## the world

#### Gunmen Attack Family In Iraq, Kill 3

BY SINAN SALAHEDDIN

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Officials say gunmen have broken into the home of a Shiite family in a Sunni-dominated area south of Baghdad and killed family members.

Two police officers say the militants attacked the house in the town of Youssifiyah early on Monday morning, killing the parents and their 16-year old son. Two other children, aged 12 and 14 years, were wounded.

A medical official confirmed the figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release information.

The killing comes amid a new push by gunmen to attack Shiite families in Sunni-dominated areas south of Baghdad. The assaults are reminiscent of the sectarian violence that engulfed Iraq after the U.S. invasion and peaked in 2006

Youssifiyah is 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of

#### Egypt Bans Muslim Brotherhood Group

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian court has banned the Muslim Brotherhood group and ordered its assets confiscated in a dramatic escalation of a crackdown by the militarybacked government against supporters of the ousted Islamist president Mohammed Morsi.

Egypt state TV said the court issued its ruling on

The Brotherhood was outlawed for most of its 85 years in existence. But after the 2011 ouster of autocrat Hosni Mubarak, it was allowed to work openly, formed a political party and rose to power in a string of post-Mubarak elections. In March, it registered as a recognized non-governmental organization.

The ruling, which can be appealed, opens door for authorities to track down the group's elaborate network of social services, dealing a deadly blow to its pillars of grass-

#### **Experts Stress Solidity Of Report**

STOCKHOLM (AP) — U.N. climate experts say their latest report is an unbiased and reliable assessment of global warming as they present it to officials from 110 governments for a final review.

By the end of the week, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is scheduled to adopt a final version of its landmark report on the state of Earth's climate system.

A series of errors embarrassed the authors of the IPCC's previous assessment in 2007.

IPCC chairman Rajendra Pachauri told a conference Monday in Stockholm that the latest report marks "a new milestone in the understanding of climate change.'

He said 60 percent of the authors were new to the IPCC process, showing "the inclusivity and openness" of the U.N.-sponsored panel.

#### Syria Allows Access To Chemical Sites

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — Syrian President Bashar Assad says his government will allow international experts access to its chemical weapons sites but that rebels might block them from reaching some of the locations.

In an interview with Chinese state TV broadcast Monday, Assad said Damascus is dedicated to implement a Russia-U.S. agreement to surrender its chemical weapons to

Assad also said the Syrian government has already handed over a list of chemical weapons to an international agency policing chemical weapons.

He says his government won't have "any problem" taking experts to sites where the weapons are kept but some places might be difficult to reach due to ongoing fighting or the "local security situation."

He says: "I'm referring to places where militants exist. Those militants might want to stop the experts' arrival."

#### **Roadside Bomb Kills 2 NATO Troops**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — NATO says a roadside bombing has killed two international service members in eastern

The military alliance says the attack happened on Sunday. NATO confirmed the incident on Monday but did not specify the nationality of the service members.

Many U.S. troops operate in the eastern part of the

This incident brings the number of NATO troops killed this month to seven, while 122 have been killed so far this year, 92 of them U.S. soldiers.

On Saturday, three American soldiers were killed by an Afghan wearing a security forces uniform after he turned his weapon against them in Paktia province, another apparent attack by a member of the Afghan forces against their interna-

#### **Phil. Rebels Attack Southern Town**

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — A group of Muslim rebels opposed to peace talks with the Philippine government has stormed a southern town and seized several hostages while battling security forces.

The military reported the rebels attacked Midsayap township Monday and triggered clashes with government forces. As troops closed in, the withdrawing rebels split into several groups and took four teachers and 11 farmers hostage.

Some hostages were later released and it wasn't clear how many are still held. One soldier was killed.

The attackers belong to Bangasamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, a breakaway faction of a large rebel group that has signed a peace agreement in exchange for autonomy for minority Muslims in the predominantly Roman Catholic nation.

The violence came as troops clear another southern city of separate rebels who took hostages Sept. 9.

#### **Band Member Declares Hunger Strike**

MOSCOW (AP) — One of the imprisoned members of the Russian punk group Pussy Riot says she is beginning a hunger strike to protest harsh working conditions and threats to her life.

Nadezhda Tolokonnikova is serving a two-year sentence for hooliganism. She and two other group members were arrested in 2012 when Pussy Riot made a brief, unauthorized performance in Moscow's main Orthodox cathedral denouncing Vladimir Putin.

In a letter published Monday on the group's blog, Tolokonnikova says inmates in her prison are forced to work up to 17 hours a day in a shop that makes police uniforms.

# 'Most' Hostages Rescued

BY JASON STRAZIUSO AND **TOM ODULA** 

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenya's military launched a major operation at an upscale Nairobi mall and said it had rescued "most" of the hostages being held captive by al-Qaida-linked militants during a two-day standoff that killed at least 68 people and injured 175.

At daybreak on Monday, however, about five minutes of sustained gunfire could be heard being fired out of the mall, a clear indication that at least one gunman was still free and that the standoff continued. And hours after Kenyan officials said most hostages had been released, no further updates were released by authorities.

'We are yet to get confirmation from what's happening in the building," Col. Cyrus Oguna, a Kenyan military spokesman, told The Associated Press.

The military assault began shortly before sundown on Sunday, with one helicopter skimming very close to the roof of the shopping complex as a loud explosion rang out, far larger than any previous grenade blast or gunfire volley.

Kenyan police said on Twitter that security forces had launched a "MAJOR" assault to end the bloody siege.

'This will end tonight. Our forces will prevail. Kenyans are standing firm against aggression, and we will win," Kenya's National Disaster Operation Centre said on Twitter.

The Kenya Defense Forces later said it had rescued "most" hostages and had taken control of most of the mall, though it did not provide details.

Late on Sunday, Oguna said that many of the rescued hostages - mostly adults were suffering from dehydration. He refused to say how many hostages were rescued or how many were still being held, and still couldn't provide that information on Monday. He said some of the attackers had "most probably" been killed in the operation.

The assault came about 30 hours after 10 to 15 al-Shabab extremists stormed the mall Saturday from two sides.



ZHANG CHEN/XINHUA/ZUMA PRESS/MCT Thick smoke rises from the Westgate Shopping Centre in Nairobi following a string of explosions during the third day of a stand-off between Kenyan security forces and gunmen inside the building in Nairobi, Kenya, Monday. Kenyan security forces on Monday stepped up their onslaught against Al-Qaida allied Al-Shabaab gunmen to end a siege on the mall and free hostages

throwing grenades and firing on civilians.

Loud exchanges of gunfire rang out from inside the fourstory mall throughout Sunday. Kenyan troops were seen carrying in at least two rocketpropelled grenades. Al-Shabab militants reacted angrily to the helicopters on Twitter and warned that the Kenyan military action was endangering hostages.

Kenyan authorities said they would do their utmost to save hostages' lives, but no officials could say precisely how many people were being held captive. Kenya's Red Cross said in a statement, citing police, that 49 people had been reported missing. Officials did not make an explicit

link but that number could give an indication of the number of people held captive.

Kenya's Red Cross said the death toll rose to 68 after nine bodies were recovered Sunday. More than 175 people were injured, including many children, Kenyan officials

Somalia's al-Qaida-linked rebel group, al-Shabab, claimed responsibility for the attack that specifically targeted non-Muslims, saying it was in retribution for Kenyan forces' 2011 push into neighboring Somalia. U.S. Secretary of State

John Kerry condemned what he called "an enormous offense against everybody's sense of right and wrong,"

and called the attackers "ruthless and completely reckless terrorists.

Kerry, who was in New York, for meetings at the United Nations, spoke Sunday with Somalia's foreign minister and U.N. ambassador.

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said U.S. law enforcement, military and civilian personnel in Nairobi were providing advice and assistance to the Kenyan authorities. She said five Americans were among the scores of people injured in the attack, but the U.S. had no reports of any American deaths.

Earlier in the day, al-Shabab said on its new Twitter feed — after its previous one was shut down Saturday – that Kenyan officials were asking the hostage-takers to negotiate and offering incen-

'We'll not negotiate with the Kenyan govt as long as its forces are invading our country, so reap the bitter fruits of your harvest," al-Shabab said in a tweet.

Kenvan President Uhuru Kenyatta, who lost a nephew and the nephew's fiancee in the attack, reiterated his government's determination to continue fighting al-Shabab.

'We went as a nation into Somalia to help stabilize the country and most importantly to fight terror that had been unleashed on Kenya and the world," said Kenyatta. "We shall not relent on the war on terror.'

Although this violent attack had succeeded, the Kenyan leader said, the country's security forces had "neutralized" many others.Former Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga told reporters that "quite a number" of people were being held hostage in two areas of the sprawling complex, which includes stores for such retail giants as Nike, Adidas and Bose. Many hostages were believed to be in a grocery and general department store called Nakumatt.

Kenyan security officials sought to reassure the families of hostages but implied that some of those being held could be killed.

### Landslides Kill 20 In **Northwest Philippines**

MANILA, Philippines (AP) Torrential monsoon rains hit the northwestern Philippines on Monday, triggering landslides and killing 20 people in areas already weakened by a powerful typhoon, and raising the death toll to 47 from storms across Asia.

Philippine officials said soldiers and villagers were also searching for at least seven people missing in mountainside villages hit by the landslides Monday in the province of Zambales.

In China, where Typhoon Usagi struck after passing by the Philippines, officials said the storm killed 25 people in the southern province of Guangdong, 13 of them in the city of Shanwei where it struck the coast late Sunday.

The other deaths came when two people drowned when a passenger boat capsized in northeastern Aurora province in the Philippines.

Subic Mayor Jeffrey Khonghun said 15 bodies were dug out in two landslidehit villages in his town. Five people also died in landslides in two other towns in Zambales, according to army officials and police.

Rescuers used their hands, pots and shovels to dig through the muck that buried a cluster of houses while relatives of two other missing residents waited in the rain in the village of Wawandue.



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