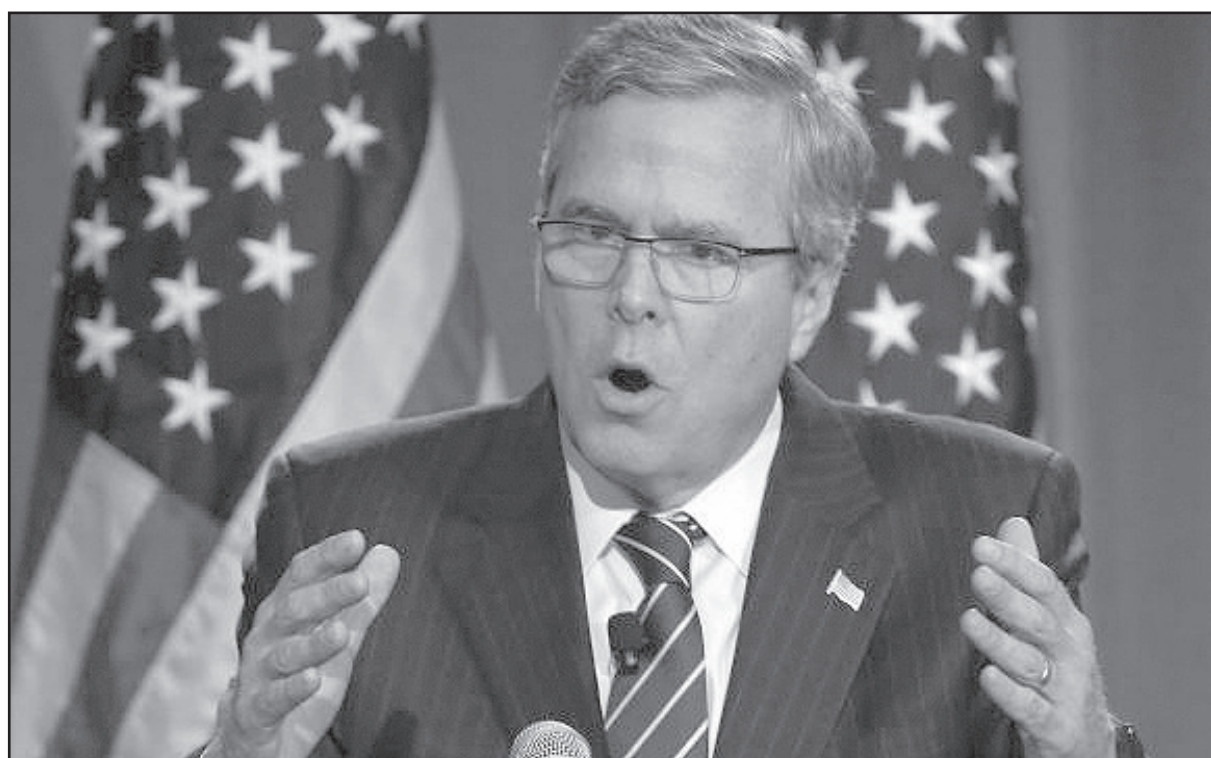


Bush Raps Clinton's State Department Email Storage



Former Florida Governor Jeb Bush of state from 2009 to 2013.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Republican presidential hopeful Jeb Bush stepped up his criticism of Hillary Clinton, calling it "baffling" that she stored official U.S. State Department emails on a personal server rather than safer government systems.

"It's a dangerous world, and security would mean that you couldn't have a private server," the former Florida governor said in an interview with Radio Iowa on Friday morning. "It's a little baffling, to be honest with you."

Bush and other Republicans have pounded Clinton, the early front-runner for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, for using a personal email account for work during her four years as secretary

of state from 2009 to 2013. They claim she was trying to avoid transparency and could have posed a security threat.

Clinton has turned over to the State Department 55,000 pages of her email records that were stored on a private server, and asked the agency to release them. But officials said the review could take months, ensuring the controversy extends beyond the expected launch of her campaign.

Bush also used a personal email account during his time as governor but has released hundreds of thousands of the emails from that account. Bush told Radio Iowa he would not use a private email account if elected president.

White House spokesman Josh

Earnest has said official policy requires that any work-related emails sent on personal accounts be documented on government systems.

Valerie Jarrett, a top adviser to President Barack Obama, said he had a very firm policy requiring that administration officials keep work email on government systems.

"He believes in transparency," Jarrett said in an interview on Bloomberg TV.

She would not speculate about whether Clinton broke those rules.

Clinton's team says previous secretaries of state also used private email addresses, and she quickly complied with requests to turn over the documents.

Families of Missing Syria-Bound Girls Slam UK Police

LONDON (Press TV) - The families of three British schoolgirls, who are presumed to have joined the ISIL Takfiri terrorist group in Syria, have criticized the police for failing to warn them before the trio's disappearance.

The families accused the police on Friday of failing to pass on crucial information that could have stopped the girls' departure.

The students received letters in relation to a classmate who had fled to Syria last December, but their families never saw the texts as the girls reportedly hid them in their school textbooks.

Shamima Begum, 15, Kadiza Sultana, 16, and Amira Abase, 15, who attended Bethnal Green Academy in east London, were reported missing on February 17.

They flew to the Turkish city of Istanbul from London's Gatwick Airport on that day and are now believed to be in Syria.

Abase Hussein, the father of Amira, said that he would have intervened if he had seen the police letter, saying, "We would have stopped them. We would have discussed it and taken away their passports from them. This

wouldn't have happened."

Halima Khanom, sister of Kadiza Sultana, also made similar remarks, stating, "We wouldn't have been here today doing this if we'd got that letter and known what was going on."

Keith Vaz, chair of the home affairs committee of MPs, further noted that it was "extraordinary" that the UK police handed the letters to the girls instead of their parents.

"It raises the question of whether the families have been deprived of crucial information they were entitled to receive and added to their anguish," Vaz said.

The UK government says at least 600 British extremists have joined the ISIL terrorist group.

The Takfiri extremists currently control parts of Syria and Iraq. They have carried out heinous crimes in the two countries, including mass executions and the beheading of people.

The Western states, including Britain, and their allies have long supported the Takfiri groups operating against the government in Syria over the past few years.

Russia Sends Aid to Coal Mine Blast Victims in Donetsk



A Russian convoy carrying humanitarian aid for residents of the Donetsk region in eastern Ukraine approaches the city of Makiyivka, December 12, 2014.

MOSCOW (Press TV) - Russia has sent a humanitarian aid convoy to the families of victims of a coal mine explosion in Ukraine's eastern city of Donetsk.

A spokesperson for Russia's Emergencies Ministry said Saturday the humanitarian convoy was formed on an emergency basis on behalf of Russia's President Vladimir Putin to provide the families of those killed and injured in the blast at the Zasyadko coal mine with assistance.

The convoy consists of over 20 vehicles that will deliver over 200 tons of humanitarian aid, mainly food products and medicines.

The deadly blast on Wednesday, apparently sparked by methane gas, occurred in the Zasyadko mine, one of Ukraine's biggest coal mines.

The explosion took place as 230

workers were underground.

On Friday, authorities of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) confirmed that 33 people including four miners had been killed and 15 others injured as the rescue operation was complete.

The funeral of the killed people was held on Friday.

The men were buried at the Shcheglovskoye cemetery in Donetsk.

A day of mourning was declared Thursday in the eastern Ukrainian city.

Donetsk is the epicenter of a nearly year-long conflict between Ukrainian government troops and pro-Russians.

According to the latest figures, over 6,000 people have been killed and about 14,000 others injured in the war.

Militants Kill Five in Mali Attack

BAMAKO (Reuters) - Militants killed five people including a French citizen and a Belgian citizen in a gun attack on a restaurant in Mali's capital in the early hours of Saturday, authorities said.

Mali's desert north, where French forces wrested control of territory from separatist rebels and al Qaeda-linked militants, is hit by frequent political violence, but this is the first such attack for years in the capital Bamako in the south.

The shooting at La Terrasse restaurant, which is popular with expatriates, began at around 1 a.m. (2000 ET), a senior security official said.

"There were two individuals who were armed and hooded. One burst into the La Terrasse restaurant and opened fire on people.

Then he got into a vehicle in

which the other was waiting," senior police officer Falaye Kanté told Reuters.

"As they fled down a neighboring street, they shot a Belgian man who was in front of his house. He's dead. Not far away they came across a police vehicle and threw a grenade, killing the driver," he said.

Those killed included a girl who died in hospital, the police driver and a security guard, he said. Witnesses said police secured the street where the restaurant shooting took place because of unexploded grenades.

French forces took control of northern Mali two years ago but insurgents continue to mount attacks. France has more than 3,000 soldiers in West Africa as part of a counter-insurgency force against al Qaeda-linked militants.

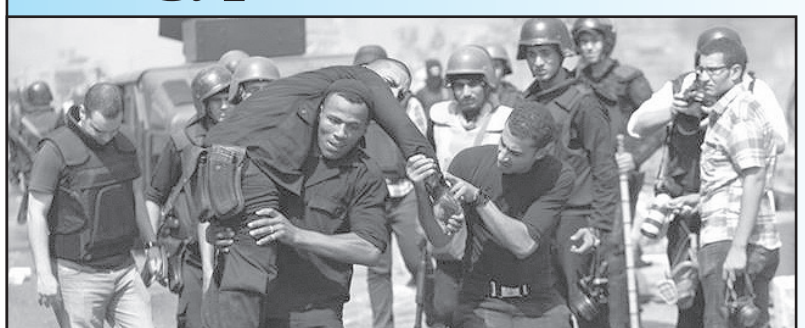
French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius confirmed a French citizen was among those killed in the Bamako attack. He condemned it and said it strengthened France's resolve to "fight terrorism in all its forms".

The French embassy in Mali said on Saturday it had alerted its citizens and beefed up security.

Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders also condemned the violence and said it may have been a terrorist attack. He was speaking to reporters during a conference of foreign ministers in Riga.

Mali's government signed a preliminary peace proposal on Sunday meant to end fighting with northern separatists, but the Tuareg-led rebels demanded more time before agreeing to any accord.

Egypt's New Interior Minister Changes Police Top Brass



Egyptian police carrying a wounded colleague during clashes against pro-Morsi demonstrators in Cairo on August 14, 2013.

CAIRO (Press TV) - Egypt's Ministry of Interior says the new cabinet head has made changes to his senior police command as insecurity continues to grow in the North African nation.

Newly-appointed Interior Minister Magdi Abdel-Ghaffar selected 25 new commanders to head various top security posts in a major shake-up of the country's police force, a ministry statement said

late Friday.

The changes included appointing aides for national security and security on the Sinai Peninsula, where militant groups have killed scores of police officers and soldiers.

Police commanders in several governorates and cities, including the capital city of Cairo, were also changed.

On Thursday, Abdel-Ghaffar

was appointed as the new interior minister after his predecessor, Mohamed Ibrahim, was removed in a cabinet reshuffle.

Ibrahim, who was originally appointed during a cabinet reshuffle in January 2013, has been massively criticized for having a major role in Egypt's heavy-handed crackdown on the opposition, including the Muslim Brotherhood.



MOSCOW (Reuters) - Two suspects have been detained in relation to the murder of Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov, the head of the Federal Security Service Alexander Bortnikov said on Saturday.

"I would like to inform you that the work that has been conducted has resulted in two suspects in this crime being detained today. They are a Gubashev, Anzor and a Dadayev, Zaur," he said in a video posted on state TV Channel One's website.

No further details were provided about the suspects, but RIA Novosti news agency quoted Bortnikov as saying that both were from the Caucasus.

Bortnikov told Channel One that Russian President Vladimir Putin had been informed of the detention and that the investigation was ongoing.

Nemtsov, 55, was shot dead near the Kremlin on the night of Feb. 27 as he was walking home and many European politicians and diplomats attended his funeral in Moscow on Tuesday.

The Kremlin has denied accusations that it played a role in his death.

WASHINGTON (Press TV) - A US senator involved in congressional efforts to pass anti-Iran legislation says he will not leave office although the Department of Justice has reportedly decided to bring criminal corruption charges against him.

Attorney General Eric Holder signed off on prosecutors' request to proceed with charges against Robert Menendez, the Democratic senator from New Jersey, CNN reported on Friday.

"I fight for these issues and the people of our country every single day," Menendez told reporters on Friday, "That's who I am, and I am not going anywhere."

The 61-year-old lawmaker said that he has always abided by the law. He refused to answer reporters' questions and said that "there is an ongoing inquiry".

He also did not comment on the accusation that he accepted gifts in exchange for pushing the business interests of donor and friend Salomon Melgen, a Florida ophthalmologist.

The prosecutors are currently looking into plane trips that the senator made as a guest to Melgen's villa in the Dominican Republic.

When it first transpired that the Democratic lawmaker was under investigation in 2013, he decided to pay back Melgen \$58,000 for the plane trips in 2010.

There is also another case which shows he supported Melgen's business interest in a Dominican Republic government contract.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Wisconsin police fatally shot an apparently unarmed African-American teenager on Friday, prompting dozens of people to protest at the site of the killing, according to police and videos published on social media.

Madison Police Chief Mike Koval told reporters that an officer responded to a disturbance at around 6:30 p.m. local time and later forced his way into an apartment that the 19-year-old, who was also suspected of a recent battery, had gone into.

Koval said that a struggle between the suspect and the officer ensued and the teen was fatally shot, according to a recording of the news conference published by broadcaster WKOW.

"The initial finding at the scene did not reflect a gun or anything of that nature that would have been used by the subject," Koval said.

The shooting comes at a time of heightened scrutiny of police violence against minorities across the country. Protests have been held in Los Angeles and Washington state in recent days over police killings of unarmed men from minority groups.

Videos published on social media showed around 100 protesters at the scene of the shooting chanting slogans like, "Who can you trust? Not the police," in front of a row of officers.

Many of the demonstrators then moved the protest to inside the Madison City County building, according to videos published on Twitter. It was not immediately clear if there were any arrests.