Nation & World Digest: Trial begins for cop who shot neighbor

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Body

TRIAL BEGINS FOR COP WHO SHOT NEIGHBOR

DALLAS - A white Dallas police officer who fatally shot a black neighbor in his own home was distracted by a phone call with a colleague with whom she had been romantically involved, a prosecutor said Monday at the start of the officer's trial.

Attorneys for Amber Guyger, 31, argued that she fired in self-defense based on the mistaken belief that she was in her own apartment and that Botham Jean was a burglar.

Jean, a 26-year-old accountant from the Caribbean <u>nation</u> of St. Lucia, "was doing no harm to anyone, which was his way," Dallas County Assistant District Attorney Jason Hermus said in an opening statement.

Jean was in his living room eating a bowl of vanilla ice cream on Sept. 6, 2018, when Guyger entered the apartment, which was one floor directly above her apartment, Hermus said.

PUERTO RICO PREPS FOR HEAVY FLOODING

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico - Puerto Rico's governor announced Monday that she was canceling classes and closing public agencies as Tropical Depression Karen approaches the U.S. territory and threatens to cause heavy flooding in the island's eastern region.

Gov. Wanda Vázquez activated the National Guard and urged people in flood-prone areas to seek shelter.

Roberto Garcia, meteorologist in charge of the National Weather Service's San Juan office, said 2 to 4 inches (5-10 centimeters) of rain was expected, with up to 8 inches (20 centimeters) in isolated areas, by the time the storm passed by on Tuesday. He added that some towns in the eastern part of Puerto Rico would likely be hit with moderate to serious flooding, especially those next to mountains.

BRIEFLY

ISRAEL: Israel's president summoned the leaders of the country's two largest political parties to his official residence late Monday, hoping to break a political deadlock that threatens to push the <u>nation</u> into months of limbo and potentially force a third election in less than a year.

CALIFORNIA: Pacific Gas & Electric is considering cutting power to try to head off wildfires sparked by electrical equipment, as fall brings back dangerous fire conditions that led to the deadliest and most destructive blazes in California history. The San Francisco-based utility was expected to make a decision Monday on whether controlled power outages are needed to reduce the risk of wildfires.

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NEW YORK: A lawsuit Monday accuses the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club of sexual abuse dating to 1950. The suit, filed under a one-year window opened by state lawmakers for victims to sue over decades-old abuse, says a doctor who died in 2007 and a basketball coach, also believed to be deceased, abused 20 boys at the club. The club says it "applauds the courage of those who have come forward."

GREECE: Authorities on the Greek island of Lesbos partly reopened the country's largest refugee camp Monday to newly arrived migrants despite acute overcrowding. The camp at Moria was declared "non-manageable" Friday and new arrivals were turned away after the number of inhabitants at the camp reached 12,000 - four times higher than its official capacity.

SALT LAKE CITY: Several Chinese tourists injured in a deadly tour bus crash in Utah are improving, but three remain in critical condition, hospital officials said Monday. The tour bus carrying 30 passengers crashed near Bryce Canyon National Park on Friday, killing four Chinese tourists and leaving dozens more injured.

PARIS: A trial with more than 4,000 plaintiffs opened Monday for French pharmaceutical giant Servier Laboratoires and France's medicines watchdog, accused of involuntary manslaughter, fraud and other charges in a scandal over the diabetes drug Mediator, suspected of causing hundreds of deaths.

Graphic

ACTIVISTS BLOCK TRAFFIC IN THE NAME OF ENVIRONMENT - Protesters block traffic Monday near the U.S. Capitol in Washington. Hundreds of activists blocked major intersections across the <u>nation</u>'s capital demanding immediate government action on climate change. Under the banner of ShutDownDC, a broad coalition of activist groups sought to bring the morning traffic in Washington to a standstill. The Metropolitan Police Department arrested 26 people who were blocking the entrance to a major tunnel. Elsewhere, about three blocks from the White House, activists parked a yellow and pink sailboat in the middle of the intersection with several protesters handcuffed to the frame. Photo by PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

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