



Portuguese forward Cristiano Ronaldo poses next to a wax statue of himself during a visit to the new location of the CR7 museum dedicated to his professional career at Funchal, on the Portuguese island of Madeira yesterday. — AFP

MUNICH GUNMAN 'OBSESSED' WITH MASS...

Continued from Page 1

in Norway exactly five years earlier, Andrae added. Chancellor Angela Merkel, in her first reaction to the carnage, said Munich had suffered a "night of horror". Most of the victims in Friday's attack were young people, with three aged just 14, police said. Munich prosecutor Thomas Steinkraus-Koch said Sonboly had suffered depression, but voiced caution over reports he may have undergone psychiatric treatment. The teenager had 300 rounds of ammunition in a rucksack when he targeted the busy Olympia shopping mall, just minutes away from the flat he shared with his family, according to authorities. Police are investigating how he managed to obtain his weapon, a 9mm Glock pistol with a defaced serial number.

Grieving Munich residents laid roses and lit candles in memory of the victims, with one placard bearing the simple plea: "Why?" "Bloodbath in Munich," was the headline on the best-selling Bild newspaper. Sixteen people were wounded in the attack, three of them critically. A video posted on social media appeared to show a man in black walking away from the McDonald's restaurant while firing repeatedly with a handgun as people fled screaming. A police patrol shot and wounded Sonboly but he escaped before police found his body, after an operation to track down what had initially been thought to be up to three attackers.

Neighbors said Sonboly was born to Iranian parents, a taxi driver father and a mother who worked at a department store. They arrived in Germany as asylum seekers in the late 1990s. Of Shiite Muslim origin, Sonboly appears to have converted to Christianity, hence his first name David. The family lived in the well-heeled Maxvorstadt neighborhood in a tidy social housing block popular with immigrant families.

Neighbour Delfye Dalbi, 40, described Sonboly as a helpful young man who was "never bitter or angry", though others remembered a quiet loner. "All his body language said 'I don't want to talk to you,'" said Stephan, a waiter at the cafe on the ground floor of the housing block. A police source cited by DPA news agency said he

loved playing violent video games and was an admirer of the 17-year-old German who shot dead 15 people at his school near Stuttgart in 2009. Andrae of the Munich police said the teenager had been obsessed with books and articles about mass killings "linked to maniacs".

Survivors described terrifying scenes Friday as shoppers rushed from the area, some carrying children in their arms. "We entered McDonald's to eat... then there was panic, and people ran out," one woman told Bavarian television. Another video appeared to show the gunman on a car park roof in a heated exchange with a man on a nearby balcony. "I'm German, I was born here," the assailant replied after the man fired off a volley of swear words, including an insulting term for foreigners.

De Maiziere told reporters that Sonboly had likely used a hacked Facebook account to lure people to the McDonald's branch, "offering them special reductions." "I will give you whatever you want, for not a lot of money," the online invite read, according to German media reports. The casualties were mostly young, with three aged just 14 and two aged 15. Most of the victims in Friday's attack were foreigners, including three Turkish nationals, three people from Kosovo and a Greek.

US President Barack Obama voiced staunch support for Washington's close ally Germany, while EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said: "Europe stands united." Europe has been on high alert for terrorism after a string of attacks in neighbouring France and Belgium claimed by IS. The attack came just four days after a 17-year-old asylum seeker went on a rampage with an axe and a knife on a train in Bavaria, injuring five people. In France, a Tunisian used a truck on July 14 to mow down 84 people after a Bastille Day fireworks display in Nice, the third major attack on French soil in the past 18 months.

Friday's massacre spurred many in Munich to think the unthinkable. "It has reached us. People in Munich have long had a queasy feeling. Fears grew with every attack in Paris, Istanbul or Brussels," said the Abendzeitung newspaper's editor-in-chief Michael Schilling. "Since Friday it is clear that there can be no security anywhere, not even in the safest German city." — AFP

KUWAIT BEING SWEEP BY 'ABNORMAL' HEAT WAVE...

Continued from Page 1

He added that Kuwait was hit by dusty northwestern winds early yesterday that would gradually diminish by today, adding that temperature is also expected to be lower than 50 C next week. High temperature is to continue until end of August, Ramadan said, adding that it will gradually fall after Sept 6.

Iraq's state-run Meteorological Department said yes-

terday that it had registered the hottest day so far this year, with maximum temperatures hitting 53.9 degrees Celsius in the southern city of Basra. Friday's merciless heat in Basra forced the majority of the residents to almost abandon the streets or to swim in the river. Increasing the residents' suffering were chronic electricity outages, caused mainly by the soaring temperatures and the decline in electricity imported from neighboring Iran. — Agencies

CLINTON PICKS KAINE AS RUNNING MATE

Continued from Page 1

Clinton and Kaine officially joined forces ahead of the Democratic National Convention which kicks off tomorrow in Philadelphia, where they will be elevated as the official nominees to the party's presidential ticket.

Clinton put out a series of tweets heaping praise on the senator. She described him as "a relentless optimist who believes no problem is unsolvable if you put in the work to solve it" saying his guiding principle was "the belief that you can make a difference through public service". One of Clinton's tweets included a five-point graphic highlighting the senator's youthful spell on a Jesuit mission in Honduras as well as his track record in fighting homelessness, discrimination and gun violence, in expanding early childhood education and in fostering a pro-business environment in Virginia. Clinton, 68, had said she wanted a running mate with enough experience to "literally get up one day and be the president of the United States."

Nationwide polls suggest Trump and Clinton are running almost neck and neck. The New York billionaire painted a dark picture of an America mired in poverty and violence as he accepted his party's nomination Thursday night, promising to restore law and order, clamp down on immigration and put America first. Trump's choice of running mate, Indiana Governor Mike Pence who is a conservative evangelical Christian, could serve to reassure voters alarmed by his rhetoric.

As for Clinton's running mate, Trump insinuated Kaine is stained by corruption, posting on Twitter: "Is it the same Kaine that took hundreds of thousands of dollars in gifts while Governor of Virginia and didn't get indicted while Bob M did?" He was referring to former governor Robert McDonnell, a onetime rising star in the Republican Party, found guilty in 2014 of using his influence to help a local business owner in exchange for gifts and loans. Last month, the US Supreme Court vacated the conviction and ordered a retrial. — AFP

ERDOGAN'S MASS APPEAL SAVED HIM ON NIGHT...

Continued from Page 1

"A majority of people were shocked to see the president shocked," said Marc Pierini of the Carnegie Foundation Europe, a former EU ambassador in Ankara. With Erdogan "isolated and far from the centers of power", Pierini said, the live video phone call was "a master stroke". While the putschists were storming TV stations, apparently using "a manual from the '60s," Erdogan's improvised video address "led to direct reaction" on the streets, he said. "It turned around the coup."

In the days since people prevented a military overthrow, at the cost of over 240 lives, Erdogan has used text messages and social media to speak directly to the people. He has implored them to stay on the streets in nightly mass rallies in city squares that have resembled seas of red crescent flags. "Do not abandon the heroic resistance you have put up for your country, homeland and flag," read an SMS by "RTERdogan" sent to every mobile phone in the country. "The owners of our squares are not tanks, but the people."

Erdogan's improvised response to the coup attempt "helped him discover a new technology" to strengthen his rule, said Aykan Erdemir of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies in Washington. "The Turkish president, who has been deeply suspicious of social media and new communication technologies, realised that these tools have more potential than simply being

propaganda outlets," he told AFP.

Erdogan dominates Turkish politics like no leader since the republic's founding father, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, having cultivated a deeply passionate relationship with his followers. Such concentration of power by one man is unprecedented in modern Turkey and has raised widespread fears of increasingly autocratic and repressive rule. Youthful urban demonstrators rallied against Erdogan during the 2013 Gezi Park protests, and see the man with the notoriously fiery temper as a despotic autocrat who ruthlessly shuts down criticism.

But in many working-class areas and the vast Anatolian heartland, Erdogan is beloved by millions who celebrate a bigger role for Islam in public life, have benefited from a revitalized economy, and share a new sense of national pride under a potent ruler. Erdogan won the 2014 election with 52 percent of the vote, making him "the first directly elected president of the people, with an added legitimacy," said Pierini.

Critics warn Erdogan's vast personalization of power endangers democracy. "Erdogan now enjoys direct access to his followers via SMS and can mobilize them," without using his party as an intermediary, said Erdemir. This allows Erdogan to "ignite the masses to take the action that he sees fit," he said. "However, he will not have the same capacity to slow things down once his followers get going. So what he has now is both a very potent and risky technique." — AFP

AMIR COMMENDS OFFICIALS OVER HUGE DRUG...

Continued from Page 1

The attempt to bring in 10 million Captagon pills worth KD 25 million into the country was foiled on Friday, as the shipment was professionally hidden in a container coming from Turkey, according to a ministry statement. HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber

Al-Muabark Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.

Meanwhile, Speaker of National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem thanked yesterday a number of state bodies for their efforts in thwarting the drug smuggling attempt. Ghanem, in a press release, congratulated ministers Sheikh Mohammad and Saleh for their efforts in the operation, which earned them recognition from HH the Amir. — KUNA

TWIN IS BLASTS KILL 80 IN KABUL

Continued from Page 1

officials said, with reports emerging of blood shortages and urgent appeals for donors circulating on social media.

The Taliban, who are in the middle of their annual summer offensive and are more powerful than IS, strongly denied any involvement in the attack. The Islamic State group claimed the bombings in a statement carried by its affiliated Amaq news agency, calling it an attack on Shiites. "Two fighters of the Islamic State detonated their explosive belts in a gathering of Shiites in... Kabul," Amaq said. The attack represents a major escalation for IS, which so far has largely been confined to the eastern province of Nangarhar.

The National Directorate of Security, Afghanistan's main intelligence agency, said the attack was masterminded by Abu Ali, an IS commander in Nangarhar's volatile Achin district. "It's long been a fear about Afghanistan that IS-aligned forces will try to inject a sectarian dimension into a largely non-sectarian conflict," Michael Kugelmann, an analyst at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, told AFP.

The bombings, which the UN denounced as a "war crime", mark the deadliest single attack in the Afghan capital since the Taliban were toppled from power in a 2001 US-led invasion, the interior ministry said. President Ashraf Ghani vowed

"revenge" against the perpetrators of the attack and announced today as a national day of mourning. The assault came as thousands of demonstrators gathered to demand that a multi-million-dollar power line pass through their electricity-starved province of Bamiyan, one of the most deprived areas of Afghanistan with a large Hazara population.

"The horrific attack on a group of peaceful protestors in Kabul demonstrates the utter disregard that armed groups have for human life," Amnesty International said in a statement. "Such attacks are a reminder that the conflict in Afghanistan is not winding down, as some believe, but escalating, with consequences for the human rights situation in the country that should alarm us all."

The protest was largely peaceful before the explosions struck as the demonstrators sought to march on the presidential palace, waving flags and chanting slogans such as "death to discrimination". The 500-kilovolt TUTAP power line, which would connect the Central Asian nations of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan with electricity-hungry Afghanistan and Pakistan, was originally set to pass through the central province. But the government re-routed it through the mountainous Salang pass north of Kabul, saying the shorter route would speed up the project and save millions of dollars. — AFP



Premier Brands

To see your ad here, call: **+965 248 35 616 / 617**
E MAIL: info@kuwaittimes.net
ads@kuwaittimes.net
Website: www.kuwaittimes.net

best offers

SHARP
LC-32LE260M



32"

49

السعر Price
ك.د. KD .990

HDMI 2.0 240Hz USB

SHARP
LC-50LE458X



50"

129

السعر Price
ك.د. KD .990

HDMI CI+ USB

SHARP
LC-58LE275X



58"

199

السعر Price
ك.د. KD .990

HDMI 240Hz USB

best بست
AL-YOUSIFI اليوسيفي

Credit: Start from 5KD • Up to 48 month • Instant approval

• Kuwait 1 (the New str.) • Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower) • Hawalli 1 (Tunis str.) • Hawalli 2 (Bin Khalidon str.) • Shuwaikh (4th Ring road) • Al-Rai (4th Ring road) • Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarak str.) • Farwaniya (Behind police Station) • Fahheel (Opp. General Parking) • Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.) • Airport (Departure Hall)

Shop Online www.best.com.kw Free Delivery

1809 809