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Turkey kills 27 PKK terrorists in Qandil

ANKARA - A total of 27 PKK terrorists were killed in air-strikes carried out by Turkish military in northern Iraq's Qandil Mountains on Wednesday, Turkish General Staff announced Friday. In a brief statement the military said the operation was launched between... **MORE DETAILS**



'Only Turkey truly fights Daesh'

Turkish PM Binali Yildirim says world is pretending to fight against terrorist group

ANKARA - Turkey is the only country that is truly fighting against the Daesh terrorist organization, Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said on Friday. Speaking at an opening ceremony of environmental projects in Ankara, Yildirim said the world was pretending to fight against the terror group, while Turkey was doing the actual fight. He said Turkey has resolved the issue of Al-Bab, Syria's northern

strategic town where Turkish-military backed Free Syrian Army (FSA) forces are now said to be in control. "Life returns to normal there," he added. On Thursday, Defense Minister Fikri Isik said FSA fighters took control of "almost all" of Al-Bab as part of the ongoing Operation Euphrates Shield. The Turkey-led Operation Euphrates Shield aims to provide

security, support U.S.-led coalition forces, and eliminate presence of terrorists along Syria's northern border with Turkey. The operation, which began last summer, relies heavily on FSA fighters backed by Turkish artillery and air support. Yildirim also noted Turkey continues to host around 3 million refugees while it rescued 50,000 people from drowning on their way to the Aegean islands in the last five

years. He added: "We are fighting simultaneously against PKK, Daesh and the Fetullah Terrorist Organization [FETO]." The PKK, listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the U.S., and EU -- resumed its armed campaign in July 2015 and since then has been responsible for the deaths of approximately 1,100 security personnel and civilians, including women and... **MORE DETAILS**

Turks in Britain worry about future of visa-free deal



By Ahmet Gurhan Kartal

LONDON - Thousands of Turkish people living in Britain on a permit created by a special 1963 treaty are being told their situation will be

"business as usual" during

Brexit. However, the U.K.'s moves to leave the EU are throwing up complex legal questions which could affect thousands of Turkish people living in

Britain. Turkey's ambassador to the U.K., Abdurrahman Bilgic, told Anadolu Agency those citizens living in Britain on a business document linked to the September 1963 Ankara Agreement would not see a change in their status while the U.K. negotiates its departure from the European Union. Under the free-visa scheme, Turkish citizens are entitled to set up a business in the U.K. and live in the country with no further requirements. It has been a very popular initiative, with up to 20,000 Turks now living in the U.K. under the Ankara Agreement. However, Bilgic pointed out the Ankara Agreement was not a bilateral U.K./Turkey deal. "Once the U.K. officially exits from the EU, it will not be a party to the... **MORE DETAILS**

Blast kills 60 in Al-Bab



AL-BAB, Syria - An attack by the Daesh terrorist group killed at least 60 people and injured 100 others in northern Syria's strategic Al-Bab area on Friday. According to local sources speaking anonymously

to an Anadolu Agency correspondent, Daesh detonated a bomb-laden vehicle at a Free Syrian Army (FSA) position in Susyan village. Initial reports indicated at least

35 people died, with civilians and FSA members among the fatalities. Civilians accounted for the majority of those killed, the sources added. Of those injured... **MORE DETAILS**

Turkish aid agency inspects prison in Libya's Tripoli

By Jabur Dorken

TRIPOLI, Libya - A delegation from Turkey's IHH humanitarian relief organization visited Tripoli's Al-Hadaba Prison this week to inspect conditions at the facility. An IHH official, who preferred not to divulge his name, told Anadolu Agency that the delegation had arrived at the prison earlier this week after obtaining approval from the



Libyan public prosecutor's office. Inmates at the prison include a number of figures associated with late Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi. Delegation members met with Al-Saadi Gaddafi, the late leader's son; Gaddafi-era intelligence chief Abdullah Senussi; and Baghdadi Mahmudi, Gaddafi's last prime minister -- all of whom are being held at the prison. "This is a purely... **MORE DETAILS**

Iraqi Army frees Mosul Airport

NINEVEH - Iraqi forces on Friday managed to capture Mosul's international airport from the Daesh terrorist group, according to a high-ranking Federal Police source. "The airport has been totally liberated and Federal Police units are now advancing on western Mosul's Al-Tayaran district," Federal Police Commander Raed... **MORE DETAILS**

Canadian province passes anti-Islamophobia motion

By Barry Ellsworth

TRENTON, Ont. - The province of Ontario passed an anti-Islamophobia motion Thursday as a similar motion has run into opposition at the federal government level. The motion put forth by Liberal Member of the Provincial Parliament Nathalie Des Rosiers sets the standard to "stand against all forms of hatred, hostility, prejudice, racism and intolerance" and censures "a growing tide of anti-Muslim rhetoric and sentiments". It also condemns all forms of Islamophobia, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) reported. The passage of the motion is important because more than one-third of Canada's population of 35 million lives in Ontario, which also has the largest number of Muslim-Canadians (146,000) and includes Toronto, the province's capital and the country's largest city. Ottawa, Canada's capital, is also in Ontario.

Des Rosiers put forth the motion in December after a number of anti-Islamophobia incidents occurred in the Ottawa-Vanier area she represents in parliament. They included anti-Muslim graffiti and women spit on for wearing their hijabs -- the traditional head covering for women. Six men were shot to death inside a Quebec City mosque Jan. 29. Ontario's Muslim Attorney General Yasir Naqvi said that following the killings, his office received a telephone call from a Muslim man who asked if it were safe to send his son to school, the Toronto Star newspaper reported. He said Muslims throughout Canada were disconsolate concerning the shootings. "That's not the society we live in. That's not the society we're building," he said, according to the Star. All three Ontario political parties -- the governing Liberals, Conservatives and the New Democrat Party -- unanimously supported the motion. "Islamophobia is real... **MORE DETAILS**

Anti-immigrant protest in SA turns violent



By Hassan Isilow

JOHANNESBURG -Police in South Africa fired stun grenades and rubber bullets Friday to break up a standoff between anti-immigrant protesters and a group of foreign nationals in the capital Pretoria. Ihsaan Haffejee, a photojournalist for Anadolu Agency, was hit twice in the back by rubber bullets as police attempted to disperse the crowd. Live television images showed a group of protesters opposed to alleged illegal immigrants gathering near shops belonging to foreign nationals whom they attempted to attack. Foreign nationals armed with rocks, sticks and pipes then struck back, leading to a major standoff forcing police to intervene. "I got hit twice in the back. I was taking photos of... **MORE DETAILS**

Egypt detains MB leaders

By Hussein al-Qabbani

CAIRO - The Egyptian authorities on Thursday arrested six leaders of the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood movement, according to a lawyer for the outlawed group. Speaking to Anadolu Agency, lawyer Abdel Moneim Abd al-Maqsood identified the detained group leaders as Mohamed Abdel Rahman al-Morsi, Mohamed Amer, Jalal Mahmoud Mustafa, Ezzat Abdel-Fattah, Amr al-Sarwi and Ahmed Gaballah.

Al-Morsi heads up the group's Supreme Administrative Committee, making him the Brotherhood's second-in-command after acting group leader Mahmoud Ezzat. According to a Brotherhood source who spoke to Anadolu Agency anonymously due to fears of reprisal, Ezzat was not among those detained in Thursday's round-up. Anadolu Agency was unable to obtain immediate comment on the detentions from the Egyptian authorities. **MORE DETAILS**