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GENERAL

**Across Regions  
DRC says Rwanda forces back rebels**

The DRC government has accused Rwandan forces of joining a new rebel advance in the east of the country, in a letter made public Tuesday. The letter sent by DRC's UN ambassador to the UNSC said that "specialized units coming from Rwanda" were supporting M23 rebels battling government forces outside the key city of Goma. The letter was part of renewed tensions between the neighbors.   
**AFP** - [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/dr-congo-says-rwanda-forces-back-rebels**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/dr-congo-says-rwanda-forces-back-rebels)

**Pakistan Taliban say no shift to Syria**

Pakistani Taliban commanders Tuesday rejected suggestions they were sending fighters to Syria, saying some have gone there independently but the movement's focus remained in Pakistan. They said some militants, mainly Arabs and Central Asians, had gone to fight the forces of President Bashar al-Assad, but a senior Taliban leader dismissed reports of them setting up camps in Syria.   
**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/16/pakistan-taliban-say-no-shift-to-syria/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/16/pakistan-taliban-say-no-shift-to-syria/)

**Turkish teen killed by gunfire from Syria border clashes**

A 17-year-old Turk died of his injuries in a southeastern town on Wednesday after being hit by stray gunfire coming across the border from Syria, Turkish media reported. Mahsun Ertugrul died in hospital after receiving a gunshot to the chest in the small Turkish border town of Ceylanpinar on Tuesday, Dogan news agency said. A 15-year-old boy from the same town was in intensive care after being struck in the head by a bullet from Syria, it added

**Daily Star -** [**http://dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Jul-17/223984-turkish-teen-killed-by-gunfire-from-syria-border-clashes.ashx#axzz2ZI2AUtWy**](http://dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Jul-17/223984-turkish-teen-killed-by-gunfire-from-syria-border-clashes.ashx#axzz2ZI2AUtWy)

**Panama finds suspected weapons on North Korean Ship**

Panama’s president said the country has seized a North Korean-flagged ship carrying what appeared to be ballistic missiles and other arms that had set sail from Cuba on its way to the Pacific. Panamanian President Ricardo Martinelli told RPC radio on Monday that the ship had been headed for North Korea. Martinelli said the undeclared military cargo appeared to include missiles and non-conventional arms and the ship was violating UN resolutions against arms trafficking.  
**AP** - [**http://world.time.com/2013/07/16/panama-finds-suspected-weapons-on-n-korean-ship/**](http://world.time.com/2013/07/16/panama-finds-suspected-weapons-on-n-korean-ship/)

CEE/CIS

**Turkey**

**Kurdish peace process under threat as militants step up activity**

A surge in Kurdish militant activity in southeast Turkey is fuelling fears that a peace process with Ankara could unravel, complicating the government's task of enacting reforms without inflaming nationalist sentiment. Jailed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) leader Abdullah Ocalan and Ankara launched peace talks last October with the goal of ending a conflict which has killed 40,000 people in three decades and stunted the mainly Kurdish southeast's development. But the process has faltered with Ankara complaining a Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) withdrawal into northern Iraq is happening too slowly and the PKK renewing attacks in frustration at the lack of government action on minority reforms.

**Reuters** - [**http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/uk-turkey-kurds-idUKBRE96F0QD20130716**](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/uk-turkey-kurds-idUKBRE96F0QD20130716)

EAPR

**China**

**58 dead, 175 missing in Sichuan floods**

A total of 58 people died and 175 others went missing due to rainstorm-triggered floods and a landslide last week in southwest China's Sichuan Province, the local government said Tuesday. From 7 to 12 July, rainstorms hit 43 counties in Sichuan, with accumulated precipitations of 400 mm to 800 mm in Deyang and Dujiangyan, and 800 mm to 1,151 mm in some areas of the two cities, said Ma Li, deputy head of the Sichuan Provincial Meteorological Administration. Some 13,400 houses collapsed, leaving 3.47 million people as affected. It forced 300,000 people to relocate due to the heavy rainfall.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-07/16/c\_132546912.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-07/16/c_132546912.htm)

**DPR Korea**

**New North Korea curbs endanger aid efforts**

New sanctions levied on North Korea after its third nuclear test this year risk pushing the country into a further humanitarian disaster by crimping relief efforts, says an aid worker who has just completed a trip to the state. Washington imposed sanctions in March on the Foreign Trade Bank, Pyongyang's main foreign exchange bank, saying it had helped fund North Korea's banned nuclear weapons program. Some European aid groups have said their banks in Europe have stopped sending money to North Korea in the wake of the US sanctions, leaving them scrambling for a solution short of hand-carrying cash into the country.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-korea-north-aid-idUSBRE96F07H20130716**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-korea-north-aid-idUSBRE96F07H20130716)

**Philippines**

**“Wealth-sharing” deal offers hope in Mindanao**

The government has agreed to give sweeping fiscal powers to Muslim rebels on the island of Mindanao in a bid to end the country’s decades-long insurgency. The "wealth-sharing" deal between Manila and the 12,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) was achieved on 13 July after six-days of bargaining in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur, negotiators said. The deal is seen as another step towards the creation of an autonomous entity to be governed by MILF by 2016. The next round of negotiations - to be held after Ramadan - will focus on the scope of MILF governing powers and how and when the rebel force will be disarmed.

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/98424/wealth-sharing-deal-offers-hope-in-mindanao**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/98424/wealth-sharing-deal-offers-hope-in-mindanao)

ESAR

**Across ESAR**

**Thousands affected by drought in Namibia and Angola – UNICEF Mention**

UNICEF is appealing for nearly $22 million to support populations affected by the ongoing severe drought in Namibia and Angola. UNICEF says although the emergency is in the early stages, it is expected to deteriorate and urgent assistance is needed to support affected populations particularly women and children, to avert a nutritional and health crisis in both countries.   
**UN Radio -** [**http://reliefweb.int/report/namibia/thousands-affected-drought-namibia-and-angola**](http://reliefweb.int/report/namibia/thousands-affected-drought-namibia-and-angola)

**Mozambique**

**Progress welcomed in peace talks**

Observers greeted progress in the latest peace negotiations between Mozambique's government and former rebels with cautious optimism Tuesday after months of renewed violence. Simmering tensions between rebel group-turned-opposition party Renamo and the Frelimo government erupted into armed clashes in April -- more than two decades after the end of the country's civil war. After 11 rounds of talks aimed at resolving the crisis, news finally came Monday that the government and Renamo had reached a partial agreement to change electoral laws -- an announcement that was broadly welcomed.

**AFP** - [**http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/2013/07/16/progress-welcomed-in-mozambique-peace-talks**](http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/2013/07/16/progress-welcomed-in-mozambique-peace-talks)

**South Sudan**

**Alarm over child fighters**

Humanitarian agencies are raising the alarm over the use of child combatants in the ethnic clashes in South Sudan’s Pibor County in the restive Jonglei State. At least 69 of the up to 239 wounded Lou-Nuer fighters evacuated to the state capital Bor thus far, were children below 18 years, the South Sudan Red Cross said.

Officials from the UN mission have confirmed the massive involvement of children in the nine-day clashes in Tangnyang and Manyabol villages in Pibor, where the military has been battling an insurgency for over a year. A 16-year old wounded Lou-Nuer fighter said they killed “hundreds” of people in the attack.

**African Review -** [**http://www.africareview.com/News/Alarm-over-child-fighters-in-South-Sudan/-/979180/1916982/-/1137tdb/-/index.html**](http://www.africareview.com/News/Alarm-over-child-fighters-in-South-Sudan/-/979180/1916982/-/1137tdb/-/index.html)

**Zimbabwe**

**PM criticizes 'chaotic' Zimbabwe voting**

Zimbabwe's prime minister, who is also the country's opposition leader, has said that it has lost faith in the electoral commission after "chaotic and disorganised" special voting for security forces ahead of key polls.

Long queues and the late delivery of ballot papers marked the two-day early vote, which started on Sunday for police officers and soldiers who will be on duty on July 31 when the rest of the country votes. Many security force agents found themselves unable to vote, drawing condemnation from Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) on Tuesday.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2013/07/2013716152356436932.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2013/07/2013716152356436932.html)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Israel set to approve another 1,000 W.Bank homes**

Israeli authorities are expected on Wednesday to give the green light for the construction of 1,071 new homes in six West Bank settlements, watchdog Peace Now said in a statement on Tuesday. The news came as US Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Jordan at the start of a sixth round of intense diplomacy to revive stalled Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, with Israel's settlement building a key sticky point. It also came as the EU was due to publish on Friday guidelines barring member states from funding projects in settlements.   
**AFP** - [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/16/israel-set-to-approve-another-1000-wbank-homes-ngo/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/16/israel-set-to-approve-another-1000-wbank-homes-ngo/)

**Army destroys 3 tunnels in Gaza**

The Egyptian army destroyed three tunnels between Egypt and Gaza on Monday. The Army has not issued any official statement so far, while a security official in Rafah, which is Gaza's only gateway to the outside world that is not controlled by Israel, said, "more tunnels will be destroyed to stop threats of rising smuggling." Underground tunnels, a major commercial artery between Gaza and Egypt, are being used to carry food, fuel and construction materials into Gaza. Egypt has launched a security crackdown in Sinai in the run up to mass protests that led to the army's removal of elected president Mohamed Morsi. The army has destroyed a number of underground tunnels with Gaza borders.  
**Anadolu Agency** - [**http://www.aa.com.tr/en/news/204390--egypt-destroys-3-tunnels-in-gaza**](http://www.aa.com.tr/en/news/204390--egypt-destroys-3-tunnels-in-gaza)

**Israel says has allowed Egypt to boost forces in Sinai**

Israel has allowed Egypt to boost its forces in the Sinai peninsula after Cairo requested additional troops to fight militants in the lawless region, Israel's defence minister said on Tuesday. Sinai is largely demilitarised, in accordance with a 1979 Egyptian-Israeli peace deal, but Egypt has been battling militants there who have stepped up attacks on security checkpoints since the army ousted Islamist President Mohamed Mursi two weeks ago. The army sources have said an offensive in the Sinai against hardline militants may be imminent, though the military is now heavily focused on maintaining order in the streets of Cairo and other cities, where its armored personnel carriers and some tanks are deployed.

**Reuters** - [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-egypt-protests-israel-sinai-idUSBRE96F0S920130716**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-egypt-protests-israel-sinai-idUSBRE96F0S920130716)

**Egypt**

**Brotherhood rejects new cabinet, call for more demos**

A spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood, Ahmed Aref, denounced the recently-formed interim cabinet on Tuesday, describing it as the product of an illegitimate regime. Thirty-four new ministers were sworn in Tuesday afternoon in the first cabinet after the military-led ouster of the Brotherhood’s Mohamed Morsi. The cabinet, headed by Prime Minister Hazem El-Beblawi, did not include any Muslim Brotherhood ministers, in contrast to previous cabinets appointed by Morsi. El-Beblawi, who was appointed by interim President Adly Mansour, had reportedly offered members of the Muslim Brotherhood ministerial positions in the new government, which they rejected on the grounds that the entire cabinet is the illegitimate product of a military coup.

**Ahram -** [**http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/76655/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt%E2%80%99s-Muslim-Brotherhood-reject-new-cabinet,-cal.aspx**](http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/76655/Egypt/Politics-/Egypt%E2%80%99s-Muslim-Brotherhood-reject-new-cabinet,-cal.aspx)

**Nighttime attack in Egypt's Sinai wounds 7**

Egyptian intelligence officials say a civilian and six soldiers were wounded in an attack on a military outpost in the Sinai Peninsula near Egypt's border with the Gaza Strip. Officials say unidentified militants attacked the barracks late Tuesday with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns. A stray bullet wounded a 50 year-old woman in the Egyptian city of Rafah. Two military officers and four soldiers were also wounded in the nighttime attack. Officials say they were treated at the outpost out of fears that an ambulance transporting them would be targeted.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/nighttime-attack-egypts-sinai-wounds-19683842**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/nighttime-attack-egypts-sinai-wounds-19683842)

**Iraq**

**UN envoy warns of Iraq's 'dangerous path'**

A UN envoy said Tuesday that nearly 3,000 people have been killed in Iraq in four months and that the country risks stumbling onto a "dangerous path" to disarray. Martin Kobler, the outgoing UN special representative to Iraq, told the Security Council that political tensions and fallout from the Syria conflict have made the past four months among the bloodiest of the last five years. "Nearly 3,000 men, women and children have been killed and over 7,000 more injured," Kobler told the 15-nation council. Dozens have been killed in a series of major attacks in July and Iraqi leaders now face "critical decisions" amid the new tensions across the country, the envoy said.

**AFP** [**http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iWi9c31ITPK6b9mWXU8ZtjiuSLHw?docId=CNG.834e9c245b70c0f69cdbc76fafb2fa07.3b1**](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iWi9c31ITPK6b9mWXU8ZtjiuSLHw?docId=CNG.834e9c245b70c0f69cdbc76fafb2fa07.3b1)

**Lebanon**

**Pro-regime Syrian politician shot dead in Lebanon**

Pro-regime Syrian politician Mohammad Jemo was killed after he was shot 30 times with an assault rifle inside his home in south Lebanon early Wednesday. Security sources said Jemo, 44, was fatally shot at close range by an automatic assault rifle inside his house in Sarafand, some 15km from the southern coastal city of Sidon. Caretaker Interior Minister [Marwan Charbel](javascript:void(0)) described the attack as a “political crime.” “What is happening in terms of assassinations, bombs and car bombs are the result of this boiling political atmosphere," Charbel told a local radio station.

**Daily Star -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Politics/2013/Jul-17/223974-.ashx#axzz2ZHvrDTBJ**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Politics/2013/Jul-17/223974-.ashx#axzz2ZHvrDTBJ)

**Lebanon bomb hits Syria-bound Hezbollah convoy**

A bomb hit a Hezbollah convoy travelling towards the Lebanese border crossing with Syria, wounding two people, a security source said on Tuesday. One vehicle was struck by the explosion near the Masnaa border crossing, the other vehicles in the convoy escaped the bomb attack and continued along the road, the source added. The bombing is the fourth time that a vehicle has been targeted by an explosive device in the Bekaa region, which is a Hezbollah stronghold.

**APF** - [**http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/lebanon-bomb-hits-syria-bound-hezbollah-convoy-security-113071601056\_1.html**](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/lebanon-bomb-hits-syria-bound-hezbollah-convoy-security-113071601056_1.html)

**Libya**

**Oil port 'stormed by armed protesters'**

Armed protesters have stormed the eastern Libyan oil port of Zueitina in an attempt to stop export operations, a witness has said. The raid on Tuesday at the port, 850km east of Tripoli, came hours after workers temporarily suspended a strike and resumed production at oilfields that pump to the terminal. It was not immediately known what the protesters wanted, but an engineer working at the port recognised them as being part of a group of civilian demonstrators who shut down the terminal for several weeks earlier this year demanding jobs.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2013/07/20137174374459973.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2013/07/20137174374459973.html)

**Air force colonel shot dead in eastern city of Derna**

A Libyan air force colonel was shot dead in the eastern city of Derna, a military spokesman said on Tuesday. Violence has worsened in Libya in recent months as the government tries to impose its authority on armed militias that helped overthrow Muammar Gaddafi in 2011. Derna is known across the region as a recruitment centre for militants who have joined wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria. The east of Libya, and especially the city of Benghazi, the cradle of the anti-Gaddafi uprising, has became a particular focus of violence, mainly against security forces. Residents say some of the assaults may be revenge attacks by former prisoners.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-libya-attack-idUSBRE96F0ID20130716**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-libya-attack-idUSBRE96F0ID20130716)

**Sudan**

**UN asks Sudan to ID who attacked peacekeepers**

The UN is calling on Sudan's government to identify those behind a deadly attack on the joint African Union-United Nations mission in Darfur over the weekend. Seven Tanzanian peacekeepers were killed and another 17 people were wounded in the deadliest ever attack on the international force in Sudan's troubled western region. UN spokesman Martin Nesirky said Tuesday that the peacekeepers were ambushed while on a routine patrol and were outnumbered four-to-one. The peacekeepers faced about 100 and 150 people on trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns. One of the mission's trucks was stolen and three of its vehicles were damaged. Nobody has claimed responsibility.

**AP** - [**http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c\_id=2&objectid=10899184**](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=10899184)

**Syria**

**5,000 a month dying in worsening Syria war**

Five thousand people a month are dying in the Syria war which has now thrown up the worst refugee crisis since the 1994 Rwandan genocide, UN officials said Tuesday. A host of top officials called on the divided UNSC to take stronger action to deal with the fallout from the 26 month old civil war in which the UN says up to 100,000 people have died. Nearly 1.8 million people are now registered with the UN in countries around Syria and an average of 6,000 people a day are now fleeing, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres added.   
**AFP** - [**http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/360171/5000-a-month-dying-in-worsening-syria-war-un**](http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/360171/5000-a-month-dying-in-worsening-syria-war-un)

**6.8 million, half of them children, require aid**

About 6.8 million Syrians require humanitarian assistance as the more than two-year conflict has spread beyond Syria's borders, UN officials said Tuesday. Half of those needing aid are children, Valerie Amos, head of UN humanitarian affairs, said while briefing the UNSC. "This is a regional crisis, not a crisis in Syria with regional consequences," Amos said, describing the situation as "extremely grave" with long-term impact on the present and future generations of Syrians. Amos said 4.2 million of the total 6.8 million are internally displaced. More than 1.7 million Syrians have fled to Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and other countries.

**DPA** - [**http://www.thenewage.co.za/101844-1020-53-68\_million\_Syrians\_half\_of\_them\_children\_require\_aid**](http://www.thenewage.co.za/101844-1020-53-68_million_Syrians_half_of_them_children_require_aid)

**Britain giving Syrian rebels protection against chemical weapons**

Britain is to give Syrian rebels equipment to protect themselves against chemical and biological weapons as "a matter of special urgency", saying it would allow them to potentially survive a sarin gas attack. In a written statement to parliament on Tuesday, Foreign Secretary William Hague said Britain would deliver 5,000 escape hoods, nerve-agent pre-treatment tablets and chemical weapons detector paper to the Syrian National Coalition on or after 3 August.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-syria-crisis-britain-idUSBRE96F0CL20130716?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/16/us-syria-crisis-britain-idUSBRE96F0CL20130716?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews)

**Yemen**

**Qaeda branch says No 2 killed in US drone strike**

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) has confirmed the death in a US drone strike of its deputy leader Saeed al-Shehri, whose killing has been announced several times by Sanaa. The United States has stepped up its support for Yemen's battle against AQAP, which it regards as the most active and deadliest franchise of the global Al-Qaeda network. US drones strikes in Yemen nearly tripled in 2012 compared to 2011, from 18 to 53, according to the New America Foundation, a Washington-based think tank.

**AFP -** [**http://dawn.com/news/1029695/qaeda-yemen-branch-says-deputy-killed-in-us-drone-strike**](http://dawn.com/news/1029695/qaeda-yemen-branch-says-deputy-killed-in-us-drone-strike)

ROSA

**Bangladesh**

**Islamist leader sentenced to death for 1971 war crimes**

A Bangladesh war crimes tribunal sentenced a top Islamist politician to death on Wednesday for crimes during a 1971 war of independence, as his supporters clashed with security forces in different parts of the country. Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, 65, secretary general of the Jamaat-e-Islami party, was convicted on charges of genocide, conspiracy in killing intellectuals, torture and abduction during the war to break away from Pakistan, lawyers said. More than 100 people have been killed in protests and counter-protests since the tribunal's first verdict in January.  
**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/17/us-bangladesh-warcrimes-idUSBRE96G09X20130717**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/17/us-bangladesh-warcrimes-idUSBRE96G09X20130717)

**India**

**Violent protest in eastern India over school meal deaths**

At least 21 children have died and dozens are in hospital after eating the free meals provided at a primary school in eastern India, officials have said. The death toll rose from eight on Tuesday and some 30 more children were still sick in hospital in the state capital Patna, the minister said. Several hundred people staged protests against the state government over the incident. Free meals are offered to impoverished students in state-run schools as part of the government welfare measures in many of [India](http://www.worldbulletin.net/arama.php?query=India)'s 29 states.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2013/07/201371731832870774.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2013/07/201371731832870774.html)

**World Bulletin -** [**http://www.worldbulletin.net/?aType=haber&ArticleID=113274**](http://www.worldbulletin.net/?aType=haber&ArticleID=113274)

TACR

**Colombia**

**Social tensions continue to rise in Colombia**

On 15 July peasant farmer leaders in Colombia’s Catatumbo formally rejected the proposals presented by the government led by President Juan Manuel Santos aimed at resolving the social conflict in the area. The Catatumbo protests, which began over a month ago, are fast turning into the most difficult social challenge faced by the Santos government. The latest rejection of the government’s proposals led its negotiating team now led by Vice-President Angelino Garzón, to break off talks with protestors for the third time. With no end in sight to the unrest there are signs that just as the Santos government had feared, general discontent is spreading to other sectors.

**Latin News -**

[**http://www.latinnews.com/component/k2/item/56964.html?period=July+2013&archive=3&cat\_id=792136%3Asocial-tensionscontinue-to-rise-in-colombia&Itemid=6**](http://www.latinnews.com/component/k2/item/56964.html?period=July+2013&archive=3&cat_id=792136%3Asocial-tensionscontinue-to-rise-in-colombia&Itemid=6)

WCAR

**Cameroon**

**Prominent gay rights activist killed**

A prominent gay rights activist in Cameroon was tortured and killed just weeks after issuing a public warning about the threat posed by "anti-gay thugs," Human Rights Watch said. Eric Ohena Lembembe was found dead at his home in the capital, Yaounde on Monday. Lembembe was among the most prominent activists in one of Africa's most hostile countries for sexual minorities. First as a journalist and later as executive director of CAMFAIDS, a Yaoundé-based human rights organization, he documented violence, blackmail and arrests targeting members of Cameroon's gay community.   
**AP** - [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/prominent-gay-rights-activist-killed-cameroon-19677284**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/prominent-gay-rights-activist-killed-cameroon-19677284)

**CAR**

**Leader 'not opposed' to return of toppled president**

The president of CAR, Michel Djotodia, said Tuesday that the leader he ousted in a violent coup can return from exile when the situation in the country stabilises. Djotodia, who toppled president Francois Bozize in March, made the comments during a visit to Benin, his second stop on a west African diplomatic tour. In May, CAR authorities issued an international arrest warrant for Bozize on charges of "crimes against humanity" and "inciting genocide."   
**AFP** - [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/c-africa-leader-not-opposed-return-toppled-president**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/c-africa-leader-not-opposed-return-toppled-president)

**Bodies discovered of five men tortured**

Authorities in CAR launched an investigation into "acts of barbarism" after the bodies of five young men washed up in the River Oubangui, judicial sources said Tuesday. A police source said the five men, whose bodies were discovered in the capital Bangui, had been "abducted" by members of Seleka. It is believed the five were taken simply because they were wearing T-shirts bearing the image of deposed president Francois Bozize.

**AFP -** [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/bodies-discovered-five-men-tortured-c-africa**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130716/bodies-discovered-five-men-tortured-c-africa)

**Mali**

**Main parties pledge to accept election result**

Mali's two main political parties pledged on Tuesday to accept the results of this month's presidential election even though it was likely to be marred by technical problems as the West African country struggles to emerge from conflict. Both local politicians and international advocacy groups have voiced concern that voting materials will not be properly distributed in time for the July 28 election, which is meant to turn the page on a military coup in March 2012 and the subsequent Islamist seizure of northern Mali last year.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.voanews.com/content/reu-mali-political-parties-pledge-election-result/1703243.html**](http://www.voanews.com/content/reu-mali-political-parties-pledge-election-result/1703243.html)

**Nigeria**

**Call for ICC probe into Nigerian military**

As Nigeria attempts a ceasefire with Boko Haram (BH), analysts warn against a blanket amnesty and urge that an expanded ICC probe include alleged abuses by the military. The ceasefire is being negotiated by a government panel set up to develop an amnesty for BH, but details as to when the truce will be signed, whether all the BH factions have agreed to it, or if the amnesty has played a role in the planned ceasefire, remain sketchy. Human rights groups insist that peace without justice is unsustainable and are urging Nigeria not to implement a blanket amnesty.

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/98426/call-for-icc-probe-into-nigerian-military**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/98426/call-for-icc-probe-into-nigerian-military)

The Brief is produced by UNICEF's Emergency Operations Centre (OPSCEN) and is a daily compilation of the main humanitarian, political and security-related media stories from around the world. It aims to provide field offices and senior decision-makers with critical information related to humanitarian emergencies and staff security.

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