

# WORLD

## 17 dead as boat sinks in Missouri lake

Washington, United States

A tourist boat capsized and sank Thursday during a fierce storm on a lake in Missouri, killing at least 17 people, the local sheriff said.

The incident on Table Rock Lake which happened as thunderstorms rumbled through the US Midwest left another seven people hospitalized while at least five were still missing, Stone County Sheriff Doug Rader told journalists, saying some of the dead were children.

The local branch of the Cox Medical Center said two people were in critical condition, while the sheriff added several people had made it to shore.

## Pakistan troops kill IS-linked blast mastermind

Quetta, Pakistan

Pakistani security forces on Friday killed the mastermind of the country's worst ever suicide bombing in an early morning shootout in the southwest province of Balochistan, officials said.

The operation was carried out on an intelligence tip off about the presence of an Islamic State (IS) operative identified as Hidayat Ullah in a house in Darenjo village of Qalat district in the restive province.

"The Frontier Corps (FC) raided the house and killed Hidayat Ullah after a strong resistance from him," Qaisar Khan, a senior administration official in Qalat, said.

## UN warns of war as deadly Israeli strikes pound Gaza

Kunduz, Afghanistan

Israeli forces unleashed a wave of strikes across the Gaza Strip after saying troops came under fire, killing three Hamas members as a fresh escalation heightened fears of wider conflict.

Fireballs exploded into the sky over the Palestinian enclave as the UN urged all sides to step "back from the brink" of war after months of tensions. A fourth Palestinian was also shot dead during protests along the frontier with Israel, Gaza's health ministry said.

United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Nickolay Mladenov said "everyone in Gaza needs to step back from the brink. Not next week. Not tomorrow. Right NOW!" "Those who want to provoke Palestinians and Israelis into another war must not succeed," he wrote on Twitter.

# Knife attack on bus

Attacker arrested, several injured, no one was killed

- The attacker is an Iranian man in his mid-30s
- Germany has been on high alert
- Security services estimate there are around 11,000 Islamic radicals in Germany



Policemen stand near a public service bus in Kuecknitz near Luebeck northern Germany

AFP | Berlin, Germany

Several people were injured yesterday in an attack by a man wielding a knife on a bus in northern Germany, officials said yesterday, although his motive remained unclear.

The packed bus was heading in the direction of Travemuende, a popular beach destination

close to the city of Luebeck, when a man pulled a weapon on passengers, local media Luebecker Nachrichten reported, quoting an unnamed witness.

The bus driver immediately stopped the vehicle, allowing passengers to escape, the daily said on its website.

"The passengers jumped out of the bus and were screaming. It was terrible. Then the injured were brought out. The perpetrator had a kitchen knife," a witness who lives close to the scene, Lothar H., told the daily.

An unnamed female passenger on the bus said one of those

injured had only just given up his seat to an elderly woman, "when the perpetrator stabbed him in the chest."

A police car which happened to be close by arrived at the scene quickly, allowing officers to detain the assailant, added the report.

Confirming that a man went at fellow passengers on the bus with a knife, Luebeck chief prosecutor Ursula Hingst added: "We will not release information on the identity of the man nor the motive of the act."



Germany remains a target for jihadist groups, in particular because of its involvement in the coalition fighting IS in Iraq and Syria, and its deployment in Afghanistan since 2001

# Can't interrogate US citizens, says Trump

AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump has rejected a proposal by Vladimir Putin to allow Russian officials to interrogate a former US ambassador and other American citizens, the White House said Thursday.

## 'I don't know' what they said'

Washington

The top US intelligence official said Thursday that, three days after President Donald Trump met privately with Russian leader Vladimir Putin for more than two hours, he does not know what the two men discussed or agreed.

"I don't know what hap-

pened in that meeting," Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats said.

"I think as time goes by, and the president has already mentioned some things that happened in that meeting, I think we will learn more."

Coats oversees and coordinates the CIA, NSA and other US espionage bodies.

## 'Good for all': Merkel

Berlin, Germany

Meetings between the US and Russian presidents should become the "normality", German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Friday, adding that it is "good for all" that Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin plan new talks.

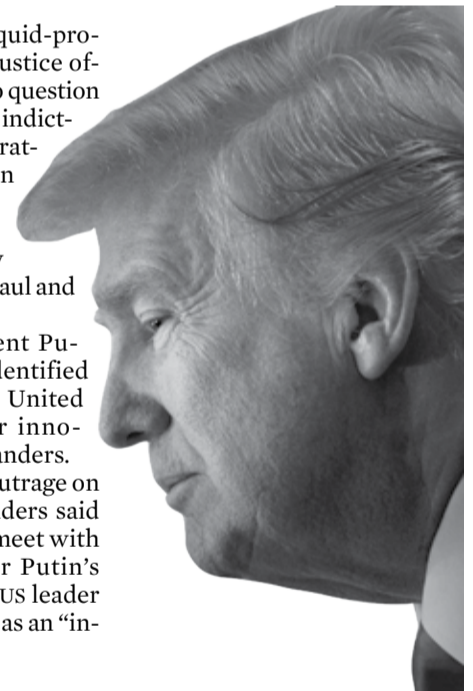
"That talks are held is basically good for all, in particular between these two countries," Merkel said at her regular summer press conference.

Trump is planning to host Putin for talks in Washington later this year, after a first bilateral meeting in Helsinki on Monday.

Putin had offered a quid-pro-quo of permitting US justice officials to go to Russia to question 12 intelligence officers indicted for hacking Democratic Party computers, in exchange for Russia being allowed to question former US envoy to Russia Michael McFaul and others.

"Hopefully President Putin will have the 12 identified Russians come to the United States to prove their innocence or guilt," said Sanders.

McFaul expressed outrage on Wednesday when Sanders said Trump was "going to meet with his team" to consider Putin's proposal -- which the US leader had initially described as an "incredible offer."



# Kenyan beauty queen sentenced to death for murder

Kamande's lawyer Joyner Okonjo said she would appeal the sentence

AFP | Nairobi, Kenya

A Kenyan court has sentenced a 24-year-old beauty queen to death for murdering her boyfriend by stabbing him 25 times, drawing criticism from rights groups who called the punishment "inhumane".

Ruth Kamande, who won a prison beauty pageant while awaiting trial, slashed her partner Farid Mohammed, 24, to death in 2015 and was convicted in May.

"I want young people to know that it is not cool to kill your boyfriend or girlfriend even where you feel disappointed or frustrated -- don't do it," said High Court judge Jessie Lesiit passing



This picture taken on August 30, 2016 shows Ruth Kamande after having been crowned 'Miss Lang'ata Women Prison' in Nairobi as she awaited trial for killing her boyfriend in 2015

sentence on Thursday. "Instead, it is cool to walk

away and thereafter to forgive." The judge accused Kaman-



Kenya has an effective ban on carrying out death sentences and no death row prisoner has been executed since 1987.

de of "manipulative" behaviour that included accessing the victim's mobile phone as well as showing no remorse for the vicious attack which left "blood all over" the crime scene.

"I think passing any other sentence than the one prescribed (death) would turn the accused into a hero," said Lesiit.

The victim's family insisted the sentence matched the crime.

"We're glad that this day came and his grandparents, his sister were actually in court today when this verdict was given," the victim's tearful aunt Emmah Wanjiku told reporters after the sentencing.

"He had just started his job when his life was cut short."