

WORLD DIGEST - NATION DIGEST

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Gambian president suspends executions - Gambian President Yahya Jammeh issued a statement Saturday saying that he has suspended the imminent executions of 37 inmates sentenced to death, so long as violent crime does not rise in Gambia.

The Gambian leader said he was acting in response to numerous appeals from Gambian council elders, women's organizations and youth groups after the execution last month of nine prisoners, the first executions in Gambia in 27 years.

Mexican lawmaker killed - Assassins shot to death a deputy-elect in the northern Mexican state of Sonora on Friday, two days before he was scheduled to take office, authorities said. State prosecutors said Eduardo Castro Luque, 48, was shot nine times, including once in the head. He was killed in his car outside his home, and two assassins fled the scene on a motorcycle. He had been elected to Sonora's state Legislature, representing the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

China's leader-in-waiting reappears - Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping reappeared in public Saturday after mysteriously vanishing for two weeks, showing no outward signs of injury during a leisurely stroll through a university campus.

Xi had not been seen since Sept. 1 and had canceled several appointments with foreign leaders, spawning theories that he had suffered serious harm and raising the possibility that his health could jeopardize an upcoming leadership transition. On Saturday morning, Xi arrived at China Agricultural University in Beijing to attend its celebration of "National Popularization of Science Day," according to witnesses and a statement by the state-run Xinhua News Service.

U.K. police arrest journalist in bribery probe - British police arrested a journalist Saturday on suspicion of bribery, acting on information supplied by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp.

The man, 43, was arrested in London by officers from a corruption probe connected to investigations into phone and computer hacking sparked by revelations that reporters at Murdoch's now-shuttered News of the World tabloid routinely intercepted voicemails of those in the public eye.

Putin protests draw tens of thousands - Protests Saturday against Russian President Vladimir Putin in Moscow drew tens of thousands of people, determined to show that opposition sentiment remains strong despite Kremlin efforts to muzzle dissent.

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Leftists, liberals and nationalists mixed with students, teachers, gay activists and others as they marched down Moscow's tree-lined boulevards, chanting "Russia without Putin!" and "We are the power here!" Many wore the white ribbons that have become the symbol of the protest movement. About 7,000 police officers stood guard along the route of the march. There were no reports of injuries or arrests.

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Statue of Liberty interior to reopen next month - Visitors to the Statue of Liberty will once again be able to go inside the monument, starting next month.

The interior has been closed off to visitors since October 2011 as part of a renovation project. David Luchsinger, superintendent of the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island, said last week that the interior of the statue would be open to the public again starting Oct. 26, the monument's 126th birthday.

Superbug kills 7th at NIH hospital - KPC, or *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, a deadly germ untreatable by most antibiotics, has killed a seventh person at the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center in Maryland.

The Washington Post reported the death Friday. NIH officials told the paper that the boy from Minnesota died Sept. 7. The NIH says the boy arrived at the research hospital in Bethesda in April and was being treated for complications from a bone marrow transplant when he contracted the bug. He was the 19th patient at the hospital to contract an antibiotic-resistant strain.

5 killed in plane crash in Missouri - A small plane crashed early Saturday in southwestern Missouri, killing the pilot, his three children and a businesswoman.

Missouri Highway Patrol spokesman Jason Pace said the single-engine plane went down about 12:30 a.m. northwest of the town of Willard. The 2002 Cirrus SR22 crashed about 5 miles from the Springfield airport.

Pace identified those killed as Robin Melton, 46, of Ozark, Mo., and John Lambert, 44, and his children, Joshua Lambert, 10, McKinley Lambert, 15, and Grayson Lambert, 16, all of Springfield.

The Springfield News-Leader reported that Melton owned an environmental consulting firm called Environmental Works Inc., and Lambert owned Missouri Insulation & Supply Inc.

Ford recalls some 2012 Edge SUVs - Ford Motor Co. is recalling some of its 2012 Edge vehicles because of concerns that the fuel line could leak and potentially cause a fire. The recall affects about 5,500 vehicles with 2-liter engines made between Sept. 2, 2010, and Oct. 31, 2011.

- Read more news at stltoday.com/nation.

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