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WEATHER / ANKARA  
Saturday, Sunny 33°C

# Turkey to export 30 combat helicopters to Pakistan

*Pakistan, Turkey sign deal for sale of 30 T129 ATAK helicopters, largest single export of Turkish defense industry*

ANKARA - Turkey and Pakistan on Friday signed a deal for the sale of 30 T129 ATAK helicopters, according to the Turkish Defense Industries Undersecretariat (SSB). "Contract negotiations on T129 ATAK helicopters between Turkish Aerospace Industries (TAI) and the Pakistani Ministry of Defense Production were finalized," the undersecretariat said in a statement. This is the biggest single export in the history of the Turkish defense industry, the statement said. **MORE DETAILS**



## Erdogan speaks at first parliament building

*By Merve Aydogan and Kubra Chohan*

ANKARA - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday spoke at the opening ceremony of the first Cabinet meeting under the new executive presidency system. The ceremony was held at the first parliamentary building of the Republic in the capital Ankara. "We will work relentlessly

until we build Turkey [a place] where we can foresee our future with confidence," Erdogan underlined. He said the first parliament was the beginning, while the new one is the continuation. "Today we see this ceremony in the old parliament building as a symbol of the continuation of history," Erdogan added. The Cabinet later moved to... **MORE DETAILS**



## 34 migrants stranded on island in Aegean saved

IZMIR - All 34 undocumented migrants stranded on an island in the Turkish Aegean have been rescued, security sources said on Friday. The migrants trapped on Bogaz Island -- including children -- were rescued by Turkish Coast Guard helicopters, said the sources,

who spoke on condition of anonymity due to restrictions on speaking to the media. Bogaz -- an uninhabited island off Cesme, in the Aegean province of Izmir -- is near the Greek island of Chios. The migrants are thought to have gotten stranded while... **MORE DETAILS**

## Turkish army neutralizes 76 terrorists over past week

ANKARA - The Turkish army "neutralized" 76 PKK terrorists including three senior members in northern Iraq and on Turkish soil over the past week, the military said on Friday. Turkish authorities often use the word "neutralized" in their statements to imply that the terrorists in question either surrendered or were killed or captured. In a weekly statement, the Turkish General Staff said that between July 6-12, the army

conducted anti-terror operations in the eastern Turkish provinces of Sirnak, Hakkari, Kars, Agri, Mardin, and Bitlis as well as regions of northern Iraq. Also, 30 guns -- including infantry rifles and snipers -- and 8 improvised explosives were destroyed. During the operations, one Turkish soldier was martyred and 7 others were wounded. The PKK -- listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the U.S. and the EU -- resumed its

armed campaign against Turkey in July 2015. Since then, it has been responsible for the deaths of more than 1,200 Turkish security personnel and civilians, including many women and children. Separately, the military said that since the launch of Turkey's Operation Olive Branch in Syria's Afrin region, a total of 4,540 terrorists have been neutralized. On Jan. 20 Turkey launched Operation Olive Branch to remove YPG/PKK... **MORE DETAILS**

## Death toll in Japan flood disaster tops 200



*By Nilay Kar Onum*

ISTANBUL - The death toll from torrential rains and floods in western Japan has topped 200, the Japan Times

reported on Friday. According to the newspaper, 204 people have been confirmed dead, with dozens still missing. Search and rescue operations with

more than 70,000 rescuers continue in the flood-affected areas, including the Hiroshima, Okayama, and Ehime prefectures. Authorities believe the death... **MORE DETAILS**

## Airstrikes kill 35 civilians in Syria's Deir ez-Zor

*By Mohamad Misto*

DEIR EZ-ZOR - At least 35 civilians were killed late Thursday by airstrikes on a Daesh-held position in Syria's Deir ez-Zor province. Local sources told Anadolu Agency that unidentified warplanes had carried out "numerous airstrikes" in civilian areas of Deir ez-Zor's town of Al-Sousa. The Syrian Arab News

Agency (SANA), for its part, reported that the attacking warplanes belonged to a U.S.-led international coalition. Daesh currently holds roughly 2,000 square kilometers along the eastern bank of the Euphrates River near the border with Iraq. The area includes dozens of villages containing approximately 200,000 civilian residents. **MORE DETAILS**