

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Sunday, January 8, 2017

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

stripes.com

## US tanks head to Eastern Europe to deter 'aggression'

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

BREMERHAVEN, Germany — U.S. soldiers offloaded scores of combat vehicles from ship to shore Sunday at the massive port here, pressing forward with one of the largest U.S. force movements in Europe since the end of the Cold War.

Some 2,500 pieces of gear belonging to the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, including Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles, are bound for NATO's eastern flank, making a 6,000-mile journey from Fort Carson, Colo.

"Let me be very clear. This is one part of our efforts to deter Russian aggression, ensure territorial integrity of our allies and maintain a Europe that is whole, free, prosperous and at peace," said Lt. Gen. Tim Ray, deputy commander of U.S. European Command, in remarks to reporters in Bremerhaven.

Ray, flanked by senior military leaders and standing before the Army's signature M1A1 tank, described EUCOM as a headquarters "in transition," as it pivots from a post-Cold War posture that was focused more on partnerships and relationship-building.

"We had time to bring our forces to readiness and respond to a crisis," Ray said. "That may not be the case today."

From a more assertive Russia to unrest on NATO's southern doorstep in Syria and terrorism threats in Europe, the continent's "strategic environment is changing rapidly," he said.

The movement of armored equipment and the 3,500 troops who serve in the 3rd Brigade out of Colorado serves as the signature effort of the military's push to enhance its presence in

Europe, a continent where for 20 years the U.S. force was in a state of decline.

The arrival of the Fort Carson soldiers is the beginning of what is intended to be a continual, year-round presence of an armored brigade in Europe, with units conducting back-to-back nine-month rotations.

The campaign has tested the Army's logisticians, who must coordinate the movement of forces and firepower by sea, land and air. Maj. Gen. Duane Gamble, head of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, said his team is already drawing up lessons learned to ensure quicker rotations of future units.

"We are able to exercise all that it takes (to do this), working with our allies to ensure freedom of movement and speed of assembly," added U.S. Army Europe's deputy commander, Maj. Gen. Timothy McGuire.

The equipment is already on the move, with vehicles moving by rail, commercial lines and military convoys to training sites near the Polish towns of Drawsko Pomorskie and Zagan.

Once established, the brigade's soldiers will be spreading out across Europe, with forces mostly concentrated along NATO's eastern flank.

The brigade headquarters will be operating out of Poland, while its subordinate units will be positioned in the Baltics, Romania and Bulgaria. One regiment will be located at the Army's post at Grafenwoehr, Germany, to conduct training and maintenance.

The moves, which are part of the military's overarching Operation Atlantic Resolve campaign aimed at reassuring nervous allies and sending a deterrent signal to Russia, also has ratcheted up tensions between the U.S. and Moscow.

## Marines in Norway to eye Arctic, beyond

BY JOHN VANDIVER  
*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — Nearly 300 Marines will begin operating this month in the Arctic as part of the Corps' push to establish a full-time presence in Norway, which hosts hundreds of U.S. tanks, artillery and enough firepower to move thousands more American infantrymen in case of a crisis, said the Marines' top commander in Europe.

"I call it the Marine Rotational Force Europe because I want it to go anywhere," Marine Forces Europe boss Maj. Gen. Niel Nelson said Friday at his Stuttgart headquarters.

The initial wave of troops will be arriving in Norway in the coming week, with the full 285-strong unit to be in place within two weeks. The rotations will last six months and will build on a long-standing Marine partnership with the Norwegians. The Marines' decision to keep a force in Norway was both economic and strategic, Nelson said.

A steady presence, rather than flying back and forth for

periodic training, adds efficiencies, he said. It also sends a signal of solidarity to NATO ally Norway and positions the Corps to better mobilize in an emergency, Nelson added.

In Norway, the Marines have long maintained large stockpiles of weaponry, which fill a network of caves with equipment to accommodate the roughly 14,000 troops in a full Marine Expeditionary Brigade.

"That (equipment) can go anywhere," Nelson said. "Any crisis in Europe, it will allow us to respond to that, down south, in the Mediterranean. There is an assurance to that."

The plan for a year-round presence of Marines in Norway has prompted an outcry from Moscow, which sees the initiative as a provocation. Since the Russian military's 2014 intervention in Ukraine, the U.S.-led NATO alliance has boosted its defenses along its borders with Russia.

Nelson, who assumed command in 2015, played down Russia's criticism, saying the Marines have been a factor in Norway for a generation.

### Osprey refueling drills resume on Okinawa

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — The Marine Corps has resumed MV-22 Osprey aerial refueling drills on Okinawa less than a month after one of the tilt-rotor aircraft crashed off Camp Schwab.

The decision, announced last week by U.S. Forces Japan, has drawn a sharp rebuke from local officials on the small island prefecture, though Japan's

Ministry of Defense said USFJ is doing enough to ensure locals' safety.

"The Japanese government keeps saying it will stay close to the feelings of the Okinawan people, but in reality it always gives first priority to the demands of U.S. military," Gov. Takeshi Onaga, who won election on an anti-base platform, told a news conference Thursday night.

From staff reports

## Deadly attacks strike Baghdad

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A wave of attacks in and around Baghdad on Sunday killed at least 23 people, the latest in a series of assaults blamed on the Islamic State group.

A suicide car bomb ripped through a wholesale market in the sprawling Shiite neighborhood of Sadr City, killing at least seven people and wounding 15, said Brig. Gen. Saad Maan, the Interior Ministry spokesman. He said a member of the security forces spotted the bomber and opened fire but was unable to prevent the attack.

A policeman and two medical officials gave a higher toll, saying 16 people were killed in the attack and another 47 wounded.

At a hospital where victims of the attack had been taken, a body exploded inside a morgue refrigerator. The medics said it appeared to have been a second attacker who was killed by shrapnel from the first explosion.

The Islamic State group claimed the attack, saying it was targeting Shiites. The Sunni extremist group views Iraq's Shiite majority as apostates deserving of death.

Elsewhere in the city, a suicide bomber killed nine shoppers and wounded 16 others at a fruit and vegetable market in a mainly Shiite neighborhood. Three additional bombings in and around the capital killed seven people and wounded 24 others.

Police and medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release information.

## Israel truck attack kills 4

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A Palestinian rammed his truck into a group of Israeli soldiers in Jerusalem on Sunday, killing four soldiers and wounding 15 others.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the driver was a supporter of the Islamic State group and suggested the attack was inspired by similar assaults in Europe, without offering evidence. Palestinians with no known links to the group have carried out vehicular assaults in the past.

Security camera footage aired on Israeli Channel 2 TV showed the truck barreling at a high speed off the road and into the crowd of people in the Armon Hanatziv neighborhood. The truck is seen backing up quickly, apparently trying to crush more people, before the driver was shot dead.

Leah Schreiber, a witness, told reporters: "He drove backward to crush more people. That was really clear."

Netanyahu said the dead were all soldiers — three women and a man. Israel's national rescue service said one of the 15 wounded was in serious condition.

The attack matched the deadliest in a more than yearlong wave of Palestinian shooting, stabbing and vehicular attacks against Israelis. The two gunmen in June's attack in Tel Aviv also killed four people, who were eating dinner at a popular tourist spot.

Since September 2015, Palestinian attackers have killed 40 Israelis and

two visiting Americans. During that time, 230 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli fire.

The violence has slowed of late, but tensions have been rising since President-elect Donald Trump promised to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. The Palestinians claim east Jerusalem as their capital and have warned that moving the embassy would cross a "red line" and undermine negotiations over one of the most sensitive issues in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The atmosphere in Israel has also been charged following the manslaughter conviction last week of an Israeli soldier who fatally shot a Palestinian attacker who had been badly wounded and was lying on the ground.

During the past year and half of violence, Israel has said most of the Palestinians killed were attackers while the rest died in clashes. Palestinians and rights groups have accused Israel of using excessive force in some confrontations.

Israel says the violence is driven by a Palestinian campaign of incitement, while Palestinians say it's the result of nearly 50 years of Israeli occupation and dwindling hopes for an independent state.

Hamas, an Islamic militant group that rules Gaza and has killed hundreds of Israelis in attacks over the years, praised the assault but stopped short of taking responsibility.

## Norway mass killer to appear in rights case appeal

Associated Press

HELSINKI — Norwegian mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik, 37, who killed 77 people in a bombing and shooting rampage in 2011, is returning to court this week as the government appeals a ruling that his isolation in prison breaches the European Convention on Human Rights.

The right-wing extremist, who admitted to the killings that Prime Minister Erna Solberg has called "one of the darkest days in Norwegian history," was convicted of mass murder and terrorism in 2012 and was given a 21-year prison sentence that can be extended for as long as he's deemed dangerous to society. Legal experts say he likely will be locked up for life.

Last year, Breivik sued the government, saying his solitary confinement, frequent

strip searches and the fact that he was often handcuffed during the early part of his incarceration violated his human rights. He is held in isolation in a three-cell complex where he can play video games, watch TV and exercise. He has also complained about the quality of the prison food, having to eat with plastic utensils and not being able to communicate with sympathizers.

The government said he is treated humanely despite the severity of his crimes and that he must be separated from other inmates for safety reasons.

In a surprise ruling in April, the Oslo District Court said "the prohibition of inhuman and degrading treatment represents a fundamental value in a democratic society. This applies no matter what — also in the treatment of terrorists and killers." It also ordered the government to pay

Breivik's legal costs of \$41,000. However, it dismissed Breivik's claim that his right to respect for private and family life was violated by restrictions on contacts with other right-wing extremists.

On July 22, 2011, Breivik set off a car bomb outside the government headquarters in Oslo, killing eight people and wounding dozens. He then drove to the island of Utoya, where he opened fire on the annual summer camp of the left-wing Labor Party's youth wing. Sixty-nine people there were killed, most of them teenagers.

The appeals case opens Tuesday in a makeshift courtroom in the gym of Skien prison in southern Norway, where Breivik is incarcerated. Six days have been reserved for the hearings before the Borgarting Court of Appeal hands down a verdict.

# Death penalty possible in Florida airport shooting

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — While investigators try to figure out the motive of an Iraq War veteran accused of killing five travelers and wounding six others at a busy international airport in Florida, the suspected gunman was charged and could face the death penalty if convicted.

Esteban Santiago, 26, was charged with an act of violence at an international airport resulting in death — which carries a maximum punishment of execution — and weapons charges.

Santiago told investigators that he planned the attack, buying a one-way ticket to the Fort Lauderdale airport, a federal complaint said. Authorities don't know why he chose his target and have not ruled out terrorism.

"Today's charges represent the gravity of the situation and reflect the commitment of federal, state and local law enforcement personnel to continually protect the community and prosecute those who target our residents and visitors," U.S. Attorney Wifredo Ferrer said.

Authorities said during a news conference that they had interviewed roughly 175 people, including a lengthy interrogation with a cooperative Santiago, who is a former National Guard soldier from Alaska.

Flights had resumed at the Fort Lauderdale airport after the bloodshed, though the terminal where the shooting happened remained closed.

FBI Agent George Piro said Santiago spoke to investigators for several hours after he opened fire with a 9mm semi-automatic handgun that he appears to have legally checked on a flight from Alaska.

In November, Santiago walked into an FBI field office in Alaska saying the U.S. government was controlling his mind and forcing him to watch Islamic State group videos, authorities said.

"He was a walk-in complaint. This is something that happens at FBI offices around the country every day," FBI agent Marlin Ritzman said.

Santiago had a loaded magazine on him, but had left a gun in his vehicle, along with his

newborn child, authorities said. Officers seized the weapon and local officers took him to get a mental health evaluation. His girlfriend picked up the child.

Friday's attack sent panicked witnesses running out of the terminal and spilling onto the tarmac, baggage in hand. Others hid in bathroom stalls or crouched behind cars or anything else they could find as police and paramedics rushed in to help the wounded and establish whether there were any other gunmen.

Santiago had been discharged from the National Guard last year after being demoted for unsatisfactory performance.

Bryan Santiago said Saturday that his brother had requested psychological help but received little assistance. Esteban Santiago said in August that he was hearing voices.

Santiago, who is in federal custody with no bail, will face federal charges and is expected to appear in court Monday, Piro said.

## Storms pound East, West coasts

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Snow and sleet pounded a large swath of the U.S. East Coast on Saturday, coating roads with ice and causing hundreds of crashes. Thousands of people lost power, and forecasters warned of blizzard-like conditions from Virginia to parts of the Northeast.

Some of the South's biggest cities — Atlanta, Charlotte and Raleigh — appeared to avoid the worst of the storm.

Snowfall totals reached up to 10 inches in at least seven North Carolina locations, including Greensboro and High Point, Lewisville in Forsyth County, and Lenoir and Rhodhiss in Caldwell County, according to preliminary figures from the National Weather Service.

On the West Coast, rain and gusty winds swept over Northern California as the first band of what forecasters said would be the biggest storm to slam the state in a decade began moving into the area Saturday.

The storm was expected to bring as much as 15 inches of rain in some Northern California foothills communities in a very short time. No storm in the foothills in the last 15 years has produced that much rain in three days, according to the National Climatic Data Center.

## Kushner mulls White House role, eyes business exit

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jared Kushner, President-elect Donald Trump's son-in-law and one of his closest advisers, is taking steps to distance himself from his sprawling New York real estate business in what is the clearest sign yet he is planning to take a position in the new administration.

Kushner, who is married to Trump's daughter Ivanka, must clear a series of hurdles before he takes any post in Washington. He will need to argue that

a federal anti-nepotism law that bars officials from appointing relatives to government positions does not apply to him, as well as to eliminate potential conflicts of interest between his family's multibillion-dollar real estate empire and his government duties.

Kushner, who often has the last word with the president-elect before a major decision is made, has explored stepping away from his role as CEO of the real estate business and has consulted with federal officials about resolving potential con-

flicts, according to his lawyer.

"Mr. Kushner is committed to complying with federal ethics laws and we have been consulting with the Office of Government Ethics regarding the steps he would take," Jamie Gorelick, a partner at the law firm of WilmerHale, said in a statement. "Although plans are not finalized, Mr. Kushner would resign from his position at Kushner Companies and divest substantial assets in accordance with federal guidelines."

Kushner's challenges highlight a notable pattern of the in-

coming administration. While some government officials will be forced to divest and rearrange their financial portfolios to comply with federal ethics laws, their boss will not be required to do the same. As president, Trump is exempt from laws aimed at ensuring federal employees' personal financial interests do not influence their decisions.

Trump is expected to announce some plans for his business during a Wednesday news conference.

# US Consulate official shot in Mexico

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Prosecutors in Mexico say they caught a gunman who opened fire on an official of the U.S. Consulate in the western city of Guadalajara.

The Attorney General's Office of the western state of Jalisco said Sunday in the agency's Twitter account that the suspect had been turned over to federal prosecutors.

Attacks on diplomats are federal crimes in Mexico.

The U.S. Embassy has not identified the official, who was shot in his car Friday in Guadalajara. He was in stable condition Saturday after the attack.

The FBI had offered a \$20,000 reward for information on the attacker, and surveillance cameras photos of him

had been widely circulated.

Jalisco state is dominated by the hyper-violent Jalisco New Generation cartel. There was no immediate evidence of any cartel link to the attack.

The shooting appeared to be a direct attempt to kill the consular employee. Surveillance video of the attack shows the gunman following the official in a parking garage. The official, whose name was not released, was dressed in shorts. The attacker doesn't appear to try to approach the official while he is walking, but instead waits for him to exit the parking garage in his vehicle and fires a round into the car's windshield.

Guadalajara is Mexico's second-largest city and is not specifically singled out for any special precautions in the latest

U.S. travel warning updated on Dec. 8.

The U.S. Embassy in Mexico City said that for privacy reasons no further information would be made available on the victim, including his condition.

"The safety and security of our employees overseas is among our highest priorities," said an embassy spokeswoman who was not authorized to be quoted by name. "We are working closely with Mexican law enforcement in this matter."

The Attorney General's Office said the victim was in "stable" condition and under protection, apparently at a hospital. The office said the case was being handled by federal detectives.

U.S. consular employees and other U.S. agents have been at-

tacked in Mexico in the past.

In 2014, a Mexican gang leader was sentenced to life in prison for his role in the 2010 slayings in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, of a U.S. Consulate employee, her husband and the husband of another employee. Prosecutors said Arturo Gallegos Castrelon was in charge of a team of assassins with the Barrio Azteca, a gang allied with the Juarez drug cartel, and had ordered the three slayings.

The killings of Leslie Ann Enriquez Catton; her husband, Arthur Redfels; and Alberto Salcido Cenicerros, the husband of another consulate employee, as they left a children's birthday party were a mistake, former gang members testified during the trial.

## US official: Crackdown abuses in Myanmar appear 'normal'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Abuses appear "normal and allowed" in Myanmar's response to an armed uprising by Rohingya Muslims, a senior U.S. official said in an interview, casting a pall over one of President Barack Obama's legacy foreign policy achievements.

Obama and his advisers have long held up the former pariah nation's U.S.-backed shift from military rule as a breakthrough for American interests and democratic values in Southeast Asia. But the situation in strife-hit Rakhine State makes the transition no straightforward success story. Rakhine has been largely closed off to foreigners, including aid workers, since a deadly insurgent attack against police in October. Subsequent "clearance operations" have left at least dozens dead.

Thousands of Rohingya have escaped to Bangladesh.

A Myanmar government-appointed commission last week said there was insufficient evidence to support allegations of rape and killings by security

forces that have been made by Rohingya villagers fleeing northern Rakhine, which remains off-limits to journalists.

Tom Malinowski, the State Department's human rights chief, questioned the credibility of that investigation.

"People don't film themselves committing a human rights abuse unless they think that doing so is normal and allowed," he said about a video of Myanmar police kicking and beating Rohingya — filmed by the police and recently surfaced on social media.

"What that video suggests to me is that this kind of behavior, at least with respect to whatever unit or elements of the security forces was involved, has become normalized, much as the photographs at Abu Ghraib taught us the same lesson about things that were going on in our military in Iraq at the time," he said.

The government of Myanmar, also known as Burma, has verified the video and detained the police officers involved. But it insists the incident is an "isolated case."

## Trump, team will not meet with Taiwan's leader in US

Associated Press

BEIJING — An official with President-elect Donald Trump's transition team said Saturday that neither Trump nor transition officials would be meeting with Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen, who stopped in the U.S. during her trip to the Americas.

Still, Tsai's trip will be scrutinized by Beijing for any signs that Trump's team will risk its ire by further engaging with the self-ruled island that China considers its territory.

Tsai, who departed Taipei on Saturday, pledged to bolster Taiwan's international profile as she set off on a trip to reinforce relations with diplomatic allies in Central America, a task that has taken on new urgency as Beijing ramps up efforts to diplomatically isolate Taipei.

Speaking to reporters before her departure, Tsai said the visits to Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador would "show the international society that Taiwan is a capable and responsible partner for cooperation."

Trump transition spokeswoman Jessica Ditto said in an email Saturday that the president-elect would not be meeting with the Taiwanese leader while she is in the U.S., nor will members of his team. Trump sounded unaware of the potential trip when he was asked about it on New Year's Eve.

"Nobody's ever mentioned that to me," he told reporters. "I'm not meeting with anybody until after Jan. 20, because it's a little bit inappropriate from a protocol standpoint. But we'll see."

Tsai is likely to keep the U.S. stops low-key to avoid further inflaming tensions with China, which has been angered by her refusal to endorse Beijing's concept that Taiwan and the mainland are part of a single Chinese nation. Beijing says failing to endorse the "One China" principle would destabilize relations and hurt peace in the region. Last month, in what Beijing called routine exercises, China's only aircraft carrier and a fleet of warships sailed past Taiwan's south, prompting Taipei to deploy fighter jets to monitor the fleet.

# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Off-duty officer held after gun is dropped

**OH** MILFORD — Authorities say a Cincinnati police sergeant faces misdemeanor charges after prompting the evacuation of an Ohio movie theater when she dropped a department-issued handgun in front of other patrons while off-duty and intoxicated.

Court records show Shauna Lambert, 50, has been charged with inducing panic and using weapons while intoxicated after the incident Friday night at a multiplex theater in Milford. She was arrested in the theater and jailed overnight and posted bond Saturday.

A theater-goer told WCPO-TV that Lambert was acting strangely and began harassing people before dropping what police said was a 9 mm handgun. No one was hurt in the evacuation.

## Man wounds mom, kills self after pot argument

**PA** BETHLEHEM — Police said an 18-year-old Pennsylvania man fatally shot himself after wounding his mother when they argued about her finding marijuana in his clothes.

The Northampton County coroner has ruled Colin Williams' death Wednesday a suicide. His body was found in a car along with a gun in Lower Mount Bethel Township.

Police believe Williams drove there after arguing with his mother, Carolyn Williams, 49, on Tuesday afternoon after she found drugs and paraphernalia in the laundry.

Police said Colin Williams left and got a shotgun, which he fired from outside through a window. Some pellets hit his mother, but she's expected to survive.

Carolyn Williams spent two years in prison after robbing a Bethlehem Township bank while wearing a clown costume in 2010.

## Police: Tires shot out after dispute over snow

**NY** MACHIAS — State police said a dispute between neighbors over snow removal ended with a western New York man shooting out the tires of his neighbor's vehicle.

Troopers said they responded late Wednesday night to a report of a neighbor dispute in the Cattaraugus County town of Machias, 35 miles southeast of Buffalo.

Police said they learned a 55-year-old man got into a verbal and physical confrontation with a neighbor over snow blowing. Troopers said that during the argument, the man got a shotgun and shot out the tires of his neighbor's vehicle. The neighbor wasn't injured by the gunfire.

Charges against the shotgun-wielding neighbor include reckless endangerment, menacing and criminal possession of a weapon. The man is being held in the county jail on \$10,000 cash bail.

## Dog jumps onto bed, alerts family to fire

**IN** LAFAYETTE — A fire investigator said a dog saved a northwestern Indiana man, his girlfriend and their son from a house fire by awakening them as smoke was filling their house.

Lafayette Fire Investigator Todd Trent told the Journal and Courier that Caleb Wheeler's recently adopted Doberman Pinscher jumped onto his bed Wednesday night, awakening him and his girlfriend.

The couple awoke to find their house was filling with smoke. They grabbed their 4-year-old

and the dog, and ran outside.

Trent said no one was injured.

## Deer carcasses, heads dumped near trail

**MN** ROCHESTER—The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources says it will no longer use a site near a Rochester community college to dispose of deer carcasses seized by law enforcement following public complaints.

A pheasant hunter recently discovered a pile of several dozen carcasses and deer heads on the Gordon Yeager Wildlife Management Area north of Rochester Community and Technical College. The Post Bulletin reported the deer were dumped less than 150 yards from a parking area and near a public trail.

DNR District 18 supervisor Lt. Tyler Quandt said ideally, deer that are confiscated are given to families who need meat, but sometimes they cannot be salvaged and are dumped onto public land. He said the carcasses have been removed.

## Eatery a 'no-fish' zone for NFL playoff game

**PA** PITTSBURGH — An iconic Pittsburgh restaurant chain was not serving fish leading up to Sunday's NFL playoff game between the Steelers and the Miami Dolphins.

Primanti Bros. is famous for its sandwiches piled high with french fries and cole slaw on top of whatever protein is being served. But the chain won't be serving fish on its sandwiches or anywhere else until after the game.

Toni Haggerty, the longtime cook at the original restaurant's location, said she just can't bring herself to make a fish sandwich while the Dolphins are on the Steelers' menu. She

said her decision is not to support "anything that comes from the ocean."

## Woman held in theft rescinds assault story

**AZ** PHOENIX — Authorities say a Mesa woman who was naked when she stole a sheriff's deputy's vehicle and led officers on a 70-mile pursuit has been arrested and recanted her story about being sexually assaulted.

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office said Lisa Luna, 31, initially was hospitalized, then was jailed and on Saturday rescinded her account of being sexually assaulted.

The Sheriff's Office said Luna took off her clothes while walking along a road in Gila Bend and she told investigators she was high on drugs and that the effects caused her to steal the pickup of a deputy whom she'd told she had been assaulted.

Luna is jailed on suspicion of unlawful flight, resisting arrest and other crimes.

## 2 are captured after shots fired on freeway

**CA** BAKER — Authorities captured two people they believe shot at California Highway Patrol officers, prompting a standoff that shut down a Mojave Desert freeway for hours.

The CHP said a man and woman were found at daybreak Saturday in an abandoned vehicle near Interstate 15 after authorities answered a report of trespassers on the property.

Officer Adam Carmichall said the couple surrendered peacefully but six guns were found in the car.

From wire reports

STARS AND STRIPES

On a mission to provide credible reporting and daily news to America's military, wherever they serve.

Mobile apps available: [www.stripes.com/apps](http://www.stripes.com/apps).

# Oswelier, Clowney spark Texans' victory

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Brock Oswelier redeemed himself after last month's benching. Jadeveon Clowney established himself as a postseason force.

And the Houston Texans got their first playoff victory since the 2012 season Saturday against the Oakland Raiders.

Oswelier threw for a touchdown and ran for another to lead the Texans to a 27-14 wild-card playoff win over Oakland. Clowney, erasing any doubts he deserved to be the top pick in the 2014 draft, got his first career interception.

Oswelier, benched on Dec. 18, got his job back this week with Tom Savage out with a concussion and played his best game of the season. It was the first career playoff game for Oswelier, who was benched for Peyton Manning before the postseason last season with Denver, and coach Bill O'Brien

said he'll start again next week. Oswelier finished with 168 yards passing.

"It just goes back to having confidence in my teammates," Oswelier said. "Believing in what you see and just rip it. Cut it loose and don't have any hesitation. I trust that my teammates, the skill guys, they're going to be where they're supposed to be and they're going to make me look good in the end."

Houston (10-7) and its top-ranked defense, led by Clowney and Whitney Mercilus, bounced back after an embarrassing 30-0 wild-card loss to Kansas City last season to advance to face either the Chiefs or New England in the divisional round next weekend. Clowney was roundly criticized in his first two injury-plagued seasons before starring this year to help make up for the loss of J.J. Watt to injury.

"Those guys picked me No. 1; they [saw] something in me,"

Clowney said. "Things didn't go well earlier in my career, but I'm on the right track now. Things are coming together, I'm healthier. I'm playing good ball and we're all coming together and playing good defense."

The Raiders' first trip to the playoffs since the 2002 season, when they went to the Super Bowl, ended with a thud behind the struggles of third-string rookie Connor Cook. He threw for 161 yards with one touchdown and three interceptions.

Houston led by 13 at halftime and made it 27-7 on a 1-yard run by Oswelier early in the fourth quarter.

The Raiders (12-5) cut the lead when Andre Holmes grabbed an 8-yard touchdown reception on their next possession. Oakland got a stop after that, but Corey Moore intercepted Cook on the next possession.

DeAndre Hopkins had a touchdown reception for the

Texans and Lamar Miller gave Houston a 10-0 lead in the first quarter on a TD run one play after Clowney's interception.

Clearly in over his head, Cook became the first quarterback in NFL history to make his first start in a playoff game after MVP contender Derek Carr broke his leg two weeks ago. Then backup Matt McGloin injured his shoulder on Sunday.

"It was his first start, on the road, in a playoff game, against the No. 1-ranked defense. It was a tough draw for him," Oakland coach Jack Del Rio said. "We had hopes that we would be able to do enough around him so he wouldn't have to do as much."

Defensive end Khalil Mack talked about how difficult it was to play without Carr.

"When you lose an MVP, it takes a toll," he said. "We wanted to rally and focus back in, but you could tell it was a big hit for us."

# Rumbling Rawls carries Seattle past Lions

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The formula that has led the Seattle Seahawks to unmatched success over the past five seasons returned.

A healthy dose of Thomas Rawls rumbling on the ground. A few timely throws by Russell Wilson helped by some remarkable catches. And a defense that never allowed Detroit a sniff of the end zone.

"This felt like old times. This felt great," Seattle cornerback Richard Sherman said.

Rawls rushed for a franchise playoff-record 161 yards, Paul Richardson made one of the catches of the year for his first career postseason touchdown, and the Seahawks beat the Lions 26-6 on Saturday night in an NFC wild-card game.

"It kept the chains going," Rawls said. "We want to end like this. We want to end with a great mark running the football, which is our identity, playing tough hard-nosed Seahawks football, and that's exactly what we did."

Seattle won its 10th straight home playoff game, continuing Detroit's miserable conclusion to the season that finished with four straight losses. Detroit's long playoff history without postseason success continued: no playoff wins since 1992. No road playoff wins since 1957.

"We're walking away with nothing," Detroit cornerback Darius Slay said.

Rawls was the workhorse as the run game the Seahawks became known for when Marshawn Lynch was in the backfield finally found consistency that was missing all season. Rawls bettered Lynch's 157 yards in the 2014 NFC championship game against Green Bay. Rawls had runs of 12, 14, 26 and a 32-yarder late in the third quarter, when Wilson ended up being his lead blocker.

Rawls capped his night with a 4-yard touchdown run that gave Seattle a 19-6 lead. He was the first player with at least 150 yards rushing in a playoff game since Lynch's performance against the Packers.

While Rawls did the grunt work, Richardson filled the highlight reel with a trio of catches. None was better than his 2-yard touchdown in the second quarter to give Seattle a 7-0 lead.

"I didn't know that I had it until I got it, honestly," Richardson said.

Richardson went horizontal reaching out with his left hand to cradle the pass as he was being interfered with by Tavon Wilson. What wasn't called on the play was Richardson's right hand yanking on the facemask of Wilson as he reached to make the catch.

Richardson had another one-handed catch in the fourth quarter, and Doug Baldwin got into the act of amazing catches, pinning a 10-yard reception to the back of his leg late in the fourth quarter to continue a Seattle drive. Two plays later, Baldwin's 13-yard touchdown reception put it away.

Baldwin ran the wrong route and the pass was actually intended for teammate Jermaine Kearse.

"I wasn't where I was supposed to be," said Baldwin, who was remorseful for taking away the TD from his teammate. "Fortunately it worked out."

Overshadowed by the offensive performance was Seattle's defense shutting down the Lions. Hampered by a handful of dropped passes and some untimely penalties, the Lions could only manage a pair of long Matt Prater field goals.

Matthew Stafford was 18-for-32 for 205 yards. He was sacked three times and Detroit never ran a play inside the Seattle 33-yard line.

"We definitely knew if we came in and focused, we'd be fine," All-Pro linebacker Bobby Wagner said. "We knew they got some great players on the other end, but we were just locked in all week and we prepared very well. We knew we were going to play well."

# Baylor set to claim first No. 1 ranking

Associated Press

WACO, Texas — Manu Lecomte scored 17 points, Johnathan Motley had 13 and second-ranked Baylor closed in on the school's first No. 1 ranking with a 61-57 victory against Oklahoma State on Saturday night.

The Bears (15-0, 3-0 Big 12), one of two unbeaten teams in the nation along with No. 5 Gonzaga, are in position to reach the top of the poll after No. 1 Villanova's 20-game winning streak ended Wednesday — the same night Baylor beat Iowa State on a late jumper from Lecomte.

A rowdy crowd that included new Baylor football coach Matt Rhule in the first row of the student section chanted "No. 1, No. 1" in the final seconds of the Bears' 11th straight home victory.

Phil Forte had 17 points to lead the Cowboys (10-5), who started 0-3 in conference for the first time since 1995-96, the last year of the Big Eight before it merged with the Big 12.

Motley had a game-high 10 rebounds with three assists and three blocks.

**No. 1 Villanova 93, Marquette 81:** Kris Jenkins scored a season-high 23 points, Josh Hart had 19 and host Villanova returned to form with a win over Marquette.

The Wildcats (15-1, 3-1 Big East) bounced back from their first loss of the season at Butler and still have not lost two straight games since 2013.

Markus Howard led the Golden Eagles (10-5, 1-2) with 21 points.

Jenkins made six of Villanova's 14 three-pointers.

**No. 3 Kansas 85, Texas Tech 68:** Frank Mason III scored 26 points, Devonte Graham added a season-high 20 and host Kansas used a big second-half run to put away Texas Tech.

Josh Jackson had 17 points and Mason provided the spark for a 12-0 run that turned a five-point game into a rout, allowing the Jayhawks to remain perfect in 17 tries against Texas Tech

at home.

The Jayhawks (14-1, 3-0 Big 12) also pushed their home winning streak to a nation-leading 51 games.

**No. 6 Kentucky 97, Arkansas 71:** De'Aaron Fox scored a career-high 27 points, Isaiah Briscoe and Derek Willis each added 15 and host Kentucky pulled away to beat Arkansas.

Unlike two previous routs that were settled early, the Wildcats (13-2, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) worked longer to put away the Razorbacks in a sometimes-chippy game.

Bam Adebayo's three-point play eventually provided a 60-48 lead with 14½ minutes remaining.

**No. 7 West Virginia 82, TCU 70:** Daxter Miles Jr. tied a season high with 22 points and the host Mountaineers needed a late burst to beat TCU.

West Virginia (13-2, 2-1 Big 12) bounced back from an overtime loss at Texas Tech and improved to 10-0 against TCU since the schools joined the Big 12 in 2012.

**No. 8 Duke 93, Boston College 82:** Freshman Jayson Tatum matched a season high with 22 points and host Duke won in Jeff Capel's season debut as Hall of Fame coach Mike Krzyzewski's temporary replacement.

Grayson Allen had 12 points and 11 assists, and the Blue Devils (14-2, 2-1 Atlantic Coast Conference) had six double-figure scorers in winning their first game at Cameron Indoor Stadium without Coach K since 1995. Krzyzewski had back surgery and is expected to miss roughly four weeks.

**No. 9 Louisville 65, Georgia Tech 50:** Donovan Mitchell scored 13 of his 20 points in the second half as the visiting Cardinals became the last Atlantic Coast Conference team to pick up a league win.

Louisville (13-3, 1-2) used stifling defense in the first half and the long ball to beat Tech (9-6, 1-2) for the sixth straight time.

**No. 10 Creighton 78, Providence 64:** Justin Patton had 20 points and Maurice Watson

Jr. scored 11 with 14 assists for visiting Creighton.

Marcus Foster had 17 points and Khyri Thomas added 16 for the Bluejays (15-1, 3-1 Big East), who opened a 10-0 lead and never trailed.

**No. 12 Florida State 93, No. 21 Virginia Tech 78:** Terance Mann scored 22 points and Dwayne Bacon added 17 for host Florida State.

It is the first time since joining the ACC that the Seminoles have won their first three league games.

Chris Clarke led the Hokies (12-3, 1-2) with 22 points.

**No. 15 Oregon 85, Washington State 66:** Chris Boucher scored a career-high 29 points off the bench to help the visiting Ducks beat Washington State for its 13th straight victory.

Dylan Ennis added 17 points for Oregon (15-2, 4-0 Pac-12), which won even though leading scorer Dillon Brooks was ejected early in the game.

**No. 16 Xavier 97, St. John's 82:** Edmond Sumner had 20 points and seven assists for host Xavier, which is alone atop the Big East.

The Musketeers (13-2, 3-0) have won six straight games since consecutive road losses at Baylor and Colorado. They are the last unbeaten team in Big East play.

**No. 17 Arizona 82, Colorado 73:** Lauri Markkanen scored 22 points, hitting four of five on three-pointers, Kadeem Allen made all three of his threes en route to a career-high 18 and host Arizona held off a late Colorado surge.

Dusan Ristic scored 17 for the Wildcats (15-2, 4-0 Pac-12), who led by 20 points early in the second half before the Buffaloes (10-6, 0-3) rallied to cut it to five late.

**No. 18 Butler 85, Georgetown 76 (OT):** Freshman Kamar Baldwin scored 16 points as visiting Butler followed its upset of No. 1 Villanova with a win.

The Bulldogs (14-2, 3-1 Big East) never trailed in overtime to earn their third straight victory.

L.J. Peak scored 21 points for the Hoyas (8-8, 0-4), who have lost their first four conference games for the first time since 1998-99.

**No. 19 Saint Mary's 63, San Francisco 52:** Jock Landale had 21 points and 11 rebounds, and visiting Saint Mary's overcame a sluggish start to beat San Francisco.

Dane Pineau added 14 points and 12 rebounds, Joe Rahon scored 13 and Tanner Krebs made two key three-pointers as part of a 9-1 run late in the second half to help the Gaels (14-1, 4-0 West Coast Conference) to their eighth straight win.

**No. 22 Cincinnati 67, Houston 58:** Kyle Washington had 19 points and nine rebounds as visiting Cincinnati extended its winning streak to six games.

**No. 23 Notre Dame 75, Clemson 70:** V.J. Beachem tied his career-high with 22 points and host Notre Dame remained undefeated in the ACC.

Matt Farrell added 15 points for the Irish (14-2, 3-0) including a three-pointer with 10 seconds left for the game's final margin.

**No. 24 Florida 83, Tennessee 70:** KeVaughn Allen connected on four three-pointers in the final 7:34 and scored 23 points to lead host Florida.

The Gators (12-3, 3-0 Southeastern Conference) pulled away from a 56-all tie with 8:57 left to win their fifth straight game. Allen made three of his threes in a span of five possessions to turn a game that had featured six ties and 12 lead changes into a runaway at the end.

**No. 25 Indiana 96, Illinois 80:** James Blackmon Jr. scored 25 points and Thomas Bryant had 20 as the host Hoosiers got their first Big Ten win of the season.

Illinois was scoreless for the first 6 minutes of the game, during which time the Hoosiers (11-5, 1-2) jumped out to a 13-0 lead.

# Westbrook collects 17th triple-double

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Russell Westbrook was scary enough already.

Now, the league's scoring leader is hitting three-pointers as well as he does everything else.

Westbrook had 32 points, 17 rebounds and 11 assists for his 17th triple-double of the season and the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the Denver Nuggets 121-106 on Saturday night.

Westbrook made 7 of 12 three-pointers after hitting a career-high eight threes on Thursday at Houston. He made four three-pointers in the fourth quarter to turn the game into a rout.

"Obviously, Russ started hitting pull-up threes from 30 feet, and there's not a lot you can do with that," Denver coach Michael Malone said.

Westbrook, who entered the game as a 33 percent three-

point shooter for the season, said there's no magic in his 15-for-27 shooting behind the arc the past two games.

"Just try to stay on balance and concentrate on making the shot," he said.

Westbrook matched his season high in rebounds in the 54th triple-double of his career. The Thunder improved to 32-3 the past two seasons when Westbrook gets a triple-double.

Steven Adams scored 16 points and Victor Oladipo added 15 for Oklahoma City, which snapped a three-game losing streak.

Wilson Chandler scored 24 points and Will Barton added 21 for the Nuggets. Danilo Gallinari, Denver's leading scorer for the season, finished with 15 points on 5-for-18 shooting.

It was Denver's fifth consecutive loss, and the Nuggets allowed at least 120 points in all of them.

"It's still a work in progress, still got to get better at it," Barton said of the defensive play. "We're taking steps."

The game was tied at 60 at halftime. Westbrook had 12 points, eight rebounds and five assists at the break, while Chandler had 19 points for the Nuggets.

Westbrook reached double figures in rebounds early in the third quarter. He sat down for a rest late in the period with nine assists and the Thunder leading 85-73.

"Some of those shots he hit were tough, tough shots, and we had no answer for them," Malone said.

**Bulls 123, Raptors 118 (OT):** Jimmy Butler scored 42 points as Chicago overcame a 19-point deficit to beat Toronto.

Butler led a big run in the fourth quarter and hit a three with 17.3 seconds left in overtime for a five-point lead. He

also hit the 40-point mark for the third time in six games.

**Celtics 117, Pelicans 108:** Isaiah Thomas scored 38 points and Marcus Smart added a season-high 22 to lift host Boston over New Orleans.

**Hawks 97, Mavericks 82:** Tim Hardaway Jr. and Dennis Schroder assumed Atlanta's three-point shooting role with Kyle Korver traded, leading the visiting Hawks past Dallas.

**Jazz 94, Timberwolves 92:** George Hill scored 19 points in his return from a concussion and Rudy Gobert tipped in a rebound with 27.5 seconds to play to lift Utah past host Minnesota.

**Spurs 102, Hornets 85:** Davis Bertans scored a season-high 21 points to help San Antonio beat visiting Charlotte.

**Pacers 123, Knicks 109:** Paul George and Jeff Teague each scored 19 points to lead host Indiana over New York.

# Rangers rally past once-hot Blue Jackets

Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — For the first 40 minutes Saturday night, the Columbus Blue Jackets looked like the team that piled up 16 straight wins during one impressive streak.

Then the third period started, and the Blue Jackets looked like the team that got pounded by Washington in its previous game.

Michael Grabner scored on a breakaway with 17 seconds left, and the New York Rangers rallied for a dramatic 5-4 victory over Columbus that included four unanswered goals — three in the final period.

"When some pucks went in, I thought we got nervous as a team and lost ourselves a little bit," Columbus coach John Tortorella said.

Grabner's shot through Curtis McElhinney's pads after a turnover handed the Blue Jackets their second straight loss after they pulled within one of the NHL record for consecutive wins.

Grabner and Adam Clendening each had two goals and Oscar Lindberg also scored for the Rangers, who moved within a point of the Blue Jackets at the top of the tough Metropolitan Division.

Columbus got goals from Markus Nutter, Cam Atkinson, Scott Hartnell and Lukas Sedlak but was badly outplayed by New York in the frenetic third period.

"The way we played in the third, we deserved to at least get a tie game, I think," said Henrik Lundqvist, who had 33 saves for the Rangers. "We pushed for the next goal all the time, had good speed and good energy. It took us a while to get going."

McElhinney had 29 saves, but was juiced by Grabner on a rush and couldn't stop the game-winner.

**Kings 4, Wild 3 (OT):** Tanner Pearson tipped home Alec Martinez's pass for his 11th goal at 3:32 of overtime, sending host Los Angeles past Minnesota.

**Oilers 2, Devils 1 (OT):** Mark Letestu scored a power-play goal at 3:59 of overtime and Cam Talbot stopped 19 shots as Edmonton beat host New Jersey.

**Sabres 4, Jets 3:** Brian Gionta scored midway through the third period as host Buffalo rallied to beat Winnipeg for its second victory in three games.

**Flyers 4, Lightning 2:** Travis Konecny, Michael Raffl, Sean Couturier and Radko Gudas scored in the second period and host Philadelphia ended a five-game losing streak.

**Capitals 1, Senators 0:** Braden Holtby made 30 saves for his second straight shut-out and visiting Washington won its fifth straight thanks to T.J. Oshie's goal 1:38 into the game.

**Coyotes 2, Islanders 1 (SO):** Anthony Duclair and Radim Vrbata scored in the shootout to help host Arizona snap a nine-game losing streak.

**Blues 4, Stars 3:** Paul Stastny scored twice and Patrick Berglund broke a third-period tie with his seventh goal of the season, as host St. Louis beat Dallas.

**Canadiens 5, Maple Leafs 3:** Carey Price made 33 saves for his 20th victory of the season as Montreal beat host Toronto for the 13th straight time.

**Bruins 4, Panthers 0:** Brad Marchand scored two goals, Tuukka Rask had 25 saves and Boston beat host Florida for the fourth time in four meetings this season.

**Sharks 6, Red Wings 3:** Joe Pavelski had two goals, Mikkel Boedker scored for the first time in 30 games and host San Jose ended a three-game slide.

**Flames 3, Canucks 1:** Chad Johnson had 28 saves in his first win in a month to help host Calgary snap Vancouver's six-game win streak.