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TURKEY Tens of thousands gathered in Taksim Square in Istanbul for May Day on Tuesday.



SPAIN With unemployment near 25 percent, protests like this one in Madrid vented anger.



GREECE Several thousand marched in Athens, and scuffles broke out at political party stands.



RUSSIA About 100,000 rallied in Moscow — most for the government, some for days gone by.

A passionate May Day Around the world, people marked the workers' holiday Tuesday with expressions of anger, despair, hope and national pride. PAGE 3

Murdoch branded unfit as a leader

LONDON

Parliamentary panel issues a scathing report but splits on party lines

BY ALAN COWELL AND JOHN F. BURNS

In a startlingly damning report after months of investigation into the hacking scandal at Rupert Murdoch's British newspapers, a parliamentary panel here concluded Tuesday that he was "not a fit person" to run a huge international company, amplifying a public outcry against him, but threatening further bruising divisions within the political establishment.

The conclusion about the world's most influential media tycoon went much further in lambasting Mr. Murdoch than had been expected from Parliament's select committee on culture, media and sport, which has conducted several inquiries into press standards in recent years, the most recent starting last July as the hacking scandal burrowed ever deeper into Britain's public life.

But the impact of the report by the all-party committee was blunted by divisions within the panel itself. Presaging further disarray within Britain's strained coalition government, the committee said it had split, 6 to 4, on party lines, with the dominant Conservatives opposing the censure of Mr. Murdoch while the Liberal Democrats, the junior partner in Prime Minister David Cameron's government, joined the Labour opposition in supporting it.

"On the basis of the facts and evidence before the committee," the report said in one passage, "we conclude that, if at all relevant times Rupert Murdoch did not take steps to become fully informed about phone hacking, he turned a blind eye and exhibited willful blindness to what was going on in his companies and publications."

"This culture, we consider, permeated from the top throughout the organization and speaks volumes about the lack of effective corporate governance at News Corporation and News International,"

its British newspaper subsidiary. "We conclude, therefore, that Rupert Murdoch is not a fit person to exercise the stewardship of a major international company," the report said.

Mr. Murdoch released a message to News Corp. employees that sidestepped the criticism directed at him, stressing instead the company's cooperation into the inquiry and his recognition of "mistakes we have made."

"I recognize that for all of us — myself in particular — it is difficult to read many of the report's findings," the memo said. "But we have done the most difficult part, which has been to take a long, hard and honest look at our past mistakes."

"There is no easy way around this, but I am proud to say that we have been working hard to put things right."

Likewise, in a statement from its New York headquarters, News Corp. acknowledged that "hard truths have emerged from the Select Committee Report: that there was serious wrongdoing at The News of the World; that our response to the wrongdoing was too slow and too defensive; and that some of our employees misled the Select Committee in 2009."

But the statement took issue with the fact that the "analysis of the factual record was followed by some commentary that we, and indeed several members of the committee, consider unjustified and highly partisan."

Louise Mensch, a Conservative member of the panel, said the division had come about because of "the line in the middle of the report that said that Mr. MURDOCH, PAGE 4



Rupert Murdoch told employees "we have been working hard to put things right."

Dutch brace for tougher times while hoping to avoid the worst

AMSTERDAM

BY LIZ ALDERMAN

Of all the people rocked by the debt and austerity tumult rattling Europe, the famously prudent but prosperous Dutch were seldom on anybody's watch list. Until now.

This bastion of probity became a flash point of euro zone turmoil last week, when the government fell in a showdown over how to cut the budget to keep the Netherlands from getting caught in Europe's long-running debt crisis. The drama focused fears in other European capitals that austerity, rather than helping to put countries back on their feet, would impede growth and make it harder for them to recover.

It is the Netherlands' toughest test of economic resolve since the nation became a founding member of the euro currency union in 1999. Last week, facing a crisis that could have tarnished the country's sparkling credit rating, a caretaker government maneuvered to pass a €14 billion, or \$18.6 billion, plan for spending cuts and tax increases. But political leaders acknowledge that the belt-tightening will further retard an economy already in recession.

Rather than protesting in the streets, though, as the people of Greece, Spain and Italy have done, many Dutch are facing hard times with characteristic grim determination. "This country has always paid its debts, and the government needed to press ahead with austerity to bring our finances under control," said Ellen Bijl, AUSTERITY, PAGE 18

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London at impasse for airports that have grown much too small

LONDON

Despite years of studies, no solution seems near for shortage of runways

BY NICOLA CLARK

As any pilot will tell you, landing an aircraft in a crosswind is a challenge. So, too, is deciding on where — or whether — to build a new airport runway.

The political winds in Britain have shifted countless times over the decades on the question of expanding aviation capacity in and around London, which is already served by six commercial airports. No fewer than 10 government studies on the subject have been commissioned since 1946.

Conditions have grown particularly gusty lately as the government attempts to grapple with the airports question yet again amid ballooning budget deficits and an economy that has slid into a double-dip recession. The debate pits London's business leaders, who argue that new runway capacity is vital for Britain's global competitiveness, against environmentalists warning of the implications for the country's carbon-emissions targets, and local residents who are already among the Europeans most affected by airport noise.

It also appears to have thrown a wedge into the fragile governing coalition of Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, who came to power in 2010 with a joint promise to reverse the HEATHROW, PAGE 19

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Hacking scandal threatens hazardous fallout for Cameron

LONDON

BY JOHN F. BURNS

In the 121-page parliamentary report on the scandal that has swirled around Rupert Murdoch's tabloid newspapers in Britain, Prime Minister David Cameron is mentioned just once, in connection with one of the 35 people judged

NEWS ANALYSIS

to be important in what the committee calls the "who said what to whom" element of the affair.

But the furor that accompanied the release of the report appeared to open a whole new arena of hazard for the prime minister and his Conservative Party.

The members of Mr. Cameron's Con-

servative Party who sat on the committee that produced the report voted against it because the Labour and Liberal Democrat majority insisted on including a condemnation of Mr. Murdoch as "not a fit person" to run a major international company.

That casts Mr. Cameron, the Conservative leader, as a de facto champion of Mr. Murdoch, carrying the risk that he could be tarred by association with the wrongdoing at Murdoch-owned media.

The dissenting Conservatives offered strong support for most elements in the report, including a passage castigating Mr. Murdoch and his son James for "willful blindness" in failing to act sooner to curb illicit reporting practices and help bring those involved to justice.

The Labour Party, caught in the political BRITAIN, PAGE 4

BUSINESS

Italy tightens belt further

Aiming to ease budgetary pressure and spur growth, Prime Minister Mario Monti of Italy has announced cuts to state spending by the end of the year and appointed an expert from the private sector as a special commissioner to oversee the spending review. PAGE 17

Tall order for Cypriot banker

Panicos O. Demetriades, who will become the newest member of the European Central Bank's governing council and governor of the central bank of Cyprus, won't have much time to get up to speed in either job as he confronts a banking crisis back home. PAGE 18

Delta to buy refinery in U.S.

Delta Air Lines plans to buy a Pennsylvania refinery from ConocoPhillips to offset the risk of higher jet fuel prices. The airline said it would spend \$150 million to buy the refinery after getting \$30 million from the state as part of a jobs deal. PAGE 19



WORLD NEWS

No endorsement Marine Le Pen, leader of the French far right, said in Paris on Tuesday that she would cast a blank ballot in the presidential election Sunday. PAGE 3

U.S.-Chinese military dialogue

Amid growing tension, the two powers open talks concentrating on cyberwarfare and maritime issues. PAGE 6

Clouds as saviors from warming

Climate change skeptics have seized on a theory that can't be readily dismissed. They believe clouds will help out. PAGE 4

VIEWS

Joe Nocera

Dominique Strauss-Kahn will no doubt go to his grave believing that his enemies did him in. But, politically speaking, France is lucky he got tripped up when he did. PAGE 8

The prince and the ayatollah

Bahrain is a hot spot in the Middle East's struggle to preserve the best values of Islam as the region seeks its way in the modern world, Ed Husain writes. PAGE 8

ONLINE

Romney son's firm also rises

Tagg Romney, Mitt Romney's eldest son, and Spencer Zwick, a Romney campaign fund-raiser, turned to wealthy campaign donors for investments in their private equity firm, Solamere Capital. Despite a challenging fund-raising climate, the firm exceeded its goal, raising \$244 million from 64 investors, including \$10 million from Mitt Romney. global.nytimes.com/us

NEWSSTAND PRICES table with columns for country and price.

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CHANEL J12 CALIBRE 3125 watch advertisement with image of the watch.