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‘Turkey, Russia working on Idlib disarmament

Presidential aide says Turkey expects roadmap with US on Manbij, Syria to be implemented as planned, with no delays

By Nilay Kar Onum

ISTANBUL - Turkey is working with Russia on how a disarmament zone inside Idlib, Syria will be set up and how terror groups will be driven out, a Turkish presidential aide said on Friday. Speaking to reporters in the capital Ankara, Ibrahim Kalin said Turkey’s National Intelligence Organization (MIT), the Turkish Armed Forces (TSK), and special

forces are working in coordination with Russia in the field. His remarks came after Monday’s landmark agreement between Turkey and Russia to establish a disarmament zone of 15-20 kilometers (9.3-12.4 miles) in Idlib, Syria’s last opposition stronghold, following a meeting in Sochi between Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin. Ankara and Moscow... **MORE DETAILS**



85 FETO-linked soldiers arrested

ANKARA - Eighty-five active-duty soldiers suspected of links to Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO), the terrorist group behind the 2016 defeated coup in Turkey, were arrested Friday, according to prosecutors in the capital Ankara. The arrests came after warrants were issued by the Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office in the capital Ankara

for 110 soldiers, as part of a probe of FETO infiltration of the Turkish Air Forces Command. The soldiers -- who were learned to be periodically communicating the “covert imams” of the organization -- include three colonels, two lieutenant colonels, six squadron leaders, three captains, 18 first lieutenants, a second lieutenant... **MORE DETAILS**

Settler runs over Palestine child in W. Bank



By Qais Abu Samra

AL-KHALIL - A Palestinian child was injured Friday in the occupied West Bank city of Hebron (Al-Khalil) after being run over by a Jewish settler,

according to witnesses. Witnesses told Anadolu Agency that the settler had run over the child with his car in Hebron’s Tel Rumeida neighborhood. Witnesses added that the child -- Montaser Gharib, 16 -- had since been

taken to a local hospital for treatment. Local medical sources who spoke to Anadolu Agency described the child’s condition as “moderate”. Located in the southern West Bank, Hebron is home to some... **MORE DETAILS**



Germany praises Turkey’s Idlib efforts

By Ayhan Simsek

BERLIN - Germany’s foreign minister on Friday praised Turkey’s efforts for preventing a military escalation and a big humanitarian crisis in Syria’s Idlib province.

“Turkey has played an extremely positive role with regards to developments in Syria and Idlib, and finally it has reached an agreement with Russia to establish a demilitarized zone,” Heiko Maas told a news conference in Berlin. **MORE DETAILS**

Net intl. investment position improves

ANKARA - Turkey’s net international investment position (NIIP) showed a recovery in July, shrinking 16.1 percent compared to the end of 2017, the Turkish Central Bank reported on Friday. “External assets recorded \$229.6 billion, indicating a decrease of 1.4 percent

compared to the end of 2017, and liabilities against non-residents recorded \$620.3 billion, indicating a decrease of 11.2 percent,” the bank said in a statement. According to official data, the gap between Turkey’s assets abroad and liabilities -- the NIIP -- was minus \$390.7 billion in July... **MORE DETAILS**

YPG/PKK abducting civilians in N. Syria



AYN AL-ARAB - The YPG/PKK terrorist group has continued to abduct civilians and impose curfews in Syria’s northern city of Ayn al-Arab (Kobani), according to local sources. The group has recently imposed a curfew in the majority-Arab town of Al-Qubba -- located on Ayn al-Arab’s outskirts -- and 10 nearby villages. Within the last two days alone, the YPG/PKK

has abducted 26 people, including three women, over allegations they were “collaborating” with the Free Syrian Army before releasing them Friday. Local sources also said the group had ransacked private homes in the area and seized private property. Arab residents of Al-Qubba are opposed to the group’s continued presence in the town and would like to see it expelled entirely... **MORE DETAILS**