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CEE/CIS

**Across CEE/CIS**

**ICRC instructs Russian aid convoy**

ICRC has given instructions to Russian lorry drivers at a Ukrainian border post so that they can deliver much-needed aid to civilians. The Russian emergencies ministry said the drivers were told that the lorries must drive directly to the delivery point without stopping. They are expected to go to the besieged city of Luhansk, where there has been heavy shelling by Ukrainian troops.

There will be only one driver per lorry and a Red Cross escort at all times. However, it is not clear when the lorries will be able to cross the border. They have been held up there for several days. The convoy is parked near the town of Kamensk-Shakhtinsky. They left the Moscow region on 12 August and are said to be carrying 2,000 tonnes of aid.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28870974**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-28870974)

**Turkey**

**Turkey to choose new PM as Erdogan settles in as President**

Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his ruling party were poised Thursday to choose his successor as party chairman and prime minister, with expectations high that the man who has dominated Turkish politics for more than a decade will keep charge as president. Erdogan has indicated that he plans to keep tight control of the government by transforming the normally ceremonial presidency. He has said he would employ its seldom-used powers, such as summoning and presiding over Cabinet meetings. Turkey's first popularly elected president, Erdogan takes office August 28.

**AP -** [**http://www.firstpost.com/world/turkey-to-choose-new-pm-as-erdogan-settles-in-as-president-1675169.html**](http://www.firstpost.com/world/turkey-to-choose-new-pm-as-erdogan-settles-in-as-president-1675169.html)

**Ukraine**

**Ukraine army pushes into rebel-held territory**

Ukrainian troops say they have made a significant push into rebel-held territory, claiming control over a large part of the separatist stronghold of Luhansk and nearly encircling Donetsk, the largest city still in rebel hands. The push follows days of street battles and weeks of shelling. At least 52 deaths were reported on Wednesday, along with 64 wounded. Due to the dangers of the war zone in eastern Ukraine, no deaths were reported from Luhansk, meaning the actual toll could be even higher.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/europe/2014/08/ukraine-army-pushes-into-rebel-held-territory-20148215195615937.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/europe/2014/08/ukraine-army-pushes-into-rebel-held-territory-20148215195615937.html)

EAP

**China**

**Three more Tibetans die from shooting by Chinese police - rights group**

Three protesters shot last week by police in a Tibetan region of China have died of their injuries, taking to five the number of people killed in the incident, a rights group said on Wednesday. The protest erupted over the detention of a respected village leader in the Ganzi prefecture of southwestern Sichuan province, rights groups say, a flashpoint for Tibetan protests against Chinese rule.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/20/us-china-tibet-idUSKBN0GK1AB20140820**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/20/us-china-tibet-idUSKBN0GK1AB20140820)

**Japan**

**39 dead, dozens missing in Japan landslides**

Japanese police say the death toll from rain-triggered landslides on the outskirts of Hiroshima city has risen to 39, with 51 people still missing. Search efforts continued Thursday, a day after a series of landslides crushed dozens of houses, burying residents underneath them. Hillsides caved in or were swept down into residential areas in at least five valleys in the suburbs of the western Japanese city after heavy rains left slopes unstable. Hiroshima prefectural police said 39 people were confirmed dead and 51 others were missing as of midday Thursday. The Fire and Disaster Management Agency said 23 people were injured, 13 seriously.

**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\_pacific/39-dead-dozens-missing-in-japan-landslides/2014/08/21/eca8acb4-2922-11e4-8b10-7db129976abb\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/39-dead-dozens-missing-in-japan-landslides/2014/08/21/eca8acb4-2922-11e4-8b10-7db129976abb_story.html)

**Indonesia**

**Indonesian police fire tear gas at poll protesters**

Indonesian police fired tear gas Thursday to disperse protesters trying to get close to a court set to rule on a challenge to the legality of last month's elections. The protesters were supporters of Prabowo Subianto, who lost the polls. Subianto, a former general with close links to the country's former dictator Suharto, has alleged massive fraud in the July 9 polls and filed a complaint at the Constitutional Court, which was due to rule on it later Thursday. Witnesses said police fired the tear gas when protesters tried to get past barbed wire blocking a road leading to the court. There were no immediate reports of injuries among around 300 protesters.

**AP -** [**http://www.news10.com/story/26333628/indonesian-police-fire-tear-gas-at-poll-protesters**](http://www.news10.com/story/26333628/indonesian-police-fire-tear-gas-at-poll-protesters)

**Philippines**

**MILF take crucial step on path to pact**

Philippines' largest rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), has taken a crucial step in ending decades of conflict, formally submitting to the president a final proposal for self-rule that both it and the government have agreed on, a presidential adviser said. The two sides signed a deal in March to end nearly five decades of conflict on the resource-rich southern island of Mindanao but hopes for peace were thrown into doubt this month when the rebels accused the government of reneging on the pact. But 10 days of negotiations rescued the deal under which MILF has agreed to disband and rebuild communities in exchange for powers over the economy and society in the Bangsamoro region.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140821080357-5ilkl**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140821080357-5ilkl)

**Thailand**

**Thailand’s Junta chief chosen as Prime Minister by appointed legislature**

The army chief who deposed Thailand’s civilian government three months ago has been selected as the kingdom’s prime minister. General Prayuth Chan-ocha was the only candidate nominated for the job. A handpicked legislature stacked with military officers held a vote Thursday to select the country’s prime minister. The approval by the frail 86-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej is seen as a formality and expected within a week.

**VoA -** [**http://www.voanews.com/content/thai-coup-leader-nominated-prime-minister/2422964.html**](http://www.voanews.com/content/thai-coup-leader-nominated-prime-minister/2422964.html)

**AP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/08/21/thailand-military-leader-nominated-as-country-new-prime-minister/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2014/08/21/thailand-military-leader-nominated-as-country-new-prime-minister/)

ESA

**Botswana**

**Botswana opposition leader’s death “foul play”- report**

A Botswana police investigation has found the death of an opposition leader just months before a general election to be an accident, a claim angrily rejected by his party. Police Commissioner Keabetswe Makgophe late Wednesday ruled out foul play in the death of Umbrella for Democratic Change (UDC) secretary general Gomolemo Motswaledi. The popular politician died in a car crash on July 30, shortly after crossing the border from South Africa.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/botswana-police-no-foul-play-opposition-leaders-death-110534180.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/botswana-police-no-foul-play-opposition-leaders-death-110534180.html)

**Somalia**

**Somali radio closure: Shabelle manager 'in hiding'**

The manager of Shabelle radio station in the Somali capital has told the BBC he is in hiding after the authorities took it off air. Mohamed Musa said soldiers stormed the radio's office on Friday, arresting about 20 people, three of whom are still in custody without being charged. When the station started broadcasting again on Tuesday, the office was raided again and all equipment removed. Mr Musa denied accusations that the station was spreading hate messages. The government issued a statement saying that the station had been unprofessional by spreading disharmony amongst Mogadishu's clans.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-28869615**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-28869615)

**Somali forces arrest 30 Al-Shabaab suspects in Mogadishu**

Somali security forces on Tuesday arrested 30 suspected al-Shabaab members and seized a cache of illegal weapons in a daytime security operation in Mogadishu's Bakara Market, Somalia's RBC Radio reported. Hawlwadag District Commissioner Ahmed Nur Siyad said the security forces acted on intelligence information. Security officers believe guns were intended for use in assassination operations around Mogadishu.

**All Africa -** [**http://allafrica.com/stories/201408210311.html**](http://allafrica.com/stories/201408210311.html)

**South Sudan**

**South Sudan steps up guard against Ebola**

Health officials in Juba have stepped up efforts to ensure the deadly Ebola virus does not spread to South Sudan. Armed with thermometers and notepads, a team of health officials has set up shop in tents that have been pitched just meters away from where planes land at Juba’s busy international airport. The officials gather information including which countries the incoming passengers have visited in the last 21 days. That information is needed because the Ebola outbreak has impacted the West African countries of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and, the WHO says, a small number of people in Nigeria.

**VoA -** [**http://www.voanews.com/content/south-sudan-ebola-precautions-who/2419034.html**](http://www.voanews.com/content/south-sudan-ebola-precautions-who/2419034.html)

LAC

**Brazil**

**Marina Silva chosen to run for president in Brazil**

The Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB) has formally named the internationally-acclaimed environmental campaigner Marina Silva as its new presidential candidate. Ms Silva replaces the late Eduardo Campos, who was killed in a plane crash last week. She was Mr Campos's running mate and served as environment minister. She is seen as a leading challenger to President Dilma Rousseff, who's seeking re-election in the 5 October poll.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28875205**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28875205)

**Guatemala**

**Guatemala army chief of staff dies in helicopter crash: govt**

Guatemalan army chief of staff Rudy Ortiz and four other military officers died Wednesday when their helicopter crashed in a mountainous region where drug traffickers operate, the government said. The crash occurred in the Huehuetenango department on the Mexican border as the officers carried out a routine inspection of the area, where unrest has also erupted over hydroelectric dams and mining projects, said Defense Minister Manuel Lopez.

**AFP -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/World/2014/Aug-20/267923-guatemala-army-chief-of-staff-dies-in-helicopter-crash-govt.ashx#axzz3AvsPZrSP**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/World/2014/Aug-20/267923-guatemala-army-chief-of-staff-dies-in-helicopter-crash-govt.ashx#axzz3AvsPZrSP)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**US warns of long cross-border war against IS**

The United States admitted Thursday that the Islamic State is the most dangerous group it has faced in recent years, and warned that the Middle East faces a long-term battle to defeat it.

AFP - <http://america.aljazeera.com/articles/2014/8/21/is-syria-us.html>

**Militants will free captives if Hezbollah pulls out of Syria**

Militants holding members of the Lebanese Army and police said they were willing to release all captured personnel and withdraw their demands if Hezbollah pulls its fighters out of Syria, the Committee of Muslim Scholars said Wednesday. Militants from both the Nusra Front and the Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria are still holding 29 Army soldiers and Internal Security Forces members captive. Six policemen have already been released in “a goodwill gesture” to encourage further negotiations after the end of Arsal clashes.

**Daily Star -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2014/Aug-21/267930-militants-will-free-captives-if-hezbollah-pulls-out-of-syria.ashx#axzz3AypvNZ9p**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2014/Aug-21/267930-militants-will-free-captives-if-hezbollah-pulls-out-of-syria.ashx#axzz3AypvNZ9p)

**Iraq**

**New US strikes in Iraq despite IS Foley video warning**

US aircraft have launched fresh strikes against Islamic State (IS) militants in northern Iraq, despite threats from the group to kill a second American captive in retribution for continued attacks. US Navy fighters and drones provided air cover to Kurdish and Iraqi forces battling IS near the city of Mosul. On Tuesday the group released a video showing the beheading of journalist James Foley, who went missing in 2012. In it, the militants threatened to kill another US reporter they are holding. But since the video was released, American forces have conducted 14 new strikes near the Mosul dam, a key facility recaptured from IS militants earlier this week.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28877376**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28877376)

**Horrifying accounts of child rights violations emerge from survivors of violence in north-western Iraq – UNICEF**

Testimonies gathered from civilians who fled the recent offensive by armed groups in the Sinjar district of north-western Iraq have revealed appalling accounts of killing, abduction and sexual violence perpetrated against women and children, according to UNICEF. "The type and scope of violations against children, women and minority communities in Iraq in the past weeks is one of the worst seen in this century, and is completely unacceptable by any standards or codes of conduct that govern conflict," said Dr. Marzio Babille, UNICEF Iraq Representative. Child protection specialist teams sent by the agency have so far documented 123 separate cases of rights violations carried out by armed groups when they attacked Yazidi and other minority groups living in areas of Ninewa province close to the border with Syria.

**UNICEF -** [**http://www.unicef.org/media/media\_74848.html**](http://www.unicef.org/media/media_74848.html)

**Libya  
Heavy fighting erupts in Libya's Benghazi, killing five**Clashes between irregular forces of a renegade general and Islamists erupted in Libya's eastern Benghazi city on Wednesday, killing at least five people. Benghazi, home to several oil companies, has plunged into anarchy since Haftar declared war on Islamists using war planes and other anti-aircraft guns. Despite this, Islamists earlier this month overran the main army camp which Haftar has been trying to retake together with regular army forces. The capital Tripoli has turned into a battlefield since last month when a brigade from Misrata attacked fighters from Zintan, also located in the west, to expel them from the capital.   
**Reuters -** [**http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/08/20/uk-libya-security-idUKKBN0GK2CA20140820**](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/08/20/uk-libya-security-idUKKBN0GK2CA20140820) **DPA -** [**http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/renegade-libyan-generals-forces-claim-retaking-bases-from-islamists\_351461.html**](http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/renegade-libyan-generals-forces-claim-retaking-bases-from-islamists_351461.html)

**State of Palestine**

**Gaza children unable to go back to school – UNICEF mention**

Two months after Israel's last major military offensive in Gaza in November 2012, UNRWA found that the PTSD rate rose by 100 percent, and that 42 percent of patients were under the age of nine. UNICEF also reported that 91 percent of children surveyed in Gaza had trouble sleeping, 85 percent couldn't concentrate, and 82 percent reported feelings of anger and symptoms of mental strain. According to Fadel Abu Heen, professor of psychology at Al Aqsa University in Gaza, the first week of school will likely be "a week of painful memories and grief for both students and teachers".

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/08/gaza-palestinians-children-school-displaced-201481913402621943.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/08/gaza-palestinians-children-school-displaced-201481913402621943.html)

**Israel steps up raids, Gaza buries dead**Israeli warplanes pounded Gaza Wednesday as furious mourners buried the wife and child of Hamas's top military commander. The bloodshed pushed the Palestinian death toll to more than 2,030 since 8 July when Israel and Hamas militants started their bloodiest confrontation since the second intifada or uprising (2000-2005). Another 67 people have died on the Israeli side. The UN says around three-quarters of the victims in Gaza have been civilians. Sixty-four of the Israeli dead were soldiers.   
**AFP -** [**http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/israel-steps-up-raids/1322406.html**](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/israel-steps-up-raids/1322406.html) **Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/08/israel-vows-continue-bombing-gaza-201482154350149949.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2014/08/israel-vows-continue-bombing-gaza-201482154350149949.html)

**UN Council urges Israel, Palestinians to resume talks**The UN Security Council on Wednesday called on Israel and the Palestinians to return to the negotiating table to quickly agree on a lasting truce. In a statement unanimously adopted, the 15-member council "offered full support to the Egyptian initiative and called upon the parties to resume negotiations to urgently reach a sustainable and lasting ceasefire." The statement drafted by France was agreed after negotiations in Cairo teetered on the verge of collapse amid a fresh flareup of violence in the war that has killed more than 2,000 Palestinians since July 8.  
**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/un-council-urges-israel-palestinians-resume-talks-232011333.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/un-council-urges-israel-palestinians-resume-talks-232011333.html)

**Hamas says 3 senior leaders killed in Gaza strike**

An Israeli airstrike in Gaza killed three senior leaders of the Hamas military wing on Thursday, the militant group said, in what is likely to be a major blow to the organization’s morale and a significant scoop for Israeli intelligence. The strike near Rafah, a town in the southern part of the coastal territory, was one of 20 the Israeli military said it carried out after midnight on Wednesday. In a text message sent to media, Hamas said three of its senior military leaders — Mohammed Abu Shamaleh, Mohammed Barhoum and Raed al-Attar — were killed, along with three other people.

**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/israeli-air-strikes-pound-gaza-6-dead-in-rafah/2014/08/21/70357a9e-28f1-11e4-8b10-7db129976abb\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/israeli-air-strikes-pound-gaza-6-dead-in-rafah/2014/08/21/70357a9e-28f1-11e4-8b10-7db129976abb_story.html)

**Senior Hamas official says group abducted Israeli teens**

A top Hamas official said members of his militant group kidnapped three Israeli teenagers whose deaths in June provoked a spiral of violence that led to the ongoing war in Gaza, the first acknowledgement of the movement's involvement. Speaking at a conference in Istanbul, Saleh al-Arouri, a Hamas official from the West Bank who lives in exile in Turkey, appeared to confirm Israeli allegations that the Islamist group was behind the teenagers' abduction.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140821104011-qvb4k**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140821104011-qvb4k)

**Sudan**

**Scores killed as Arab tribes clash in Darfur**

Scores of people have been killed in fresh clashes between two Arab tribes in Sudan's troubled western region of Darfur, witnesses from the rival camps have said. One person said at least 30 members of his Rezeigat tribe were killed in the fighting, in which heavy weapons were used, with Maaliya tribesmen over territorial claims in the Umm Rakuba district, the AFP news agency reported. On the other side, a Maaliya witness said at least 40 members of his tribe were killed, although there was no independent confirmation of the losses.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/08/scores-killed-as-arab-tribes-clash-darfur-201482016153877935.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/08/scores-killed-as-arab-tribes-clash-darfur-201482016153877935.html)

**Syria**

**As IS advances, Syrian rebels reinforce northern strategic town**

A state of tension and cautious anticipation prevails in the town of Marea, north of Aleppo, as the Islamic State (IS) has reached the city's outskirts. Marea was among the first Syrian regions that shifted from peaceful to armed uprising against the regime in Aleppo three years ago. Many civilians who had never previously fought in the ranks of the opposition have now taken up arms to face IS fighters, who are closing in. Citizens fear that IS will enter their city, displacing and arresting thousands, including those with no ties to the rebels.

**Al-Monitor -** [**http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/08/aleppo-rebels-marea-islamic-state.html**](http://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2014/08/aleppo-rebels-marea-islamic-state.html)

**Islamic State can't be defeated without action in Syria**

Islamic State militants cannot be defeated without action against their strongholds in Syria. "This is an organization that has an apocalyptic end-of-days strategic vision and which will eventually have to be defeated," said General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff.

Huff Post - <http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/21/pentagon-islamic-state-_n_5698286.html>

**UNSG welcomes destruction of Syria's declared chemical weapons material**

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon welcomes the destruction of Syria’s declared chemical weapons material on board the United States Maritime Vessel Cape Ray. “This marks a significant achievement in the international community’s efforts to eliminate the chemical weapons programme of the Syrian Arab Republic following the framework agreement between the Russian Federation and the United States of America,” the UN chief said in a statement issued by his spokesperson in New York.

**UN News Centre -** [**http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48530#.U\_XVOnmYbcs**](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48530#.U_XVOnmYbcs)

**Yemen  
Thousands of armed rebels flood Yemen capital**Thousands of armed Shiite rebels in Yemen strengthened their positions in the capital Sanaa on Wednesday as they pressed their campaign to force the government to resign. The rebels have been fighting an off-conflict with government troops in the northern mountains for the past decade but analysts warned their bid for a greater share of power in a promised new federal Yemen was creating a potentially explosive situation. Rebel activists used cranes to build walls around protest camps across the capital, where protest leaders have given the government a deadline of Friday to meet their demands. In a bid to stem the crisis, President Abd Rabbo Mansour Hadi called for dialogue with the rebels and invited representatives to join a "unity government".

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/thousands-armed-rebels-flood-yemen-capital-160644029.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/thousands-armed-rebels-flood-yemen-capital-160644029.html)

SA

**Afghanistan**

**Kidnapped ICRC staff freed in Afghanistan**

Five staffers from the ICRC have been released, six days after they were kidnapped in Afghanistan, the aid agency said Wednesday. "Our five colleagues are free. They are in good health and have been reunited with their families, which was the most important thing for us," Monica Zanarelli, head of the ICRC delegation in Kabul, said in a statement. The aid workers, all of them Afghans, were kidnapped on August 14 in the western province of Herat and were released unconditionally, the ICRC said.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/kidnapped-icrc-staff-freed-afghanistan-200131922.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/kidnapped-icrc-staff-freed-afghanistan-200131922.html)

**UN mission concerned over acts of intimidation against journalist**

The United Nations mission in Afghanistan today expressed its concern about the acts of intimidation against New York Times reporter Matthew Rosenberg, who yesterday was banned from leaving the country and told that he was being investigated for an article he had written. “The attempts aimed at preventing a media representative from freely carrying out his duties demonstrate a disturbing regard for freedom of expression,” said Ján Kubiš, head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

**UN News Centre -** [**http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48529#.U\_XSS3mYbcs**](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48529#.U_XSS3mYbcs)

**India**

**Protesters attack police as two Indian states fight over territory**

Thousands of protesters in the Indian state of Assam defied a curfew and attacked police in a fifth day of unrest over a territorial dispute with a neighboring state. Assam and the tiny state of Nagaland in northeastern India have been claiming tracts of land along the state limits since the creation of Nagaland more than four decades ago. Clashes have periodically erupted between people living in villages straddling the two states. The latest wave of violence has left at least 20 dead and forced thousands to flee their homes, officials said.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/21/us-india-northeast-unrest-idUSKBN0GL0SY20140821**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/21/us-india-northeast-unrest-idUSKBN0GL0SY20140821)

**Pakistan**

**Imran Khan quits talks with PM Nawaz Sharif**

Pakistan's main opposition leader Imran Khan says he is pulling out of talks with the government until Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif resigns. The two sides began discussions last night, after thousands of opposition supporters occupied a high-security zone in front of parliament. Protesters say Mr Sharif came to power through electoral fraud. Parliament had declared Mr Khan's week-long political campaign to bring down the prime minister unconstitutional.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28875420**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28875420)

WCA

**Across WCA**

**Ebola point man heads to West Africa**

The UN's new pointman on Ebola said on Tuesday he will travel to West Africa this week to shore up health services in the four countries hit by the worst-ever outbreak of the virus. British physician and public health expert David Nabarro also told reporters that he will be holding talks with the UN mission in Liberia on ways that peacekeepers could help deal with the impact of the disease. Nabarro was appointed last week by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to co-ordinate the global response to the outbreak that has left 1 229 dead in Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

**AFP -** [**http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/ebola-point-man-heads-to-west-africa-1.1737989#.U\_XSy3mYbcs**](http://www.iol.co.za/news/africa/ebola-point-man-heads-to-west-africa-1.1737989#.U_XSy3mYbcs)

**CAR  
Red Cross volunteer killed in Bangui**   
A local Red Cross worker was shot dead and at least 31 people were injured in fighting between militia and international peacekeepers in the capital of CAR on Wednesday, emergency services said. The clashes erupted after residents of the PK-5 neighbourhood accused the European Union force (EUFOR) of shooting dead a man late on Tuesday. The district is home to some 2,000 Muslims who have braved sectarian violence to remain in Bangui but are resisting pressure to disarm. EUFOR said in a statement one of its patrols had opened fire after it was attacked in the PK-5 district.

**Reuters -** [**http://af.reuters.com/article/centralAfricanRepublicNews/idAFL5N0QQ4RO20140820**](http://af.reuters.com/article/centralAfricanRepublicNews/idAFL5N0QQ4RO20140820)

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/08/european-peacekeepers-car-gun-battle-2014820194326301174.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/africa/2014/08/european-peacekeepers-car-gun-battle-2014820194326301174.html)

**DR Congo  
Pygmies torch DR Congo villages in revenge strike: UN**Pygmy militiamen burned down several villages in eastern DRC last week, the UN peacekeeping mission said, in the latest ethnic violence to hit the region. The attack was led by Pygmy militia commander Mubone Mbuyu "as a reprisal for atrocities committed against Pygmies," Lieutenant Colonel Felix Prosper Basse, spokesman for the UN MONUSCO mission, said on Wednesday. Mbuyu's men "burned down several villages belonging to the Luba community" in Katanga province between August 10 and 12, he said. The ongoing violence in the region has spurred an exodus of civilians, with the UN counting 545,000 displaced persons in Katanga in June, a 50% rise from a year earlier.   
**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/144078-pygmies-torch-dr-congo-villages-in-revenge-strike**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/144078-pygmies-torch-dr-congo-villages-in-revenge-strike)

**Liberia**

**Ebola quarantine in Liberia's capital sparks violence in slum**

Violence erupted in an Ebola quarantine zone in Liberia's capital when soldiers opened fire and used teargas on crowds as they evacuated a state official and her family. Four residents were injured on Wednesday in the clashes in Monrovia's West Point slum, which has been closed off as part of new security measures aimed at containing the deadly virus.

**AFP -** [**http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/aug/21/ebola-quarantine-violence-west-point-monrovia-liberia**](http://www.theguardian.com/society/2014/aug/21/ebola-quarantine-violence-west-point-monrovia-liberia)

**AFP/NYT -** [**http://seattletimes.com/html/nationworld/2024355394\_liberiabarricadexml.html**](http://seattletimes.com/html/nationworld/2024355394_liberiabarricadexml.html)

**US missionaries beat Ebola as crisis worsens in W.Africa**

Two American missionaries who contracted Ebola while treating patients in Liberia have left hospital after making a full recovery, doctors said on Thursday, as authorities in the west African nation struggled to deal with their dead. Doctors Kent Brantly, 33, and Nancy Writebol, 60, caught the disease in Monrovia in the midst of an outbreak that has killed 1,350 people since March in Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

The pair were given experimental drugs before being airlifted back to the United States, where they have been treated at a hospital in Atlanta for the last three weeks.

AFP - <http://news.yahoo.com/us-missionaries-beat-ebola-liberia-crisis-worsens-173138997.html>

**Mali**

**Children paying a high price in ongoing conflict**

Children accused of being members of armed groups in the conflict in Mali are languishing in adult jails while human rights abuses continue, said Amnesty International in a short briefing published today. Mali: All parties to the conflict must put an end to ongoing human rights violations presents the findings of a research mission to assess the human rights situation in the country. “Children have suffered throughout this conflict. A number of them as young as 16 have been recruited as child soldiers and those accused of being members of armed groups are being detained alongside adults without access to family or legal counsel,” said Gaetan Mootoo, Amnesty International’s West Africa researcher.

**Amnesty International -** [**http://www.amnesty.org/en/news/mali-children-still-paying-high-price-ongoing-conflict-2014-08-21**](http://www.amnesty.org/en/news/mali-children-still-paying-high-price-ongoing-conflict-2014-08-21)

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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