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PHOTOGRAPHS BY TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Rue Jean-Pierre Timbaud in the 11th Arrondissement of Paris is a hodgepodge of 19th-century factories and 1970s social housing, bourgeois apartment blocks and Islamic bookstores.

The Paris that became a target



The street has a working-class and ethnically mixed population that is facing rising real estate prices. “You have bars and cafes, but not yet for the very rich,” said the architect Jean Nouvel.

PARIS

BY MICHAEL KIMMELMAN

For reasons that may never be known, maybe just by chance, the attackers who killed 130 people here on Nov. 13 skipped over the shops, outdoor cafes and theaters along the Rue Jean-Pierre Timbaud. The Bataclan theater is just around the

CRITIC’S NOTEBOOK

corner; the Café Bonne Bière, where five died, is a short walk the other way. Rue Jean-Pierre Timbaud was not only the eye of the storm but also the essence of what the terrorists were targeting, which was more than a theater, a stadium and terraced cafes. They were targeting civic pluralism and street life: a kind of urban compact they loathed, but whose fissures, however subterranean, they could exploit.

With its bars toward one end and Muslim enclave at the other, Rue Jean-Pierre Timbaud is Paris in a nutshell. People live together on the street, but separately. Vee Gomes, a Dutch-born hairstylist, tells a story about setting up her business on the street a couple of years ago. “I opened my shop between two other hairdressers,” she recalled one recent afternoon, sitting at an inlaid wood table, piled with books, near the front of Vee Hair. “I thought they would be furious.” But, Ms. Gomes said, “that’s not how it turned out.” The shops, though steps from one another, turned out to occupy separate worlds and serve separate clients whose paths hardly crossed. “We have different clients, different prices, different styles,” she said. So it is with life on the street at large, which Jean-Louis Cohen, a French architect, said.

ISIS’ promise of statehood shows signs of falling short

SANLIURFA, TURKEY

BY BEN HUBBARD

After the Syrian government stopped paying him, a technician who had spent two decades pumping the country’s oil received an enticing offer: Do the same work for the jihadists of the Islamic State — starting at three times the salary. He was soon helping to fill tanker

trucks with crude oil to finance the Islamic State. But frequent executions of those suspected of spying and deadly airstrikes by government jets made life hard, and he grew angry that Syria’s resources were financing the jihadists while schools and hospitals were being shut down. “We thought they wanted to get rid of the regime, but they turned out to be thieves,” the technician said after fleeing to this city in southern Turkey.

The Islamic State claims to be more than a militant group. Among other things, it represents itself as a government for the world’s Muslims that provides services in the territory it controls. But that statehood project is in distress, perhaps more so than at any other time since the Islamic State began seizing territory in Iraq and Syria, according to a range of interviews with people who have fled. Under pressure from airstrikes by several countries, and new ground offensives by Kurdish and Shiite militias, the jihadists are beginning to show the strain.

Some fighters have taken pay cuts; others have quit and slipped away. Important services have been failing because of poor maintenance. And as its Islamic State, page 5

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Will expected E.C.B. stimulus help?
As new data show dangerously low inflation is entrenched, an expanded stimulus program is expected when the European Central Bank’s governing council meets on Thursday. BUSINESS, 16

U.S. Fed signals rate increase
The Federal Reserve chairwoman, Janet L. Yellen, said conditions were ripe for the central bank to start raising interest rates this month. BUSINESS, 16

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Top Republicans who worry a Trump nomination could result in a sweeping electoral defeat also are reluctant to take him on. WORLD NEWS, 8

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If Nigerians don’t memorialize Boko Haram’s victims, then we can hardly complain when nobody else does, Tolu Ogunlesi writes. OPINION, 6



A TARGET A mine in Romania, which uses coal for much of its energy output. Coal is a major topic at the Paris climate talks as officials seek to limit global warming. WORLD NEWS, 4

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Colorado suspect’s religion and rage
Robert Dear, who the police say killed three people at a Planned Parenthood clinic, was a man of faith who sinned openly and who craved both solitude and female company. nytimes.com/us

China’s great dinosaur museum
The Tianyu Museum of Nature’s collection is at the center of China’s fossil boom, which many critics say has been tainted by trafficking. nytimes.com/asia

Bryant the basketball bard
The Lakers’ guard Kobe Bryant gained notice in the world of poetry by revealing his retirement in 52 lines of free verse. nytimes.com/basketball

How to hang on to employees
Because small businesses often face trouble retaining workers, many entrepreneurs are coming up with more creative ways to retain their best and brightest. nytimes.com/business

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Andorra €3.50	Czech Rep. CZK 110	Hungary HUF 880	Luxembourg €3.20	Poland Zł 13.20	Slovenia €2.50	United States \$4.00	U.S. Military (Europe) US\$ 1.90		
Antilles €3.80	Denmark Dkr 28	Israel NIS 13.00/Eilat NIS 11.00	Portugal €3.20	Spain €3.20	Sweden Skr 30				
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CURRENCIES NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY 12:30PM PREVIOUS				
▼ Euro	€1=	\$1.0570	\$1.0630	
▼ Pound	£1=	\$1.4930	\$1.5080	
▼ Yen	¥1=	\$123.500	\$122.850	
▼ S. Franc	₣1=	SF1.0270	SF1.0260	

Full currency rates Page 18

STOCK INDEXES WEDNESDAY				
▼ The Dow 12:30pm	17,843.76	-0.25%		
▲ FTSE 100 close	6,420.93	+0.40%		
▼ Nikkei 225 close	19,938.13	-0.37%		

OIL NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY 12:30PM
▼ Light sweet crude \$40.57 -\$1.05

U.N. offers hazy picture of Iranian atom efforts

VIENNA

Report clears a path for nuclear deal, but leaves questions open

BY DAVID E. SANGER
AND WILLIAM J. BROAD

A final report by the United Nations nuclear inspection agency concludes that scientists in Tehran “conducted computer modeling of a nuclear explosive device” before 2004, and again between 2005 and 2009, but reaches no conclusion about whether Iran succeeded in developing a complete blueprint for a bomb. The report, issued here Wednesday evening to the 167 countries on the board of the International Atomic Energy Agency, concludes a decade-long attempt to determine what kind of effort Iran made to make a weapon. It was based on responses that Iran provided to the agency after a deal to limit its production of nuclear material was signed here in mid-July.

But Tehran gave no answer to roughly half of the dozen specific questions or documents it was asked about, leaving open the question of how much progress Iran made.

The completion of the report was one of the steps that Iran had to take — along with dismantling centrifuges and shipping nuclear fuel out of the country — before sanctions are lifted under the nuclear deal. But President Obama and his secretary of state, John Kerry, concluded earlier this year that it was more important to secure a deal that will, if fully implemented, prevent Iran from gaining the material to build a bomb for at least 15 years than making it admit to its past activities. Thus, the report was more a pass/fail effort; its publication allows the deal to go through, no matter how definitive or inconclusive the final result.

The report, entitled “Final Assessment of Past and Present Outstanding Issues Regarding Iran’s Nuclear Programme,” will not satisfy either critics of the deal or those seeking exoneration for Iran. Instead, it draws a picture of a nation that was actively exploring the technologies, testing and components that would be needed to produce a weapon some day, without coming to a conclusion about how successful that effort was.

The agency’s director, Yukia Amano, said last week that the document would not be “black and white,” and that assessment proved correct.

Nothing in the report suggests that Iran will block the I.A.E.A.’s ability to monitor its production of nuclear fuel for the next decade and a half, the key element of enforcing the July agreement. But Iran’s refusal to answer some of the questions also does not portend well for its transparency about its activities.

At Parchin, a facility where the agency thought there may have been nuclear experimental work underway back to 2000, the agency said “extensive activities undertaken by Iran” to alter the site “seriously undermined the Agency’s ability” to come to conclusions about past activities.

Diplomats familiar with the compilation, IRAN, PAGE 5

NATO bids for new ally, fueling fury in Moscow

LONDON

Offer to tiny Montenegro threatens to complicate cooperation against ISIS

BY STEVEN ERLANGER

For the first time in six years, NATO on Wednesday invited a new member to join the military alliance, prompting a heated response from Russia and underscoring escalating tensions between the Cold War adversaries.

The invitation, to tiny Montenegro, came nine years after the Balkan nation began the process of accession. But the timing of the alliance’s offer, made by the NATO secretary general, Jens Stoltenberg, with Secretary of State John Kerry present, came at a particularly delicate time in the West’s relations with Moscow and was further evidence that efforts to agree with Russia on a united effort to defeat the Islamic State and end the civil war in Syria were running up against deeply rooted antagonism and sharply differing agendas.

In Moscow, the invitation to Montenegro — with a population of about 600,000 people and little military capacity — prompted rhetorical fury and threats. Dmitri S. Peskov, the Kremlin spokesman, said that NATO expansion would be met with unspecified retaliatory measures from Russia.

“The continuing expansion of NATO and NATO’s military infrastructure to



POOL PHOTO BY JONATHAN ERNST

NATO “is not focused on Russia per se,” John Kerry said on Wednesday in Brussels.

the east, of course, cannot but lead to response actions from the east, namely the Russian side,” Mr. Peskov said.

After Islamic State gunmen killed 130 people in Paris on Nov. 13, President François Hollande of France flew to both Washington and Moscow in an effort to create a broader anti-ISIS alliance. Mr. Hollande judged that the ISIS attacks on Paris and its shooting down of a Russian civilian airliner over Egypt had altered Russian calculations.

But his effort has crumbled under these new tensions, which have only accentuated the differing goals of the countries involved. On Tuesday, President Obama said no one should be “under any illusions” that Russia, which has made a priority of propping up President Bashar al-Assad of Syria, would shift its focus to attacking the extremist group’s positions in Syria. On Wednesday, the British Parliament appeared headed toward ap- NATO, PAGE 5

RICHARD MILLE

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