

world

POLITICS



Cameron win remakes landscape

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron hugs a member of staff upon entering 10 Downing Street in London Friday as he begins his second term as Prime Minister following the Conservative Party's win in Thursday's general election.

BY JILL LAWLESS AND DANICA KIRKA
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON

British Prime Minister David Cameron was conciliatory Friday, paying tribute to party leaders who resigned in the wake of the Conservative Party's unexpected election win.

The Conservative Party return to power returns Cameron to 10 Downing Street in a stronger position than before.

In announcing his majority government, Cameron paid tribute to his former coalition partner, Liberal Democrat Nick Clegg, and the opposition Labour Party's Ed Miliband. Both resigned as leaders of their parties Friday after disappointing election results.

"We can make Britain a place where a good life is in reach for everyone who is willing to work and do the right thing," Cameron said. He promised to counter the rise of Scottish nationalism with more powers for Scotland and

Wales, saying he would govern as the party of "one nation, one United Kingdom."

Cameron announced his new government after meeting with Queen Elizabeth II.

"We can make Britain a place where a good life is in reach for everyone who is willing to work and do the right thing."

Prime Minister David Cameron

It came much quicker than expected; pre-election polls had shown the Conservatives locked in a tight race with the opposition Labour Party, raising the possibility of days or weeks of negotiations to form a government. Labour took a beating, mostly from energized Scottish nationalists who pulled off a landslide in Scotland.

"I'm truly sorry I did not succeed," Miliband said. "We've

come back before and this party will come back again."

The surprise victory ushers in a new era in British politics, as more than a dozen veteran lawmakers found themselves on the sharp side of voter anger over politics as usual. The new class inherits a country divided by negative campaigning and infighting about the future of the United Kingdom.

The election was fought over the economy and the question of whether the Conservative-led government charted the right course through the aftermath of the 2008 economic crisis, the worst recession since the 1930s. Cameron argued his party needs more time to cement successes after five years of budget cuts designed to shrink the deficit and bolster growth.

Miliband focused the debate on inequality, saying the recovery hasn't trickled down to the poorest in this nation of 64 million. Heaping further pressure on the working poor has been an

influx of thousands of migrants from the European Union, particularly from the former eastern bloc countries that have recently joined the 28-nation free-trade zone.

The influx has changed Britain and strained schools, hospitals and other public services. Cameron's promise to hold a referendum on Britain's membership in the EU and to win concessions from Europe plainly resonated with voters worried that their country is losing its grip on its borders.

Labour was routed in Scotland by the Scottish National Party, which took almost all of the 59 seats. SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon told the BBC that the vote represented "a clear voice for an end to austerity, better public services and more progressive politics at Westminster."

"The Scottish lion has roared this morning across the country," said former SNP leader Alex Salmond, who was elected in the seat of Gordon.

SECURITY

Threat level at military installations bumped up

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

The U.S. military has increased the threat level at bases across North America.

Officials say the incremental boost will likely mean heightened vigilance and more random bag or vehicle checks.

The baseline level went from A to B, although most military installations — including the Pentagon — were already at a slightly higher level of protection than level A. There are four levels, A through D.

Army Col. Steve Warren said the increase was not triggered by a specific event.

He said it was due to a generally heightened threat environment, which would include the recent terror threat and attempted attack surrounding a provocative cartoon contest in Texas.

IN brief

Ambassadors among seven killed in Pakistan helicopter crash

ISLAMABAD (AP) — The ambassadors to Pakistan from the Philippines and Norway and the wives of the ambassadors from Malaysia and Indonesia were among seven people killed Friday when a Pakistani army helicopter carrying foreign dignitaries crash landed in the country's north.

The Pakistani air force said a technical failure had caused the crash and that a fire, which broke out on the aircraft after the crash, had caused the high number of fatalities — one of the worst aircraft crashes in Pakistan that killed and injured such a high number of foreign dignitaries.

IMMIGRATION

Migrants work for pittance

Living in squalor, they toil to put produce on Europeans' plates

BY FRANK JORDANS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SIRACUSA, ITALY

Colorful plastic boxes lie evenly spaced on a freshly turned field, ready to be filled with potatoes destined for the plates of diners across Europe.

The 14 men lining up to pluck them from the rich soil of eastern Sicily are almost all newcomers to a continent where many eye them with a mix of pity and suspicion.

The desperate quests of record numbers of migrants to cross the Mediterranean have been well-documented. But

few know that those who make it here often spend years trapped in an immigration limbo where the only way to make money is to do the back-breaking farm labour that locals shun — but which is critical to feeding the continent.

In Italy, which has seen a near-record 26,228 migrants arrive so far this year, would-be refugees are housed in special centres where food and clothing are provided.

Depending on their immigration status, some receive pocket money in the form of vouchers or cash.

Some are allowed to work while their asylum bids are being reviewed, others must wait months or even years before getting the necessary papers.

Those wishing to escape boredom and privation in overcrowded welcome centres are left with few choices, given Italy's 13 per cent unemployment rate.

Most do find something, "whether it's legal or on the black market," said immigration lawyer Angela Ghennet Lupo.

For men, who make up the bulk of the migrants, this often



ANTONIO CALANNI/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A migrant pauses as he picks potatoes, in Siracusa, Sicily, southern Italy. Many migrants who make it to Italy often spend years trapped in an immigration limbo where the only way to make money is to do the back-breaking farm labour that locals shun.

means working on the farms of Italy's southern breadbasket, which provides a sizeable chunk of the produce that feeds Italy and countries beyond.

Competition for jobs is fierce

and some decide to move out of the migration centres to live in abandoned stone huts that dot the countryside, in order to be closer to the villages where workers are hired each morning.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HYDRAULIC FRACTURING REVIEW PANEL

PUBLIC ADVISORY

The Newfoundland and Labrador Hydraulic Fracturing Review Panel is inviting members of the public and stakeholder groups to provide input on hydraulic fracturing in western Newfoundland. Details may be found by visiting www.nlhfrp.ca. All input must be received by the Panel no later than 12 p.m. on June 1, 2015.

Input can be submitted using the fillable forms online at www.nlhfrp.ca, by email to contact@nlhfrp.ca or by conventional mail to:

Dr. Ray Gosine
Chair, Hydraulic Fracturing Review Panel
c/o Office of Associate Vice-President (Research)
Bruneau Centre for Research and Innovation, IIC-3067
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL, A1C 5S7

The Panel is also accepting requests for public consultations in Corner Brook and Stephenville, as well as requests for teleconference and face-to-face meetings.

For more information, visit www.nlhfrp.ca.

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