

DT NEWS

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Tweet of the Day



Five years after the devastating attack on teachers and children in Sandy Hook, we mourn them and remember them. America needs common-sense gun laws more than ever and we must not stop pushing until we get them.

@BillClinton

Today's Weather



Max

Min

25°C

14°C



Record victory for Man City

P 24



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Leading the way



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday attended the Royal Academy of Police (RAP) award ceremony to honour the tenth class of candidate officers. His Royal Highness was welcomed by Minister of Interior, Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, and other senior officers from the Ministry of Interior. (See page 2)

Saudi-backed alliance to help G5 Sahel: minister



P 03

MoH recalls baby milk products of French origin



P 05

Festivities galore for National day

Paris

A Saudi-backed military coalition will provide logistical, intelligence and training to a new West African counter-terrorism force that is struggling to get off the ground, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister said.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on Wednesday agreed to provide about \$150 million to the G5 Sahel force, which is composed of the armies of Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Burkina Faso and Chad, a

sign that Gulf Arab states are upping their influence in the region.

Speaking in an interview with France 24 television, Adel al-Jubeir said his country's contribution would go much further by using the platform of the recently-established Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition to support the G5 Sahel.

"Because of our commitment to fighting terrorism and extremism we made the commitment to provide 100 million euros to

these forces and we made this commitment also to provide logistics, training, intelligence and air support through the Islamic military coalition to this effort," Jubeir said.

Some 40 Muslim-majority nations met in Riyadh at the end of November to begin fleshing it out details of the alliance first conceived two years by Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, but that until now has yet to take any decisive international action in its mandate to fight terrorism.

"We will be hosting a meeting of this new group to coordinate this military support to those (G5) countries," Jubeir said, referring to a meeting the Islamic Alliance, adding that Riyadh would also provide humanitarian assistance.

The G5 Sahel launched a symbolic military operation to mark its creation in October amid growing unrest in the Sahel, whose porous borders are regularly crossed by jihadists, including affiliates of al Qaeda and

Islamic State.

After a meeting in Paris on Wednesday, the French and Malian leaders said they hoped the G5 would secure its first victories by the middle of 2018 to prove its worth and ensure more concrete support from the United Nations.

In Rome, a defense ministry official said Italy will send several hundred troops to Niger, a member of the G5 Sahel, next year to help train local forces battling jihadi militants. (Reuters)