

News

World Briefs

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Iraqi Forces Enter Mosul City Limits, IS Fires

BAZWAYA, Iraq (AP) — Iraq’s special forces entered the outskirts of Mosul on Tuesday and were advancing toward its more urban center despite fierce resistance by Islamic State group fighters who hold the city, an Iraqi general said.

Troops have entered Gogjali, a neighborhood inside Mosul’s city limits, and were only 800 meters (yards) from the more central Karama district, according to Maj. Gen. Sami al-Aridi of the Iraqi special forces.

“The special forces have stormed in,” he said. “Daesh is fighting back and have set up concrete blast walls to block off the Karama neighborhood and our troops’ advance,” he said, using the Arabic acronym for the Islamic State



In this Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2016 photo, an Iraqi special forces soldier stands in a street in Gogjali, an eastern district of Mosul, Iraq. Iraqi special forces paused their advance in the eastern district of Mosul on Wednesday to clear a neighborhood of any remaining Islamic State militants, killing at least eight.

group. Bombs have been laid along the road into the city, he added.

It was the first time Iraqi troops have set foot in Mosul in over two years, after they were driven out by a much smaller group of IS extremists in 2014.

Mosul is the final IS bastion in Iraq, the city from which it declared a “caliphate” stretching into Syria, and its loss would be a major defeat for the jihadis.

Yet entering Mosul could be the start of a grueling and slow operation for the troops, as they will be forced to engage in difficult, house-to-house fighting in urban areas. The operation is expected to take weeks, if not months. The special forces troops remain some 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the center of the city, Iraq’s second-largest.

South Korean Man Rams Office: ‘I Came Here to Help Her Die’

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korean police detained a man who rammed a large excavator into a gate Tuesday near the office where prosecutors questioned a woman at the center of a scandal that threatens the country’s president.

The woman had earlier said she “de-

serves death” and the detained man said he “came here to help her die.”

The attack with heavy construction equipment on a government building is part of a frenzy of emotion in South Korea over the woman, Choi Soon-sil, whom prosecutors have detained as they examine whether she used her close ties to President Park Geun-hye to pull government strings from the shadows and amass an illicit fortune.

Prosecutors are expected to quickly seek an arrest warrant for Choi, who was swarmed Monday by hundreds of journalists and protesters as she tried to enter the prosecution office.

Choi, a cult leader’s daughter with a decades-long connection to Park, was nearly knocked off her feet several times as the crowd closed in on her. Protesters screamed for her arrest and Park’s resignation; one angry person reportedly tried to enter the building with a bucket full of animal feces; and Choi, 60, lost her Prada shoe in the scrum.

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PHOTO: Survivors gather on high ground to watch the destruction of Vanport. May 30, 1948. Photo by Allen deLay (1915-2005) ©Thomas Robinson



Ten new stories told by Vanport survivors and others closely related to the era will be screened at The Hollywood Theatre on Sunday November 20 at 4:30 p.m. The stories focus on life in Vanport and the 1948 Memorial Day flood when a dike broke on the Columbia River. The rising waters completely destroyed Vanport, Oregon, the city built by industrialist and ship builder Henry J. Kaiser. Immediately following the screening there will be a discussion about possible plans for a Vanport memorial.

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