



Turkish tanks thwart PYD/PKK attack in Afrin



Turkish forces target truck advancing towards Free Syrian Army position

AFRIN - Turkish Armed Forces on Wednesday thwarted a PYD/PKK terror attack targeting a Free Syrian Army (FSA) position in Syria's northwestern Afrin region. Turkish tanks struck down an explosive-laden truck advancing towards an FSA position after the troops spotted it through thermal cameras. Anadolu Agency also

filmed the military action carried out on a strategic hill in the west of Afrin. On Jan. 20, Turkey along with the FSA launched Operation Olive Branch to clear PYD/PKK and Daesh terrorists from Afrin. According to the Turkish General Staff, the operation aims to establish security and stability along... [MORE DETAILS](#)



999 terrorists neutralized in Turkey's Afrin op

ANKARA - At least 999 PYD/PKK and Daesh terrorists have been "neutralized" since the beginning of Operation Olive Branch in Syria's Afrin, according to Turkish General Staff on Wednesday. Turkish authorities often use the word "neutralized" in their statements to imply the terrorists in... [MORE DETAILS](#)



Turkey donates 20K copies of Quran to Latin America

ANKARA - The Turkish Diyanet Foundation (TDV) has donated a total of 20,000 copies of the Quran for distribution in Latin American countries, a statement by the foundation said on Wednesday. In a written statement, the Diyanet Foundation said the copies of the Quran -- to be distributed among Muslims in Guatemala, El Salvador, Colombia, Haiti, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Uruguay as part of the campaign "Let my gift be the Quran" -- had a Spanish translation side by side with the original Arabic. As part of the campaign, launched to meet the need of so many Muslims for the Quran in many parts of the world, more than one million copies... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Ankara 'meets' EU benchmarks on visa free regime

ANKARA - Turkish EU Affairs Minister Omer Celik said Wednesday that Ankara had finalized a draft document for Turkish citizens to travel to Schengen countries visa-free and would be submitting it to the EU Commission soon. Speaking at a press conference in Ankara, Celik said, "We have completed the work [on visa liberalization]. These documents will be submitted to the EU Commission very soon." He said Ankara had fulfilled all of the obligations regarding visa liberalization. "Turkey has met all 72 requirements for the deal," he said, adding that Ankara had also proposed a summit between the EU and the Organization of... [MORE DETAILS](#)

SpaceX launches most powerful rocket



Company successfully sends Elon Musk's car into orbit with a record-breaking Falcon Heavy rocket

By Barry Eitel

SAN FRANCISCO - SpaceX on Tuesday successfully launched the world's most powerful rocket, Falcon Heavy. It carried the red Tesla Roadster car belonging to SpaceX -- and Tesla -- CEO Elon Musk, into orbit. Shortly after the launch, two of the rocket's side boosters fell back to earth and successfully landed so they could be used... [MORE DETAILS](#)

Merkel, SPD agree on coalition government

By Ayhan Simsek

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel's conservative bloc and the Social Democrats have agreed to form a "grand coalition" government after 136 days of political stalemate, media reported on Wednesday. Leaders of the Christian democratic bloc (CDU/CSU) and the Social Democratic Party (SPD) have reached a breakthrough after marathon talks that started Tuesday morning, German news agency DPA reported. The SPD, which had been reluctant to enter a new coalition with conservatives, is expected to hold key ministerial posts, including foreign, finance and labor, according to the reports. Merkel's Bavarian ally Christian Social Union (CSU) secured four ministries, including the Interior. The coalition deal is still subject to approval by the SPD's around 460,000 members. The SPD's traditional... [MORE DETAILS](#)

