

STARS AND STRIPES®

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A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

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DOD moves 100 troops from Sinai Peninsula

Tribune Washington Bureau

CAIRO — The Pentagon has shifted more than 100 U.S. soldiers from a desert camp near the Egypt-Israeli border in the Sinai Peninsula after a barrage of attacks by militants linked to the Islamic State group.

The U.S. troops, part of a little-known peacekeeping force that helps maintain the 1979 treaty between Egypt and Israel, were transferred about 300 miles south to a more secure area. The move comes as the Obama administration is considering whether to scale back the 700 U.S. troops in the Sinai and instead to use remote sensors, cameras and other technology to monitor the border.

Sinai Province, a militant group that last year declared allegiance to the Islamic State, has carried out multiple attacks on military outposts in the northern Sinai. Its fighters have killed dozens of Egyptian soldiers. The extremist group claimed responsibility after a bomb exploded aboard a Russian-chartered passenger jet over the Sinai on Oct. 31 and killed all 224 passengers and crew. In July, the group hit an Egyptian frigate in the Mediterranean Sea with a shoulder-fired missile.

The Multinational Force of Observers has 1,680 troops from a dozen countries. The Americans, who live behind blast walls and travel in armored vehicles, increasingly have found themselves at risk in the insurgency. Four were injured when their convoy hit two roadside bombs in September. Several weeks earlier, an American soldier was shot in the arm when gunmen targeted the camp.

N. Korea: Sub-launched missile expands nuclear strike capability

BY KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea claimed Sunday that it successfully fired a ballistic missile from a submarine, calling it another step in its ability to stage a nuclear strike.

State television broadcast photos of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un watching and smiling as the projectile shot up from the sea trailed by billowing smoke and flames. The announcer excitedly said Kim “could not conceal his joy in seeing the ballistic missile flying high.”

It would be the North’s first known successful launch of a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM), a worrying development because the ability to fire missiles from underwater vessels makes them harder to detect and shoot down.

The report did not give a date for the test, but U.S. and South Korean officials said they detected a launch off North Korea’s eastern coast on Saturday. South Korea’s Joint Chiefs of Staff said the missile traveled only 20 miles — far short of the roughly 190 miles that would be considered a successful test.

North Korea also said last year that it had launched an SLBM, but U.S. officials said it was apparently faked.

The U.S. Strategic Command said it detected a North Korean missile launch Saturday but stressed it “did not pose a threat to North America.”

South Korea’s military has been on high alert amid fears the North will carry out a fifth nuclear test despite U.N. sanctions aimed at punishing it for the last one nearly four months ago. The U.S., South Korea and Japan recently promised to strengthen

Pyongyang: No nuke tests if US drills stop

NEW YORK — North Korea is ready to halt its nuclear tests if the United States suspends its annual military exercises with South Korea, the North Korean foreign minister told The Associated Press in an interview in which he also warned that his country won’t be cowed by international sanctions.

Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong defended the country’s right to maintain a nuclear deterrent, and for those waiting for the North’s regime to collapse, he had this to say: Don’t hold your

breath.

“Stop the nuclear war exercises in the Korean Peninsula, then we should also cease our nuclear tests,” he said Saturday in his first interview with a Western news organization.

Ri held firm to Pyongyang’s longstanding position that the U.S. drove his country to develop nuclear weapons as an act of self-defense. At the same time, he suggested that suspending the military exercises with Seoul could open the door to talks and reduced tensions.

From The Associated Press

sanctions, already called the toughest in 20 years, if the North staged further provocations.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said such a launch is “a clear violation” of U.N. Security Council resolutions.

Kirby later said that in response, the U.S. is limiting the travel of North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Su Yong while he is in New York for a U.N. meeting on sustainable development, according to The Associated Press.

The South Korean government strongly condemned the latest missile launch, calling it an “open provocation that requires an appropriate response,” according to the Yonhap news agency.

Many analysts believe Kim is likely to stage a nuclear test — and perhaps other provocations — as he tries to shore up his power ahead of a ruling Workers’ Party congress next month.

North Korea’s official Korean Central News Agency said Kim observed the launch and declared afterward that the North “had access to one more means for powerful nuclear attack.” KCNA said the test “fully confirmed and reinforced the reliability of the Korean-style underwater launching system and perfectly met all technical requirements.” It added that North Korea’s military can “now stab a dagger in the backs of the South Korean puppet forces and the U.S. imperialists anytime it pleases.”

U.S. officials said photos that the North released last year of a purported submarine launch actually showed missiles that had been fired from an underwater platform. This time, the North released a video with a series of still images showing a missile emerging from a submarine launch tube.

Yokota civilians moving to make way for Ospreys

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Forty-six civilian workers and their families are being asked to move to make room for active-duty military personnel as the base prepares for the arrival of a squadron of CV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft.

In a memo to the affected civilians, 374th Airlift Wing commander Col. Douglas C. DeLaMater said the Air Force had reduced the number of authorized family housing units on Yokota from 2,635 to 1,611.

The reduction forced the base “to make tough resourcing decisions,” he said in the memo.

Yokota will receive an influx of more than 1,100 personnel during the next few years along with a special operations squadron of 10 Ospreys.

Already home to 11,500 personnel, the base — which houses U.S. Forces Japan and the 5th Air Force — will see a 10 percent population boost with the new arrivals, DeLaMater said in an interview in late December.

Air Force rules state that civilians who are not key and essential personnel may not live in military family housing for more than five consecutive years, he said.

Longer wait lists for on-base housing and a decrease in the housing inventory have forced

Yokota to come in line with the policy, he said.

“These upcoming changes are great news for Yokota and the Air Force but, unfortunately, require civilians who have resided in non-surplus housing for more than five years, a very small percentage of civilians living on base, to vacate their quarters to make way for new applicants,” he said.

The civilians have 60 days to move and were required to report to the base housing office by Friday to hear their options, which include exercising rights to return to the U.S., moving off-base or moving into surplus military housing elsewhere on Yokota at government expense, DeLaMater said.

Those who choose to live off-base will receive living quarters allowances according to their government service grades, he said.

“I understand this is unwelcomed news and am sympathetic to the fact that living on Yokota AB is a great way of life,” he said. “However, resource constraints compel us to manage out MFH (military family housing) in such a way that maximizes benefits to all.”

Yokota spokesman 1st Lt. Nathaniel Roesler said the affected civilians can move to a tower block on the west side of the base that is classified as excess inventory, meaning less money is available to maintain it.

The landing came several hours after the Piccard performed a flyby over the Golden Gate Bridge as spectators watched the narrow aircraft with extra-wide wings from below.

Piccard and a fellow Swiss pilot, Andre Borschberg, have been taking turns flying the plane on an around-the-world trip since taking off from Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, in March 2015. It made stops in Oman, Myanmar, China, Japan and Hawaii.

From The Associated Press

Solar-powered plane makes crosses Pacific

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — A solar-powered airplane landed in California on Saturday, completing a risky, three-day flight across the Pacific Ocean as part of its journey around the world.

Pilot Bertrand Piccard landed the Solar Impulse 2 in Mountain View, in the Silicon Valley south of San Francisco, at 11:45 p.m. following a 62-hour, non-stop solo flight without fuel.

US forces end quake relief effort in Japan

By ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOHAMA, Japan — The U.S. military announced the end of its weeklong earthquake relief mission to Japan’s Kumamoto Prefecture on Sunday.

U.S. servicemembers delivered more than 230,000 pounds of supplies to Japanese personnel working in the area, which was struck by a series of intense earthquakes and aftershocks beginning April 14.

Marine Corps Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, Air Force C-130 cargo planes and Army UC-35 transports flew a combined 20 missions delivering supplies and Japanese personnel to the affected areas.

“The people affected by the quake remain in our thoughts

and prayers,” U.S. Forces Japan commander Lt. Gen. John Dolan said in a statement Sunday. “I hope that our contribution to the relief effort was able to help them through this difficult time.”

Shortly after the first earthquakes, the Japanese government authorized 25,000 Japan Self-Defense Forces personnel to aid with disaster rescue and recovery.

Tens of thousands of people remain in shelters after the earthquakes left many homes uninhabitable in Kumamoto, a city and prefecture on the island of Kyushu, in Japan’s southwest.

The death toll stood at 48 dead as of Saturday, according to government figures cited by the Asahi newspaper.

Killings of 8 in family rattle Ohio community

Associated Press

PIKETON, Ohio — Residents of the rural southern Ohio community of Piketon are rattled by a rare major crime that took the lives of eight members of a tight-knit family known in the area as hard workers.

Authorities were still trying Sunday to find out who targeted the seven adults and teenage boy and why. Their bodies were found Friday at four different homes near Piketon, about 60 miles south of Columbus.

Kayla Hay said she got to know one of the victims, Dana Rhoden, 37, when they both worked as nurse’s aides at a nursing home. Hay said she was shocked and saddened when she heard Rhoden was among those killed.

“I’ve never heard her say anything about being frightened or concerned about any-

thing bad happening,” said Hay, who described Rhoden as outgoing and friendly.

All of the victims were members of the Rhoden family. The others were identified as Christopher Rhoden Sr., 40; his son, Christopher Rhoden Jr., 16; Kenneth Rhoden, 44; Gary Rhoden, 38; Clarence “Frankie” Rhoden, 20; Hannah Gilley, 20; and Hanna Rhoden, 19.

Authorities said none of the injuries appeared to be self-inflicted. A search for the killer or killers continued Sunday, and investigators said they had interviewed more than 30 people.

Authorities refused to discuss many details of the crime, including the search operations.

Officials said a Cincinnati-area businessman put up a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the capture and conviction of the killer or killers.

Durant ejected in OKC win

Associated Press

DALLAS — Kevin Durant got ejected, Russell Westbrook was part of a shouting match in front of his bench and Serge Ibaka drew a technical for throwing an elbow in the final seconds with the outcome already decided.

Regardless, the Oklahoma City Thunder are now in firm control of a testy first-round series that got quite a bit testier.

Westbrook had 25 points and 15 assists, Durant added 19 points in a quiet game before he was thrown out following a flagrant foul in the final minute and the Thunder beat the Dallas Mavericks 119-108 on Saturday for a 3-1 series lead.

Going into Game 5 on Monday night in Oklahoma City, Durant doesn't think things are getting out of hand despite several tense moments that included Dallas team security making sure he didn't leave the court in front of the Mavericks bench after his ejection.

"I don't believe they're trying to hurt us, and we're not trying to hurt them," Durant said, also emphasizing that he wasn't trying to hurt Justin Anderson when he swung his arm across the Dallas guard's head. "We're going to do some talking. We're going to do some shoving here and there because that's how competitive both teams are."

Enes Kanter had his second straight playoff career high with 28 points on 12-for-13 shooting for the Thunder, who never trailed in two games in Dallas after the Mavericks evened the series with a one-point win in Oklahoma City following a 38-point loss in the opener.

Dirk Nowitzki had 27 points and eight rebounds for the Mavericks, who stayed close in the second half after a Game 3 blowout but couldn't get the deficit inside seven in the second half. Dallas hasn't won a playoff series since winning the 2011 NBA title.

"Just fighting till the end," Nowitzki

said. "Fighting till it's over. We were always thinking make one more push, make one more push."

After Dallas coach Rick Carlisle called out Durant while complaining during the off day over what he essentially said were dirty plays by the Thunder in Game 3, the teams had a confrontation in front of the Oklahoma City bench early in the second quarter.

That flare-up started when Anthony Morrow, who was sitting on the bench, refused to give the ball to Salah Mejri after the Thunder threw it out of bounds.

Dallas guard J.J. Barea confronted Morrow, a former Maverick who then shoved Barea. Westbrook and Mejri ended up nose-to-nose in a shouting match before all the players were separated by coaches and officials.

Westbrook and Mejri got double technicals, and the Thunder were called for delay of game.

In the second half, Westbrook appeared to shout an expletive toward the fans after getting tangled up with Mejri on a drive. Mejri, who left the game in the fourth quarter with a right hip injury, was called for a foul.

Durant's hard foul on Anderson, who went to the same high school as Durant near Washington, came with 50 seconds left. And 30 seconds later, Ibaka got a technical for throwing an elbow at Charlie Villanueva.

"The name of the game is come out and play basketball and that's what we've done the last two games, especially here," Westbrook said. "We know a lot of their game is to kind of muck up the game and I think we're doing a great job of staying above it."

Hornets 96, Heat 80: Jeremy Lin had 18 points, while Frank Kaminsky scored nine of his 15 points during an 18-0 run in the third quarter that broke open a tie game as host Charlotte beat Miami to snap a 12-game playoff losing streak and earn their first postseason victory in 14

years.

The Heat lead the series 2-1, with Game 4 set for Monday night.

Kemba Walker had 17 for Charlotte. Marvin Williams, a non-factor in the first two games while hitting just one of 17 shots, finished with 12 points and 14 rebounds.

Luol Deng scored 19 points on five three-pointers, and Dwyane Wade added 17 for Miami. Hassan Whiteside had 13 points and 18 rebounds but battled foul trouble.

Miami, which shot 58 percent from the field in the first two games, was limited to 34 percent shooting.

The Hornets outscored the Heat 52-28 in the paint and had four turnovers to Miami's 15.

"We made a lot of mistakes," Deng said. "In the first two games we did a good job with of taking away of guys' tendencies. They rebounded and ran out when they got the lead and keep going."

Pacers 100, Raptors 83: George Hill and Ian Mahinmi each scored 22 points and Paul George added 19 as host Indiana tied the first-round playoff series at 2-2.

Jonas Valanciunas led Toronto with 16 points, and Kyle Lowry and DeMarre Carroll each had 12.

Trail Blazers 96, Clippers 88: Damian Lillard scored 32 points and Portland found its offense at home, beating Los Angeles to pull within 2-1 in the Western Conference first-round series.

Newly crowned Most Improved Player CJ McCollum added 27 points for Portland, which snapped a five-game losing streak to the Clippers going back to the regular season.

Mason Plumlee had six points, 21 rebounds and nine assists for Portland.

Chris Paul finished with 26 points for the Clippers, who had held the Blazers to an average of just 88 points in the first two games.

Chicago tops Blues to force Game 7

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Artem Anisimov, Trevor van Riemsdyk and Dale Weise scored during Chicago's dominant second period, and the Blackhawks beat the St. Louis Blues 6-3 on Saturday night to send their first-round playoff series to Game 7.

Andrew Shaw added a third-period goal in his return from a one-game suspension for using a gay slur during Chicago's 4-3 loss in Game 4. Andrew Ladd had a goal and an assist as the Blackhawks improved to 15-1 in their last 16 Game 6s in the playoffs.

Chicago trailed 3-1 in the series, but stayed alive with a 4-3 double-overtime victory in St. Louis on Thursday. Then, the defending Stanley Cup champions trailed 3-1 after one period in Game 6, but found a way again.

Game 7 is Monday night.

Vladimir Tarasenko, Alex Pietrangolo and Scottie Upshall scored for St. Louis, which lost in the first round of the playoffs in each of the last three seasons. Brian Elliott made 30 saves.

Penguins 6, Rangers 3: The end of two springs' worth of playoff angst for the Pittsburgh Penguins came suddenly, crammed into 14 minutes of pure exhilaration, one highlight-reel sequence piled atop another.

And perhaps it's fitting that Pittsburgh's relentless five-game demolition of the New York Rangers — completed during a raucous win that ushered New York to an early off-season — wasn't sealed by the familiar faces atop the Penguins' star-laden roster but the pieces brought in to help return Sidney Crosby, Evgeni Malkin and Kris Letang to their spot among the league's elite.

Conor Sheary. Bryan Rust. Matt Murray. All in their early 20s. All now vital parts of a team that looks every bit a Stanley Cup contender as it prepared to face either Washington or Philadelphia in the conference semifinals.

Rust and Sheary combined for three goals during Pittsburgh's second-period explosion against uncharacteristically shaky Henrik Lundqvist and Murray turned away 38 shots as the Penguins exacted a bit of revenge against the Rangers, who knocked Pittsburgh out of the postseason in 2014 and 2015. The setbacks led to franchise-wide soul searching, including hiring Mike Sullivan to take over for Mike Johnston in mid-December and having general manager Jim Rutherford overhaul the roster with fresh legs unburdened by past failure.

Ducks 5, Predators 2: Ryan Garbutt scored the go-ahead goal in the second period for Anaheim, which beat Nashville for the first win by a home team in their first-round series, which the Ducks lead 3-2.

Nashville had won the first two games in Anaheim before the Ducks tied it with two wins on the Predators' home ice.

David Perron scored the tying goal earlier in the second and assisted on Garbutt's goal.

Earnhardt dominates at Richmond

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. dominated all day and regained the lead on a late restart to win the NASCAR Xfinity Series race at Richmond International Raceway on Saturday, earning his 24th career victory in the series and first in more than six years.

It also was the first time he's ever won in one of his own cars, which he said "makes it a little better."

The victory capped off a lucrative few days for JR Motorsports. Earnhardt said Unilever, the maker of Hellmann's mayonnaise and a team partner since 2009, has signed on to sponsor the team's Xfinity cars for 20 races in 2017-18.

"To be able to come and win a race in that car is incredible," Earnhardt said about the car that bore the Hellmann's colors.

It was his fourth series win at Richmond. Earnhardt built a lead of more than 5 sec-

onds as the first 125 laps were run caution-free. When a caution finally flew with 15 laps to go, he and the other 10 cars on the lead lap headed for the pits, and chaos ensued, causing the race to go nine extra laps.

Earnhardt led 128 laps but was beaten off pit road by his JR Motorsports teammate Justin Allgaier, one of four drivers contending for a \$100,000 bonus. But Brennan Poole, another contender for the bonus, stayed on the track on old tires, and when Earnhardt dove underneath him heading into Turn 1, Poole's car nudged the back of Allgaier's, sending him spinning out of the race.

That opened a door for Earnhardt to get back in front and for Ty Dillon to hold on for second and claim the \$100,000 bonus in overtime.

"I don't run the Xfinity Series but a couple of times a year, so the opportunities to win are few and far between," Earnhardt said. His last victory in the series came at Daytona in 2010.

Dillon said he thought he might have a chance in the two-lap spring to the finish, but came up short.

"They were just too fast today," Dillon said. "We were right there. They just had us by a little bit."

Dillon said when the race went back to green, his thoughts were on winning the race, not the bonus.

"It was all about the W," he said. "Really I wasn't really worried about anything but trying to win."

With the boss leading the way, the day was also a success for Earnhardt's team with Elliott Sadler finishing third and Cole Custer sixth in his first start in the Xfinity Series. After the accident deprived him of a chance for the bonus, Allgaier finished 35th.

Series points leader Daniel Suarez finished fourth, followed by Austin Dillon.

Sauarez leads Sadler by nine points in the series standings after eight races.



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Maeda delivers for Dodgers

Associated Press

DENVER — Kenta Maeda tamed a notorious hitter's park about as well as any pitcher can.

So much for being intimidated in his first start at Coors Field.

Maeda held Colorado hitless into the sixth inning, A.J. Ellis lined a two-run homer and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Rockies 4-1 on Saturday night.

Maeda's mind wasn't on a no-hitter, though. It wasn't even discussed in the L.A. dugout. Not at this park, where runs can be scored in a hurry.

"Start getting less than five outs, it's something you start talking about, thinking about," Ellis said. "But first time pitching at Coors Field, first time against that offensive firepower they have over there, I can't say enough what Kenta was able to do. It's beyond impressive."

Maeda (3-0) allowed three hits — all in the sixth — no runs and struck out eight in 6¹/₃ innings as the right-hander from Japan lowered his ERA to 0.36.

With a wind-up reminiscent of countryman Hideo Nomo, Maeda was cruising along until one out in the sixth when DJ LeMahieu singled for Colorado's first hit. Nomo remains the only pitcher to throw a no-hitter at Coors Field — on Sept. 17, 1996.

Ellis hit his first homer of the season in the second to help the Dodgers end a five-game slide in Denver. Kenley Jansen threw a perfect ninth for his eighth save.

Tyler Chatwood (2-2) allowed three runs before exiting after the fourth with an elevated pitch count. He missed last season after undergoing his second Tommy John surgery.

"I didn't have command of anything really," Chatwood said. "It was just not very good overall."

Maeda was untouchable most of the night by keeping the Rockies off balance with a nasty breaking ball mixed in with pinpoint fastball control.

"In the big leagues, you've got to pitch that way," Carlos Gonzalez said. "You've got to paint and he was definitely painting today. He was going inside, outside so it's tough to pick up. It was a good game for him."

Early on, the Dodgers defense did their part to keep the no-hitter intact with left fielder Enrique Hernandez making a full-sprint, over-the-shoulder catch to rob Tony Wolters of an extra-base hit in the fifth.

An inning earlier, third baseman Howie

Kendrick shifted over to shallow right field with Gonzalez at the plate. Gonzalez sent a hard liner that Kendrick easily caught.

So dominant most of the night, Maeda ran into trouble in the sixth after LeMahieu's single. He gave up another to Trevor Story and then an infield single to Gonzalez to load the bases. But he retired Nolan Arenado and Gerardo Parra to get out of the inning.

The 28-year-old Maeda faced one batter — striking out Ryan Raburn — in the seventh before turning it over to the bullpen. The shutout was spoiled later in the inning on an RBI double from Brandon Barnes.

Maeda signed a \$25 million, eight-year contract in January that could be worth \$106.2 million if he stays healthy.

Nationals 2, Twins 0: Tanner Roark fanned a career-high 15 and allowed only two hits over seven innings in host Washington's victory over Minnesota.

Roark (2-2) twice struck out the side and fanned at least two in four other innings. It was only the second time in 52 career starts that the right-hander reached double digits in strikeouts — the other was on July 6, 2014, when he fanned 11 at San Diego.

Yankees 3, Rays 2: Brett Gardner hit a solo home run with two outs in the bottom of the ninth to give host New York a victory over Tampa Bay, spoiling the impressive major league debut of the Rays' top pitching prospect, Blake Snell.

Reds 13, Cubs 5: Eugenio Suarez and Adam Duvall hit three-run homers in the sixth inning as host Cincinnati finally broke through against Chicago's dominant pitching.

A victory would have given the Cubs (13-5) their best start since 1907, the year they won the first of their back-to-back World Series titles. A four-homer splurge ended Chicago's domination of its NL Central rival.

Cardinals 11, Padres 2: Rookie Aledmys Diaz had his first five-hit game while Jedd Gyorko and Jeremy Hazelbaker hit three-run homers as visiting St. Louis comfortably beat San Diego.

Giants 7, Marlins 2: Jake Peavy pitched seven innings for his first win and added a two-run single off Miami ace Jose Fernandez.

Gregor Blanco tripled twice and scored two runs while Matt Duffy had three hits and scored for host San Francisco.

Diamondbacks 7, Pirates 1: Chris Herrmann drove in four runs with a home run and double and Rubby De La Rosa gave up three hits over six-plus innings as Arizona beat visiting Pittsburgh.

Angels 4, Mariners 2: Mike Trout drove in the tying and go-ahead runs with a home run against Felix Hernandez and Cliff Pennington also homered to lift host Los Angeles over Seattle.

Mets 8, Braves 2: David Wright hit a two-run double and Steven Matz earned his second straight win as visiting New York stayed hot by beating power-deprived Atlanta.

Phillies 10, Brewers 6: Maikel Franco hit his third homer in two days and Odubel Herrera homered and reached base five times as Philadelphia beat host Milwaukee.

White Sox 4, Rangers 3 (11): Slump-ridden Jose Abreu hit an RBI single with one out in the bottom of the 11th inning, leading host Chicago over Texas.

Orioles 8, Royals 3: Chris Davis homered and had four hits and Manny Machado extended his hitting streak to 16 games for visiting Baltimore.

Mark Trumbo had three hits and four RBIs for the Orioles, and Tyler Wilson (1-0) won his first start this season.

Astros 8, Red Sox 3: Colby Rasmus hit a tie-breaking grand slam in the fifth inning to lead Houston over visiting Boston and snap a four-game skid.

He drove in a fifth run with a double in Houston's three-run eighth for his most RBIs since he had six on June 2, 2011.

Indians 10, Tigers 1: Corey Kluber struck out 10 over eight impressive innings and Yan Gomes homered and drove in five runs for Cleveland in its rout of host Detroit.

Kluber (1-3) happily accepted the offensive output to earn his first win of the season. The 2014 AL Cy Young Award winner, who went 9-16 last year, gave up two hits and no walks in eight innings.

Blue Jays 9, Athletics 3: Troy Tulowitzki hit two solo home runs and Josh Donaldson added a three-run blast to help host Toronto snap Oakland's six-game winning streak.

Ezequiel Carrera had the first four-hit game of his career and scored three times for the Blue Jays.

Golovkin gets 22nd straight KO win

Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Less than six minutes after the opening bell, Gennady Golovkin left another contender for his middleweight belts crumpled on the canvas.

Golovkin appears determined to keep on brutalizing overmatched opponents and racking up knockouts until no 160-pound fighters remain upright.

Golovkin defended his middleweight titles in devastating fashion again Saturday night, finishing Dominic Wade in the second round for his 22nd straight stoppage victory.

Golovkin (35-0, 32 KOs) knocked down Wade three times in the short fight, punishing the previously undefeated challenger before ending the bout on a right to the chin with 23 seconds left in the second. A sold-out Forum roared for its adopted champion in his 16th consecutive title defense.

Roman "Chocolatito" Gonzalez also defended his WBC 112-pound title with a unanimous decision over McWilliams Arroyo.

Golovkin and Gonzalez combined to pack the famous arena south of downtown Los Angeles for the second time in a year, attracting 16,353 savvy boxing fans who understand the sublime brutality of the Kazakh 160-pound champion and the Nicaraguan flyweight.

Wearing blue-and-gold trunks to celebrate the Los Angeles Rams' NFL return to a future stadium across the street from the Forum, Golovkin knocked down Wade (18-1) with a punch to the ear in the final seconds of the opening round. After absorbing a few punches from Wade with negligible impact, Golovkin landed a dynamite combination in the second round, flooring Wade with a left uppercut and a right to the body.

Golovkin finished his woozy opponent with a right hand that left Wade face-down on his knees.

Golovkin was an enormous favorite to beat Wade, his mandatory challenger for one of his belts. Although Golovkin has dominated the middleweight division, he still covets a superfight with Canelo Alvarez, who holds the WBC version of the 160-pound belt after beating Miguel Cotto at a 155-pound catch weight last year.

Alvarez has said he is willing to fight Golovkin, but Alvarez's promoter, Oscar De La Hoya, appears less interested in making it happen right away. Alvarez will be forced to vacate the WBC belt if he doesn't take the fight later this year, giving three of the four major titles to Golovkin.

Gonzalez (45-0) is widely considered the world's top pound-for-pound fighter since the retirement of Floyd Mayweather, and the 112-pound dynamo put on another impressive display in his fourth straight title defense.

Yet the Nicaraguan champion's streak of 10 consecutive stoppage victories was ended by Arroyo (16-3).

Nobody had gone the distance with Gonzalez since Juan Francisco Estrada in November 2012. Two judges scored the bout 119-109 for Gonzalez, and a third gave every round to the champion, 120-108. The Associated Press scored it 119-109 for Gonzalez.

Jones tops Saint Preux at UFC 197

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Jon Jones unanimously outpointed Ovince Saint Preux on Saturday night at UFC 197 to take the interim light heavyweight title in his return to the octagon.

On probation for a previous hit-and-run crash in New Mexico, Jones had been stripped of the title.

Jones improved to 22-2 with winning scores of 50-44, 50-45 and 50-45 from the judges. He will next face Daniel Cormier to unify the title. Saint Preux fell to 19-8.

"I needed to do this and get this fight out of the way. I felt like I only used 20 percent of my technique tonight," Jones said.

Also, Demetrious Johnson successfully defended his flyweight title for the eighth straight time, stopping Henry Cejudo in

the first round.

Jones was unable to inflict any serious damage, but was able to control most of the action, landing numerous kicks and strikes, easily outclassing his opponent. Jones kept Saint Preux at a distance with a variety of leg kicks throughout the first round.

Jones landed two spinning back kicks and a solid side kick to the body, keeping Saint Preux at a distance and preventing him from landing any significant shots. Saint Preux was able to close the distance in the second round, landing a few strikes in a closely contested round.

The usually dominant Jones seemed to show a little rust in his return, with the heavy underdog Saint Preux keeping the fight competitive in the middle rounds with neither fighter gaining an edge. It

turned in the fourth round as Jones was able to secure two big takedowns, gaining side control following the second and delivering heavy elbows and punches to easily take the round.

Jones paced himself entering the fifth and final round and controlled the action, landing a big slam and neutralizing any attempt at a late Saint Preux rally.

In the other bout, Johnson landed a hard right elbow, followed by two knees to the body and a devastating knee to the jaw that sent Cejudo reeling. Johnson followed Cejudo to the mat, landing a couple more power shots that forced the referee to stop the fight at 2:49 of the round.

Johnson improved to 23-2-1 in handing Cejudo (10-1) his first professional loss.