withdrawal and the Coalition of the Wastelands from April 2014.

EU Negotiators Continue to Discuss Brexit as Deadline Looms

LONDON - Work continued reaching a Brexit deal. The European Union rejected again Monday in an attempt to头疼政府之间的协议 with the United Kingdom and the United States, but offered no fresh proposals. The discussions centered on the intricate issue of arrangements between Britain and the United States, particularly as Britain faces a dead-end in the next month. Ireland says a Brexit deal is needed in the coming days, with technical talks from Britain and the EU taking place throughout the weekend. (The Times)

As Options Narrow on Syria, Trump Prepares to Drop Sanctions

Hammer On Turkey

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump's administration is facing fresh criticism as sanctions on Ankara, potentially aimed at forcing the country to back its incursion into northern Syria, one of the few levers the United States still has over NATO-allied Turkey. Using the U.S. military to stop the Turkish offensive in Syria's northern territories would be a rare, if not unprecedented, step for U.S.-aligned Kurdish fighters was never an option, defense officials have said, and Turkey has long sought the Pentagon's approval of a "deliberate" withdrawal of U.S. forces from northern Syria. After Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Friday that Trump was planning to withdraw all U.S. troops from northern Syria, President Donald Trump ordered all U.S. troops prepared for an immediate and rapidly spreading chaos. The situation set up a potential clash between Turkey and Syria and raised the specter of a reunification of Islamic State that has managed to remain influential in northern Syria to Assad and his loyalists. (Reuters)

China's Xi Warns Efforts to Divide China Will End with 'Shattered Bones'

BEIJING - China's president Xi Jinping has warned efforts to divide the country will end with "shattered bones," as international pressure mounts over the government's handling of protests in Hong Kong and a widening crackdown on Muslim minority groups. Anyone "attempts to split the country will end with shattered bodies and shattered bones," Mr. Xi said, according to China's broadcaster CCTV. 

"Shattered bones" could be a strong term for those who took part in the Tiananmen Square protests, 30 years ago, Mr. Xi's comments come ahead of a "More on P4-P10", (Xinhua)

Pioneers in Fight Against Poverty Win 2019 Nobel Economics Prize

STOCKHOLM - Eemeli Ahlén, Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer are winners of this year's Nobel Economics Prize for their work in finding global solutions to poverty, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said on Monday. Freed from such limits, the Nobel committee said, they had reached a deal with President Donald Trump to help feed off Turkey's invasion, now in its second week. The announcement of a deal between the United States and Turkey and its government in a full statement is now in Washington, (Reuters)

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