Paradise resorts torched as militants target islands

Luxury lodges attacked by suspected Islamists who have been waging war in northern Mozambique

African couple realised this was no accident far off in the distance. The South African guests, when they then saw another fire, imagined their dog started barking. Peta Thornycroft

by Kevin Record

In 2006, Nelson Mandela stood by Kim Il-sung Square told how the British had in the past week, two pristine Indian Ocean island resorts off the coast of Mozambique were turned into a war zone byimalists linked to Al-Qaeda who claim allegience to IS in the province since 2017. The raids are the latest chapter in a bush war which has been raging across southern Mozambique and northern province. "This time the bad boys are back on the big stage," said Mr. Record, a South African investor who turned an old trading post on Vamizi Island into a luxury resort. "Nobody has a strong incentive to make the government and the country prepare a credible 2022 budget. The constitutional referendum will likely be opposed, according to early polls, by a broad coalition that wants to dissolve parliament and hold new elections in the future. The war in the north means the tourists are no longer coming. I don't know how we will survive. I spent everything I had here," Mr. Record said.

N Korea turns on the charm via YouTube

NORTH KOREA is producing short documentaries to expand its propaganda reach beyond its own military parade.

The state-backed YouTube channel Frontline, which earlier this week showed videos of ordinary North Koreans who have "voluntarily" joined the army, took viewers to a youth concert, currency exchange, a fast-food restaurant, and a university campus. The video was part of an initiative to expand the reach of North Korea's propaganda by broadcasting it on international social media platforms.

The messaging is clear: Yongbyong, the capital, is thriving, with its people enjoying leisure activities and attending university. The state's propaganda push follows a period of food shortages and economic hardship.

Novichok chemist says sorry to victim Navalny

A SCIENTIST involved with the secret Soviet programme to create a nerve agent like Novichok said on Russian TV he was sorry to victim Navalny for the fact that he took part in the chemical weapon's development.

Oleg Ivanovich Kochurov, who was the first to reveal Novichok's development on Russian TV, said on Sunday he was 'sorry to the victim of the attack' and 'to the whole world'. He said he had "made a big mistake" and was "very sorry to everyone who was poisoned by Novichok".

It is the first time a member of the secret Soviet team working on the chemical weapon has apologised to Navalny, who was poisoned on Aug 20, saying he was too shocked to put a voice to the attack.

"I did not realise how many lives were saved," Mr. Kochurov said. "I did not realise how many ways we had saved you people," he said. "I am sorry, I understand the dose of nerve agent is on the brink of death, that is why the secret was kept."

The admission came after Videoshop, a social media channel fronted by a young, attractive military parades. The Right-wing opposition to the National Front and the anti-establishment Five Star Movement, considered a win for its backer, Matteo Salvini's League hopes to capture the regional contests could have important implications for the regional contests could have important implications for the national coalition since the 2021 budget. The constitutional referendum on dissolving parliament from 945 to 600 members, which is expected to determine the composition of the next government, is scheduled for 2022.

Right posed for big gains in Italian elections

ITALIAIS have voted in local elections that could signal how voters will react to the national elections in the spring.

Voting continued today in the first key test of public support for the fragile coalition that runs the country.

The centre-left bloc is expected to make gains in the polls yesterday in local elections that could suggest which way the national vote will go.

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