NEWSROOM: news@yankton.net

### **Mali Releases Photos Of Slain Gunmen**

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — State media broadcast photos Monday of the two slain attackers of a luxury hotel in Mali's capital, appealing for anyone who knew them to come forward with information about the gunmen.

The photos of the two young men were taken after Friday's rampage at the Radisson Blu hotel in which 19 people were killed, said Capt. Baba Cisse at the Interior Ministry

The gunmen, who shouted "God is great!" in Arabic as they attacked, were shot to death by security forces following a more than seven-hour siege in the capital of the West African

Officials also put out phone numbers, urging people who might have known them to call with information.

The decision to release the photos came a day after the Islamic extremist group that first claimed responsibility for the attack purported to identify the gunmen in an audio recording, according to Al-Akhbar, a Mauritanian news site that often receives messages from Malian extremists.

### **Deal To Merge Companies Raises Outcry**

A \$160 billion deal announced Monday to merge Pfizer and Allergan and create the world's biggest drug company renewed the outcry in Washington over "inversions," in which U.S. corporations combine with companies overseas to lower

The combination — the second-largest merger in history — could have ramifications around the globe, pushing up drug prices and spurring more such deals in the fast-consolidating health care sector and other fields.

It is also increasing the election-year backlash from U.S. politicians who have been blasting drugmakers recently over medicine prices that can exceed \$100,000 a year.

In what would be the biggest inversion ever, New Yorkbased Pfizer could save hundreds of millions in U.S. taxes annually because it would move its tax headquarters to Ireland, where Allergan is based. That would enable Pfizer to slash its tax rate from around 25 percent this year to about 18 percent.

Inversions have long been attacked by some politicians as a tax dodge, and Hillary Rodham Clinton and Bernie Sanders, the leading Democratic presidential contenders, criticized the

#### White House Asks Allies To Step Up

WASHINGTON (AP) - The White House urged allies on Monday to do more in the campaign against the Islamic State, while President Barack Obama faced pressure in return to show the U.S.-led coalition will intensify efforts in response to the Paris attacks, even without a major shift in strategy.

Requests for more counterintelligence, military and humanitarian assistance came a day before French President Francois Hollande was to arrive at the White House to discuss the fight against the extremists believed to be behind the Nov. 13 attacks that killed 130 people. Hollande, who next visits Russian President Vladimir Putin, is expected to seek more coordinated military operations that would include both the U.S. and Moscow.

Obama has shown no inclination to rethink the U.S. strategy or significantly expand America's commitment, despite pressure from Hollande, Republican critics and some members of his own Democratic Party. However, Secretary of State John Kerry said in Abu Dhabi that both he and the president would like to see progress against the Islamic State "go faster."

At the White House, spokesman Josh Earnest said the U.S. may step up efforts supporting strategies believed to be working — airstrikes and train-and-assist missions in Syria and Iraq — but he played down the possibility of any surge of new American resources into the fight.

The U.S. is "pulling more than our weight" in the coalition, Earnest said. "And we believe that there is more that can be done if countries are willing to contribute additional resources.'

## **Social Media Helps Drive Exodus To US**

PENAS BLANCAS, Costa Rica (AP) — As summer began to bake the central Cuban city of Sancti Spiritus, Elio Alvarez and Lideisy Hernandez sold their tiny apartment and everything in it for \$5,000 and joined the largest migration from their homeland in decades.

Buying two smartphones for \$160 apiece on a layover on their way to Ecuador, they plugged themselves into a highly organized, well-funded and increasingly successful homebrewed effort to make human traffickers obsolete by using smartphones and messaging apps on much of the 3,400-mile (5,500-kilometer) overland journey that's become Cubans' main

Some 45,000 Cubans are expected to move by bus, boat, taxi and on foot from Ecuador and other South and Central American countries to the Texas and California borders this year, afraid that the normalization of relations between the U.S. and Cuba will mean an imminent end to special immigration privileges that date to the opening of the Cold War. With thousands more taking rafts across the Florida Straits, 2015 may witness the biggest outflow of Cubans since the 1980 Mariel boatlift that hauled 125,000 people across the Florida Straits.

The overland exodus has caused a border crisis in Central America, set off tensions in the newly friendly U.S.-Cuban relationship and sparked rising calls in the U.S. to end Cubans' automatic right to legal residency once they touch U.S. soil.

At the heart of it all is Cubans' ability to cross some of the world's most dangerous territory relatively unscathed by the corrupt border guards, criminal gangs and human traffickers known as coyotes who make life hell for so many other Latin American migrants. Key to that ability is the constant flow of information between migrants starting the journey and those who have just completed it.

# 2 Men Charged With Killing Pastor's Wife

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Authorities charged two young men with murder on Monday in the fatal shooting of a pastor's pregnant wife during a home invasion that happened after the minister left the couple's Indianapolis home without locking

Amanda Blackburn, 28, was found partially nude, with her underwear nearby and her shirt pulled up, lying in a pool of blood on her living room floor. She died one day after the Nov. 10 attack on Indianapolis' northwest side.

Her husband, Pastor Davey Blackburn, told police he had left the home's front door unlocked when he departed about 6 a.m. that morning to go to the gym and work out and returned home about 8:20 a.m. to find his wounded wife. The couple's 15-month-old son, Weston, was at home upstairs in a crib but was not harmed in the attack.

Marion County Prosecutor Terry Curry identified the two men charged with murder as Larry Jo Taylor Jr., 18, and Jalen E. Watson, 21, both of Indianapolis, who face murder, burglary, theft and several other charges. A probable cause affidavit says that Taylor shot Blackburn three times, including once in

Watson also faces a murder charge because Blackburn was killed during a burglary in which prosecutors allege that he

# Police Hunt Suspects In Mass Shooting

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - Police on Monday sought to determine what touched off a wild shootout in a crowd of hundreds of people at a New Orleans playground, where an evening of fun at a block party swiftly turned into a nightmare.

The shootout, combined with the recent shooting of a good Samaritan who tried to help a woman who was being dragged toward a vehicle, put a city that has long struggled with violence on edge.

'No one feels safe," said Peter Scharf, a Louisiana State University professor who studies crime.

The Sunday night shootout happened as hundreds of

people — possibly as many as 500 — gathered at the Bunny Friend Playground in what police described as a block party. A music video was also being filmed there. Police said neither event had a permit.

Officers were nearby overseeing a neighborhood parade when they received reports of a large crowd at the park. The shooting happened while they were on their way over to disperse the gathering. Two groups pulled out weapons and started firing, police said.

# **Suicide Vest Found In Paris Raises Possible Link To Suspect**

**BY RAF CASERT** Associated Press

BRUSSELS - A street cleaner found an explosive vest similar to those used in the Paris attacks on Monday near the place where a suspect's mobile phone had been found, raising the possibility that he aborted his mission, either ditching a malfunctioning vest — or fleeing in fear.

The discovery of the vest came as Belgium's prime minister cited a "serious and imminent" threat justifying keeping the highest alert level operational for at least another week. The security measures, already in place for three days, have severely disrupted normal life in the capital.

In France, police said an explosive vest — without a detonator — was found by a street cleaner in a pile of rubble in Chatillon-Montrouge, on the southern edge of Paris and a considerable distance from the sites of the attacks on the Right Bank of the Seine to the north. A police official later said the vest contained bolts and the same type of explo-sives — TATP — as those used in the Nov. 13 Paris attacks that claimed 130 lives and left hundreds wounded.

The device was found Monday in the same area where a cellphone belonging to fugitive suspect Salah Abdeslam was located on the day of the Paris attacks but the vest has not been formally linked to him, said two police officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the investigation.

Belgium-based terrorism expert Claude Moniquet, who has been in contact with both Belgian and French investigators since the attacks, laid out two possibilities: that Abdeslam became afraid of carrying out a suicide mission or, more likely he says, that he simply ditched a defective explosive vest.

Nervousness could have played a role in concocting a defective vest, but he said he doubted fear played a role for among Islamic State followers, "it is rare not to go to the end."

Moniquet said this was



JAKUB DOSPIVA/CTK/ZUMA PRESS/TNS

Soldiers and police patrol the city center Monday in Brussels, Belgium. The terrorist threat level is being kept at level four, the maximum, for the time being in Brussels region, and has be maintained at level three for the rest of the country. All schools in Brussels and the subway stay closed.

only theory since he had not yet spoken to investigators about the explosive vest find.

A manhunt is underway for Abdeslam, whose brother Brahim was among attackers who blew themselves up. He crossed the border into Belgium after the attacks, with French police stopping and interviewing him, before letting him go.

Belgian Prime Minister Charles Michel said Brussels, which houses the headquarters of the European Union and NATO, faced a "serious and imminent" threat that requires keeping the city at the highest alert level, while the rest of the country would stay at the second-highest level. Belgium's crisis center said the alert level would only change if a significant breakthrough warranted it.

The increased security measures in the wake of the massacre in Paris have virtually shut down the Belgian capital, with the subway system, many shops and schools remaining shut on Monday. Michel said that despite the continued high-alert level, schools would reopen

Wednesday, with parts of the subway system beginning to operate. He did not say when the system would be completely online again.

"We are very alert and call for caution," Michel said. "The potential targets remain the same: shopping centers and shopping streets and public transport.

'We want to return to a normal way of life as quickly as possible," he added.

Belgian authorities have not announced any details of their investigation into potential attacks nor have they released information about four suspects who have been arrested and charged with terrorism-related offenses. These include one suspect who was arrested as part of a sweep that saw 21 people detained since Sunday night Fifteen of those detainees have since been released.

Frank Foley, a terrorism expert and lecturer in war studies at King's College London, said it was difficult to know if the Belgian operations were justified because authorities have provided few details. The measures could even be

counterproductive if they last too long, he said.

"If these dramatic measures continue in Brussels, we will be doing the terrorists' job for them," Foley said. "The government may be unintentionally contributing to the atmosphere of fear."

Henry Willis, director of

RAND Homeland Security and Defense Center, likened the clampdown to the reaction of U.S. authorities after the Boston Marathon bombing.

"They did shut down the city for a couple of days and when they lifted those restrictions, that's when they caught the terrorist," he said.

Several of the Paris attackers had lived in Brussels, including Abdelhamid Abaaoud, the man who authorities say orchestrated the plot. He was killed Wednesday in a standoff with French police.

French authorities issued a new appeal for help in identifying one of the three attackers who was killed in the assault near the national stadium. They posted a photo of the man on Twitter Sunday asking the public for informa-

# **US Issues Travel Warning** In Wake Of Terror Attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) to the possible travel risks, especially during the holidays, following increased terrorist threats around the world, the State Department warned on Monday.

A travel alert, which is to be in effect until Feb. 24. said current information suggests that militants with the Íslamic State, al-Qaida, Boko Haram and other terrorist groups continue to plan attacks in multiple regions. U.S. authorities said the likelihood of terror attacks will continue as members of IS return from Syria and Iraq, and other individuals not affiliated with terror groups engage in violence on their

Extremists have targeted sporting events, theaters,

> My Name: My Address:

■ My Phone Number:

open markets and aviation targets. In the past year, tnere nave been multiple attacks in France, Nigeria, Denmark, Lebanon, Turkey and Mali. IS has claimed responsibility for the Oct. 31 bombing of a Russian airliner in Egypt, killing 224

people. "U.S. citizens should exercise vigilance when in public places or using transportation," the alert said.
"Be aware of immediate surroundings and avoid large crowds or crowded places. Exercise particular caution during the holiday season and at holiday festivals or events.

The State Department said the U.S. is exchanging information with allies about threats of international terrorism.

# **CROSSWORD** By THOMAS JOSEPH

#### **ACROSS DOWN** 1 "Shoo!" 1 Night

7 Hold 2 Important tightly 11 Middle time East lan-3 Yak it up

4 Compel guage 12 Bulldog's 5 Brother's school daughter

13 Sociable 6 Cave diner sound **7** Drywall **15** Computer symbols mineral 8 Kanye's

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10 For each

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14 Begin-

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16 Canary's home 18 Ride the

waves **21** Jot down 22 Autobiog-

raphy 24 Commotion

25 Touch lightly

26 Brewed beverage

27 Repressed, as rage 29 Succotash half

30 Glade grazer 31 Indiana

**32** Get smart 34 Rec room game 40 Land

unit 41 "Becket" actor 42 Still life

fruit 43 Baseball's Mickey



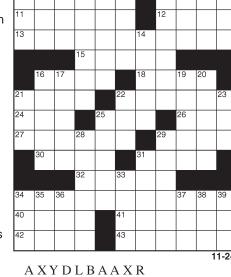
Yesterday's answer 19 Copter 31 Filmdom's part Garbo 33 Physics 20 Blazing 21 Snooze

34 Spigot 22 Guide-35 Tennis book feature feat 23 Sprinted 36 Lingerie 25 Blender

item button 37 Negating **28** Bank word worker 29 Civil War

38 Under the weather 39 Glimpse weapon

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is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

**CRYPTOQUOTE** 11-24

UQER L WRE VRG FOJCL

EVDQEMQG IJC LQQ

SMOUCGQJ. — LOEEOJD XRUU Yesterday's Cryptoquote: FREEDOM

UONQ ZQ SIJ FITQ NVG VRG

IS HAMMERED OUT ON THE ANVIL OF DISCUSSION, DISSENT, AND DEBATE. — HUBERT HUMPHREY

