



US researchers find fasting may slow aging, burn fat



France: Riots over 'police violence' peter out



Turkish teams in Europa League challenge

97 YEARS
AA
ANADOLU AGENCY

ANADOLU POST

Friday, February 17, 2017

WEATHER / ANKARA
Friday sunny 3°C

Turkey 'as safe as US' prime minister says



Binali Yildirim underlines importance of tourism at industry meeting

ISTANBUL - Turkey is "as safe as the United States," Prime Minister Binali Yildirim told a tourism conference on Thursday. Speaking at the opening of the World Tourism Forum in Istanbul, Yildirim said the

threat from terrorism was global. "If we are talking about security, nowhere in the world is safe... terrorism does not recognize borders," he said. "There is no place safe from terrorism. The fear and threat of terrorism is only useful to terrorists. "I say it proudly and confidently -- Turkey is as safe as the United States, Istanbul is as safe as Paris, Ankara is as safe as Sarajevo, Izmir is as safe as Baku. Therefore, please

do not let terrorism sabotage tourism." The prime minister hailed those working in the tourism sector as "volunteer peace ambassadors". A string of terror attacks across Turkey have threatened the country's vital tourism industry, with the number of foreign visitors dropping from 36.8 million in 2014 to 25.4 million last year, according to the Culture and Tourism Ministry. However, Yildirim said Turkey... **MORE DETAILS**

FETO schools in US collect \$60M taxpayer money

NEW YORK - A group of charter schools in the U.S. state of New Jersey affiliated with the Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO) last year collected tens of millions of dollars of taxpayer money, according to an investigative report published by a local daily Wednesday. The investigation conducted by The Record newspaper and its website,

NorthJersey.com, revealed that some founders of these schools have close ties to the FETO network, led by Fetullah Gulen, a Turkish expatriate living in neighboring Pennsylvania whose extradition is being sought by Ankara for allegedly masterminding last year's deadly coup attempt in Turkey. It found that seven schools in... **MORE DETAILS**



Al-Bab 'entirely surrounded': Turkish def. min.

Fikri Isik says Turkish troops, allies have encircled key Syrian town

BRUSSELS - Turkish soldiers and Turkey-backed Syrian rebels have completely surrounded the Daesh-held town of Al-Bab, Ankara's defense minister said on Thursday. Speaking in Brussels, Fikri Isik said Turkey would help civilians living in Al-Bab and would fix the town's infrastructure after the terror group is driven out. "Now, Al-Bab is completely surrounded. A serious cleaning operation is being done inside [the town]. "There

is a very intense operation to clear Al-Bab's town center of Daesh elements. The Free Syrian Army [FSA] and the Turkish Armed Forces have been conducting [operations] together," Isik told reporters at a news conference. Turkey has been carrying out a military operation in northern Syria since last August. Led by FSA fighters, Operation Euphrates Shield aims to improve security, support coalition forces, and eliminate... **MORE DETAILS**

Arab nations' Trump gamble

OPINION

By Hussain Abdul-Hussain

WASHINGTON - Muslims have been on top of President Donald Trump's list of enemies. During his electoral campaign, he called for a sweeping ban on the entry of all Muslims to the U.S., and for the creation of a database to register

Muslim Americans. Once in power, Trump's aggressive position against Muslims moderated, as he limited his travel ban to seven countries with Muslim majorities, and described his move as an "extreme vetting" precaution. **MORE DETAILS**

Greek Cypriot leader walks out of talks

Turkish Cypriot president says Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Anastasiades is 'free to reopen slammed door'

LEFKOSA - Cyprus peace talks came to a sudden halt on Thursday after an apparent walkout by Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Anastasiades. Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) President Mustafa Akinci said Thursday's unification talks ended abruptly when Anastasiades angrily walked out of the room. Speaking to reporters following his meeting with the Greek Cypriot leader -- hosted by the UN in Lefkosa -- Akinci said: "After Anastasiades finished his speech,

the UN adviser on Cyprus [Espen Barth] Eide took the floor to summarize the issue. The Greek Cypriot leader angrily said: 'I have nothing to say' and slammed the door. There was nothing left to do at that point," Akinci said. Akinci said Anastasiades had behaved impulsively in the past. The Turkish Cypriot leader also said respect was key to sustaining the discussions. "It was not possible to tolerate it. The most important condition to sustain that meeting is to show respect to

the people in the meeting," Akinci said, adding that the Greek Cypriot leader was "free to reopen the slammed door". The unification talks between Turkish and Greek Cypriot negotiators were canceled on Tuesday over a Greek Cypriot move to honor "Enosis," or the idea of the island being annexed by Greece. Last Friday, the Greek Cypriot parliament voted to introduce a yearly public school commemoration of a 1950 referendum in which Greek Cypriots voted overwhelmingly for Ath-

Philippines peace process "needs to speed up"



ISTANBUL - A Turkish member of the body overseeing the Philippines' peace process warned that Daesh will grow more active in the region if the process stalls, telling Anadolu Agency that President Rodrigo Duterte is eager to bring the negotiations to fruition. Huseyin Oruc, the vice president of

Turkey's IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation, told Anadolu Agency in an interview late last week that Daesh sympathizers seeking to be active in Mindanao, the Philippines' second-largest island, are finding recruiting easy "due to the slowdown in the peace process." "If the process is delayed... **MORE DETAILS**

Myanmar halts military operations in Rakhine state

The security operation in the western state of Rakhine have ended, the government said Thursday. The crackdown, which began in early October, has been the subject of severe international criticism over abuses committed against the region's Rohingya Muslims, specifically in the northern part of Rakhine State. State-run newspapers... **MORE DETAILS**

Struggling Greece to spend billions on military upgrade

A potential spend of \$10 billion by Greece's cash-strapped government on military equipment has been branded "incoherent" and a "scandal". Analysts talking to Anadolu Agency this week were critical of proposals to buy expensive new fighter jets at a time when the country is still in an economic bailout program. **MORE DETAILS**