



What's News

World-Wide

Islamic State is turning to less elaborate but lethal attacks on civilian targets as it loses territory in the grinding war in the Middle East. **A1**

◆ **The commander of Hezbollah's operations in support of Assad was killed** by an explosion in Syria. **A6**

◆ **The Obama administration is making a nationwide push to bar discrimination against transgender people.** **A3**

◆ **Pfizer unveiled new controls on its drug-distribution channels to stop the use of its products in executions.** **A1**

◆ **Argentina's Kirchner was indicted in a case involving derivatives trading by the nation's central bank.** **A7**

◆ **Chinese prosecutors indicted a former aide to retired President Hu.** **A7**

◆ **Turkey and the EU failed to overcome differences threatening to derail their migration deal.** **A12**

◆ **The House Benghazi Committee and the State Department are at an impasse over a number of documents.** **A3**

◆ **The federal government will begin scanning security-clearance applicants' posts on social media.** **A3**

Business & Finance

◆ **Consumers boosted spending in April to the highest levels in more than a year, accelerating their turn**

Blocks Burned, Blocks Spared in Canada Wildfire



CHARRED: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau visited the Alberta town of Fort McMurray Friday to assess the damage firsthand. **A7**

Islamic State Shifts Tactics

As foes cut into group's pseudo-state, its militants turn more to suicide bombings

By MARIA ANS HARRIS

As Islamic State loses territory in the grinding war in the Middle East, it is turning to less elaborate but lethal direct attacks on civilian targets such

as this past week's series of deadly suicide bombings in Iraq.

In three straight days of bombings in Baghdad starting on Wednesday, the group killed more than 100 people. In the wake of the terror attacks in Paris in November and Brussels in March, Western and regional officials said they are seeing more signs the militants are morphing back into a guerrilla-style insurgency that re-

lies increasingly on suicide attacks.

Iraq's Interior Ministry spokesman Brig. Gen. Saad Maan said the latest terror attacks in Iraq stem from Islamic State's need to make an impact away from the battlefield.

"It is well known that whenever there is a military victory against [Islamic State, they] resort to this criminal, cowardly act by using car bombs or suicide bombers to kill in-

nocent people," Gen. Maan said Wednesday after three suicide bombings killed at least 88 people. Another suicide attack on Friday at a Baghdad coffee shop killed at least 13 more.

Islamic State remains a formidable enemy in both Iraq and Syria despite nearly

◆ **Hezbollah military leader killed in Syria.** **A6**

Retail Sales Gain Is Fueled By Web

By EDIC MORATH
AND SUZANNE KAPNER

Consumers boosted spending in April to the highest levels in more than a year, accelerating their turn toward online shopping and widening the divide between in-store retailers and Internet outlets pitching lower prices and convenience.

While data from the Commerce Department on Friday showed overall retail sales rose 1.3% in April from a month earlier, the category that includes shopping on Amazon.com Inc. and rival websites and apps grew 2.4%. And in the past year, Internet and catalog sales have grown more than three times as fast as overall sales, up 10.2%. Department-store sales, meanwhile, sank 1.7% over the past 12 months.

Results from the retail sector this past week showed how the shift is knocking down major companies despite resilience in the broader economy. Major retailers, including Macy's Inc., Kohl's Corp. and Nordstrom Inc. this week reported sharply lower sales and profits, while Gap Inc. said it was considering closing more stores after sales continued to sink.

Amazon is now the second-largest apparel seller in the U.S., behind Wal-Mart Stores Inc., according to Morgan

DESIGN & DECORATING

THE MEDIATOR

Can This Master Bedroom Be Saved?

An erstwhile bachelor brings an industrial-style bed; his wife, an antique chinoiserie chest she can't live without. Three designers suggest ways to bridge the chasm between the two aesthetics



Canopy Bed, from \$14,200, Uhuru Design, 212-882-1581

THE CHALLENGE:

In a couple's first shared apartment, she bestows upon their inner sanctum an 18th-century gilded-appliqué Chinoiserie bombe bureau, and he contributes an industrial, Brooklyn-made black-walnut bed with a blackened steel base. Here, suggestions for a beautiful coexistence.



Louis XV 18th Century Chinoiserie Lacquer Commode, \$9,500, rubylux.com

Go for the (warm) gold

The pared-down bed clearly needs some bit of luxury nearby for the Louis XV chest to make sense, said Charlotte, N.C., designer Barrie Benson. A manufactured lamp of gold or brass might be too crisp or dressy, but the round edges of this Serena and Lily ceramic lamp reveal a handmade quality that knocks back the level of refinement a touch. Yes, the fire glaze of metallic gold carries over the chest's gilt ormolu, but the natural materials of the pottery (and the linen shade) nod to the organic quality that the bed's rich walnut wood lends. *Tinsley Table Lamp*, \$450, serenaandlily.com

