

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Trump promises decision 'very quickly' on Syria response

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Monday he will decide on a U.S. response to the apparent chemical weapons attack on Syrian civilians "probably by the end of today."

Speaking during a Cabinet meeting, Trump condemned the "heinous attack" Saturday that killed at least 40 people, including children. "It was an atrocious attack," he said. "It was horrible."

Trump said the U.S. is still investigating the possible involvement of the Iranian and Russian governments in the strike.

"If it's Russia, if it's Syria, if it's Iran, if it's all of them together, we'll figure it out," he said. He added of Russian President Vladimir Putin, "everybody's going to pay a price — he will, everybody will."



AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg will testify in Congress Tuesday about the use of Facebook data to target American voters in the 2016 election.

Israel blamed for missile strike in Syria; 14 reported dead

BEIRUT — Russia and the Syrian military blamed Israel for a pre-dawn missile attack Monday on an air base in central Syria, saying Israeli fighter jets launched the missiles from Lebanon's air space.

Russia's Defense Ministry said two Israeli aircraft targeted the T4 air base in Homs province, firing eight missiles. It said Syria shot down five of them while the other three landed in the western part of the base.

Israel's foreign ministry had no comment

when asked about the accusations.

Since 2012, Israel has struck inside Syria some 100 times, hitting suspected weapons' convoys destined for the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, which has been fighting alongside Syrian government forces.

Most recently, Israel hit the same T4 base in February, after it said an Iranian drone that had violated Israeli airspace took off from the base.

US official says North Korean leader ready to discuss nukes

WASHINGTON — North Korea's government has communicated with the United States to say that leader Kim Jong Un is ready to discuss his nuclear weapons program with President Donald Trump, officials said Sun-

day, increasing the likelihood that the unprecedented summit will actually occur.

The confirmation from Pyongyang directly, rather than from third countries like South Korea, has created more confidence within Trump's administration about the wisdom of holding such a meeting, as U.S. officials make secretive preparations.

Trump took his own administration and other countries by surprise last month when he accepted an unusual offer from Kim to hold a meeting. The North had conveyed the invitation to a visiting delegation from South Korea, which in turn traveled to Washington and relayed the message to Trump.

The president said yes to the meeting on the spot, even though the U.S. had not yet heard

Elk: Pilot program 'advocacy opportunity'

Continued from Page 1A

"In this case, it's designed to have the cities have their own agents kill the deer in their own way or manner to have the deer salvaged for charity so they don't go to waste," Cottam said.

City Attorney Peter Watts said the pilot program could be an "advocacy opportunity" for opponents or proponents of culling elk.

Department of Fish and Wildlife officials came to Gearhart last week at the city's request amid growing concerns about elk.

"We want to get as much specific information as possible to continue to educate and mitigate some of these safety issues," Mayor Matt Brown said.

Herman Biederbeck, a state wildlife biologist who manages the elk herds within the Saddle Mountain Wildlife Management Unit, said about 5,500 elk populate Clatsop County.

In Gearhart, there are

about 75 animals, he added, a number that fluctuates as the herd ranges from the city limit with Seaside to Sunset Beach State Recreation Site.

Biederbeck urged a no-feeding policy for the elk and signs to alert residents and tourists of elk concerns. He suggested having law enforcement or city employees intervene when people are improperly interacting with elk.

"Even a dog on a leash — if you get too close with a dog — elk do not like dogs," he said. "Dogs are a lightning rod for elk."

Hazing elk is permissible within city limits, after a homeowner acquires a permit from the state. Using a leaf blower, pots and pans or a broom to shoo away animals does not require a permit.

"That's a totally different matter if you own a farm or golf course and you try to drive them off," Biederbeck said. "That's a classic situation where you would need a permit."

Relocation of the herd was generally rejected by wildlife officials at the meeting. "Tracking and relocating elk has several challenges," Biederbeck said.

Some of the challenges involve a lack of places to move the animals and the potential spread of disease. After trapping some elk, the remaining elk become "trap shy," he said. Trapping efforts are also often sabotaged by residents who oppose the idea.

A disease called elk hoof rot has emerged in northern Oregon, Cottam said. "We do not want to move and spread this disease," he said. "If there was any time to move elk, I believe that time is past."

With a town hall meeting scheduled for Warrenton on Thursday, concerns about elk are moving well beyond Gearhart.

"Maybe it's time to look at Clatsop Plains in general," Biederbeck said. "Do we take them on each individually? Or do we maybe look beyond those municipalities?"



John Dudley

Gearhart and other cities are concerned about elk.

WANTED Alder and Maple Saw Logs & Standing Timber Northwest Hardwoods • Longview, WA

SUB-BIDS REQUESTED Seaside School District - New Middle/ High Schools Seaside, Oregon Bid Package: #1 Site Work & Utilities

TV SCHEDULE MONDAY APRIL 9. Table with columns for time slots (6 PM, 6:30, 7 PM, 7:30, 8 PM, 8:30, 9 PM, 9:30, 10 PM, 10:30, 11 PM, 11:30) and rows for various channels (KATU, KOMO, KING, KOIN, KIRO, KGW, KRCW, KOPB, KPTV, KPDX, KCPQ, TBS, KZJQ, ESPN2, NICK, DISN, FAM, FMC, LIFE, ROOT, F51, SPIKE, COM, HIST, A&E, TLC, DISC, NGE0, TNT, AMC, USA, FOOD, HGTV, FX, CNN, FNC, CNBC, BRAV, TCM, SYFY, RFD).