



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte (C) following his arrival at Cagayan de Oro airport on the southern island of Mindanao.

# Duterte makes visit to warzone

**Manila** Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte made a surprise visit to the wartorn city of Marawi yesterday where troops are still engaged in a brutal fight to crush Islamic State group-inspired militants.

Duterte flew by helicopter into the local military headquarters in a show of support for troops who have been engaged in an almost two month-long battle that has claimed over 500 lives.

"He really showed his courage, he showed his strong support for our soldiers in their fight in Marawi City,"

said Lieutenant Colonel Jo-ar Herrera, spokesman of military forces in the warzone.

"It boosted morale and the fighting spirit of the men and women of Task Force Marawi," Herrera told local media.

Duterte, who was dressed in military camouflage, thanked the soldiers for their efforts and gave out watches and other gifts to cheer the soldiers up, Herrera added.

The president, who declared martial law over the southern Philippines as the fighting began on May 23, stayed inside the camp,

inspecting firearms seized from the militants, before departing, the spokesman said.

The fighting in the southern city of Marawi, the Muslim capital of the largely Catholic Philippines, has become the greatest challenge facing Duterte, the first president to hail from the country's troubled south.

The president has asked lawmakers to allow him to extend martial law over the south until the end of the year to deal with the militant threat but critics fear this would edge the country closer to dictatorship. (AFP)

# Britain's Johnson meets high-tech robots in Japan

**Tokyo** British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson yesterday shook hands with one of Japan's high-tech robots, a humanoid candidate to carry the torch as part of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Johnson, kicking off a trip to Japan, visited the robotic centre at Waseda University, which works closely with Britain's University of Birmingham on robotic technologies.

He witnessed a demonstration of WABIAN II, which resembles a tiny astronaut that Waseda hopes will make the list of torch runners for the Games.

"No kidding!" Johnson said, when told of the plan.

Smiling, he walked with the humanoid and also shook hands with it.



Britain's Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson shakes hands with a humanoid robot Wabian2

Johnson also observed a demonstration of a disaster recovery robot, named Octopus -- a four-armed, four-wheeled crawler designed to clear rubble and save lives in areas with complex terrain.

## #PollToday



Do you think Germany's measures against Turkey will have a major impact on the Turkish economy?

Yes  No  Cant Say



If China, unilaterally changes the status quo of the tri-junction point (where the boundaries of China, India and Bhutan meet), it is a straight challenge to our security, both sides must pull back troops and work things out with talks

Sushma Swaraj,  
Indian Foreign Minister

## Rest in sight

Germany nets record 3.8-tonne cocaine haul



Customs officials in Germany seized a record haul of cocaine in the northern port city of Hamburg, smuggled from South America in shipping containers.

France lifts ban on embalming HIV deceased

France lifted a ban on embalming the bodies of HIV-positive people, ending three decades of discrimination in death against people infected with the AIDS virus.

Bolivia seizes one ton of cocaine heading to Brazil

Bolivian police have announced the seizure of one ton of cocaine worth some \$10 million and destined to be shipped to Brazil.

Germany stages raids against child porn suspects

German prosecutors carried out nationwide raids against people believed to possess child pornography, targeting nearly 70 prime suspects.

For more, catch us online at:

[www.newsofbahrain.com](http://www.newsofbahrain.com)

[/nobonline](https://www.facebook.com/nobonline)

[/newsofbahrain](https://www.instagram.com/newsofbahrain)

## Bus crash kills 28 in northern India: police



The wreckage of a bus lies in a gorge following an accident near the Indian town of Rampur

Shimla

At least 28 people were killed yesterday after a bus plunged into a deep gorge in a Himalayan region of northern India popular with tourists, police said.

The accident occurred around 100 kilometres (62 miles) from the hill resort of Shimla in Himachal Pradesh state, said police superintendent Soumiya Sambasivan.

"28 people have died and seven are injured. All the bodies have been identified," she said.

The bus was taking around 40 people from Kinnaur district towards Solan when

it rolled roughly 200 metres down a gorge to the banks of a river.

Images from the scene showed emergency workers conducting a rescue operation with the help of local volunteers.

Last week, 16 pilgrims died in a bus crash in neighbouring Jammu and Kashmir state, while in April 44 people were killed in Himachal Pradesh in a similar accident.

India has some of the world's highest traffic fatalities with more than 150,000 deaths annually due to poor roads, badly maintained vehicles and reckless driving.

## Head of 'Mafia Capitale' sentenced to 20 years



Prosecutor Giuseppe Cascini (standing C-L) speaking at Rome's tribunal (file photo)

Rome

The ringleader of a gang whose criminal tentacles reached into almost every department of Rome's City Hall was sentenced to 20 years in prison by an Italian court yesterday.

Massimo Carminati, 59, a convicted gangster with a history of involvement with violent far-right groups, had been accused along with 45 others of operating a "mafia-style" network that used extortion, fraud and theft to divert millions of euros destined for public services into their own pockets.

His right-hand man and fellow defendant Salvatore Buzzi, 61, was handed a 19-year jail term by the court at the capital city's Rebibbia jail.

The scandal, which led to a 20-month trial in the high-security prison, had been dubbed "Mafia Capitale" by the media.

But judge Rosanna Ianniello said Carminati and Buzzi were guilty of corruption but not of mafia association.

"The sentence is stiff, but the whole trial revolved around the question: 'Was it mafia or not?'" Carminati's lawyer Ippolita Naso said.

"Mafia Capitale does not exist," she said.

Of the 46 people on trial, five were acquitted, including two men accused by prosecutors of being the link between the criminal band and the powerful 'Ndrangheta mafia in Calabria in southern Italy.