

Trump Says Osama Bin Laden's Son Was Killed in US Operation

WASHINGTON - US President Donald Trump has confirmed that the son of Osama Bin Laden, Hamza, was killed in a US "counterterrorism operation." The death of Bin Laden's possible successor was reported earlier this year.

"Hamza Bin Laden, the high-ranking Al-Qaeda member and son of Osama Bin Laden, was killed in a United States counterterrorism operation in the Afghanistan/Pakistan region," said a statement from Trump's office sent to journalists on Saturday.

The death of Hamza has deprived Al-Qaeda of his "important leadership skills and the symbolic connection to his father." Within Al-Qae-



da, Bin Laden's son was "responsible for planning and dealing with various terrorist groups,"

it added.

Hamza Bin Laden's death in an airstrike was first

reported late in July. Back then, Trump said that the man was "very threatening" to the US, but declined to provide any further details. With the official confirmation of Hamza's death, however, it still remains unclear when - and where - the US operation took place exactly.

Hamza made his last known public statement through an Al-Qaeda propaganda mouthpiece in 2018, threatening Saudi Arabia with terrorist attacks and calling for the Saudi monarchy to be overthrown. Son of the 9/11 attacks mastermind, born around 1989 in Jeddah, has long been wanted by the FBI, which offered

Ivanka Trump Reveals Origins of Her 'Moral Compass'

WASHINGTON - The president's daughter's words about what traits she inherited from her parents seemed to echo her speech at the Republican National Convention in 2016 where she told the audience how Donald Trump taught her "the importance of positive values". US President Donald Trump's daughter and adviser Ivanka offered an insight regarding her personality traits to the participants of a fundraiser in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, Politico reports.

According to the media outlet, Ivanka made the reveal after being asked which traits she inherited from her parents. In response, she said that it was her father who "passed onto her his moral compass", while her mother "gave her an example of how to be a powerful, successful woman." In 2016, Ivanka also made a similar statement at the Republican National Convention where she told the audience how her father taught her and her ...*(More on P4)...(11)*

Drone Strikes Target World's Largest Oil Processing Facility, Saudi Oil Field; Attack Claimed by Iranian-Backed Rebels

RIYADH - The world's largest oil processing facility and a nearby oil field in Saudi Arabia were set ablaze early Saturday morning after reported drone attacks by Iranian-backed Yemeni rebels. The Interior Ministry was quoted by state-run media as saying the fires at the Abqaiq oil processing facility in Buqayq and the nearby Khurais oil field operated by Saudi Aramco were "targeted by drones." It wasn't immediately

clear if there were any injuries, nor what effect it would have on oil production in the kingdom. Houthi rebels - who are backed by Iran in a yearslong Saudi-led war against them in Yemen - have reportedly claimed responsibility for the attacks and vowed that further attacks could be expected in the future. The military spokesman Yahia Sarie said in a short address aired by Houthi's Al-Masirah satellite news channel that the group launched 10 drones in a coordi-



ated attack on the sites. State television showed footage showing smoke from the blazes clearly rising behind a corre ...*(More on P4)...(9)*

Turkey Orders Arrest of 223 Military Personnel Over Suspected Gulen Links: State Media



ANKARA - Turkey has ordered the arrest of 223 serving military personnel across the country and in the breakaway state of Northern Cyprus over

suspected links to a network Ankara accuses of organizing an attempted coup in 2016, state media said on Saturday. Authorities are seeking the

suspects across 49 provinces in Turkey and in Northern Cyprus, state broadcaster TRT Haber said. It said 100 of those facing arrest were from the army, while 41 from the air force and 32 from the navy. Ankara blames U.S.-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who has lived in self-imposed exile in Pennsylvania since 1999, of masterminding the failed putsch on July 15, 2016. He has denied any involvement.

In the three-year purge since the coup attempt, more than 77,000 people

have been jailed pending trial and about 150,000 civil servants, military personnel and others have been sacked or suspended from their jobs. Turkey's Western allies and rights groups have criticized the scale of the crackdown, saying President Tayyip Erdogan has used the abortive coup as a pretext to quash dissent. Ankara has defended the measures as a necessary response to the scale of the security threat which Turkey faces, vowing to eradicate Gulen's network. (Reuters)

Ex-SNB Economist Says Talk of Rate Cut Boosts Swiss Shares: NZZ

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A further cut to negative Swiss interest rates could have the undesired effect of strengthening the franc as foreign investors pile into the country's outperforming stock market to reap superior returns over bonds, former Swiss National Bank Chief Economist Kurt Schiltknecht wrote in daily Neue Zuercher Zeitung.

"These investment opportunities don't go unnoticed by foreign investors and often result in upward pressure on the franc," Schiltknecht said in an article published on Saturday ahead of the SNB's monetary policy decision on Sept. 19 and after the European Central Bank announced its latest easing package this week. The Swiss Market Index, which includes Europe's most valuable companies, Nestle SA ...*(More on P4)...(12)*

Ukrainian State Bureau of Investigation Carries Out Searches at Poroshenko's Bank

KIEV - The Ukrainian State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) conducted searches in the International Investment Bank (IIB), the main stakeholder of which is the former President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, reports Interfax-Ukraine news agency, citing the press service of the SBI.

Operational and investigative actions are carried out as part of the investigation of the sale of the shipbuilding and armament company, the Kuznya na Rybalskomu plant, reports the SBI.

A former deputy head in the administration of ex-Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich Andriy Portnov reported on his ...*(More on P4)...(13)*

Italy 'Puts an End' to Salvini Era as 82 Rescued Migrants Allowed to Dock

ROME - A rescue ship carrying 82 refugees has received permission to dock on an Italian island, suggesting the hard line taken on such vessels by Matteo Salvini's former government may be easing under the new coalition.

Ocean Viking's crew said that after days of appealing for a port of safety, Italian authorities instructed them to sail to Lampedusa, a small Italian island between Malta and Tunisia.

It is the first time in 2019 that Italy's government has granted a charity rescue boat permission to disembark. Italy's previous government, under a rigid anti-migrant policy led by League's right-wing leader Mr Salvini, banned ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

In Push for Race and Religion, Malaysian Opposition Formalizes Pact

KUALA LUMPUR - Malaysia's two oldest political parties signed a charter of formal co-operation on Saturday, presenting arguably the largest political platform for the majority Malay-Muslims at a time of simmering racial and religious tensions.

Southeast Asia's third-largest economy has seen a string of racial flare-ups over the past year and a half, as Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's nascent government grapples with an increasingly unhappy majority that fears it is losing its special privileges.

The union between former ruling party UMNO, which was ousted by Mahathir's coalition in a general



election last year, and Islamist party PAS, promises that political power will return to the ethnic Malay-Muslims should they win in the next polls due in 3 years. "The confusion within the government now is because of the absence of brave and worthy Malay leaders," UMNO President Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said at the signing of the charter, attended by thousands of members from both

parties. Prime Minister Mahathir's administration has had to delay or withdraw many of its planned reforms after a backlash from the opposition and conservative groups representing ethnic Malays. Malaysia had to withdraw plans to ratify a U.N. convention against racial discrimination, and to accede to the Rome Statute, which ...*(More on P4)...(10)*

Germany's Climate Protection Measures to Cost 40 Billion Euros by 2023: Source

BERLIN - Climate protection measures that Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservatives and their Social Democrat coalition partners want to unveil next week will cost at least 40 billion euros until 2023, a person briefed on the talks told Reuters on Saturday. "We agree that something needs to be

done but it is still open which form this will take," the source briefed on the talks said late on Friday. "We still have not agreed on a price for a tonne of CO2." The government wants to unveil its climate protection package on Sept. 20. (Reuters)

Neighbor News

Nuclear War's Consequences Are Inconceivable: PM

ISLAMABAD - Prime Minister Imran Khan has warned the global powers and the international community of grave consequences if a nuclear war breaks out between arch-rivals Pakistan and India.

In an interview with Al Jazeera, he said, "It is a nation that will fight till the last breath," he said while referring to a possibility of using nuclear arms in the war.

"The aftermath of a nuclear conflict is unimaginable and anything is possible if two nuclear-armed states enter into war against each other," he said.

"No sane person can talk of a nuclear war. Pakistan will go to eve-

ry extent for [rights] of Kashmiris."

He affirmed that this was the reason Pakistan has been approaching every international forum for resolution of the long-standing dispute as the possible devastation would affect the entire subcontinent.

"Pakistan doesn't want to initiate a war as wars create more problems. I am against war as I believe that wars don't solve problems," he added. As an example, the premier referred to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and mentioned those wars later unfolded more intense issues. ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

Iran Plans to Save \$10bn on Imports of Industrial Goods

TEHRAN - Iran's minister of industry says imports of manufacturing goods, including machinery and equipment used in major production lines, would be down by \$10 billion in 2021.

Reza Rahmani said on Saturday that Iran has a comprehensive plan to "deepen domestic manufacturing and to indigenize the country's industrial needs". The comments come as Iran is seeking to diversify its economy amid some tough and unprecedented sanctions imposed by the United States.

Speaking in a meeting with young entrepreneurs in Tehran, Rah-

mani said Iran was resuscitating thousands of factories and plants that had become defunct as a result of decades of massive imports into the country.

He said more than 1,850 industrial units across the country had already resumed operations while another 2,000 will be reopened until March this year.

The minister said the government had carried out a major study about import needs in the manufacturing sector, including on the hardware and machinery that are normally produced outside Iran, adding that the results of a survey would be ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

EBRD and SECO Help Improve Water Services in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE - Over 180,000 citizens of Khujand, the second-largest city in Tajikistan, will have regular access to safe drinking water and improved wastewater services thanks to a joint investment of \$8.85 million by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). Trend reports with reference to EBRD. Through their contributions, the two institutions have financed a wastewater treatment plant that was launched on September 13 at a ceremony attended by Mayor of Khujand Maruf Muhammadzoda and representatives of SECO and the EBRD. Specialised equipment for wastewater treat-

ment management was handed over to the Khujand Water Company.

The rehabilitation program at the Khujand wastewater treatment plant began in late 2018 and addressed the key issues of modernisation and rehabilitation. It also included the replacement of sewerage collectors and pipes, the rehabilitation of the water supply network, the installation of specialised meters and other essential improvements. The newly rehabilitated plant will help the Khujand Water Company significantly improve the quality of water discharged to the Syr-Darya River, which will have a positive impact on the local and regional ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

Turkmenistan Implementing EU Border Management Program

ASHGABAT - Ashgabat hosted a regular meeting of the National Coordination Group for the Implementation of the EU Border Management Program in Central Asia - Phase 9 (BOMCA-9). Trend reports citing the State Customs Service of Turkmenistan.

The meeting was attended by the main partners of the Program in Turkmenistan - the Foreign Ministry, the State Customs Service, the State Border Service, the State Migration Service, the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as representatives of embassies of the EU countries accredited in Turkmenistan.

A meeting with the regional head of BOM-

CA-9 Maris Domins, the head of the customs component of the Program Vyantas Paigozin and others was held at the State Customs Service of Turkmenistan.

The main strategy of the BOMCA Program is to promote stability and security of Central Asian countries through integrated border management and regional cooperation. BOMCA assists Central Asian countries in their pursuit of regional economic development and facilitates trade in Central Asia, with neighboring countries and between the countries of Central Asia and the ...*(More on P4)...(19)*