

US seeks de-escalation in Kurdish-held eastern Syria

BEIRUT: The US Embassy in Syria said on Sunday that senior officials had met Kurdish-led forces and community leaders in eastern Syria, discussing the need for de-escalation after days of deadly violence.

Jordan govt, academic union discuss boosting support for Palestinian cause

AMMAN: Fayed Basbous, chairman of the Palestine Committee in Jordan's Lower House, reaffirmed King Abdullah's commitment to reviving solidarity with the Palestinian cause, Jordan News Agency reported.

The statement was made during the committee's meeting on Sunday with Dr. Ahmed Bakr, secretary-general of the Union of Arab Academics.

Basbous stressed the need to support the Palestinian people in securing their rights, and urged the union to continue its role in raising awareness of the Palestinian cause.

Libya's chief prosecutor is seeking more details on minister's meeting with Israel's chief diplomat

CAIRO: Libya's chief prosecutor said Saturday he would establish a fact-finding mission to investigate a meeting last month between the foreign minister of one of the country's rival governments and Israel's chief diplomat.

The Aug. 22 meeting caused an uproar across the North African nation. Najla Mangoush, the foreign minister of the Tripoli-based government, and Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen met in Rome in the first-ever between top diplomats of Libya and Israel.

[Iran Guards seize ship smuggling fuel in Gulf](#)

TEHRAN: Naval forces of Iran's Revolutionary Guards have seized a ship "carrying smuggled fuel" in the Gulf and arrested four crew members, local media reported on Saturday.

"More than 50,000 liters of smuggled fuel were discovered" on board on the ship, Fars news agency quoted the chief justice of the coastal Hormozgan province, Mojtaba Ghahramani, as saying.

He said the Revolutionary Guards Corps navy had "confiscated" the ship and "arrested four people" during the operation.

[Polisario Front's commander, three Western Sahara fighters killed by drone](#)

ALGIERS: A Polisario Front commander and three Sahrawi fighters were killed in the disputed Western Sahara as a US delegation visited the region, the official Saharawi news agency SPS reported.

The Western Sahara dispute dates back to 1975, when colonial ruler Spain withdrew from the territory, sparking a 15-year war between Morocco and the Polisario which seeks the territory's independence.