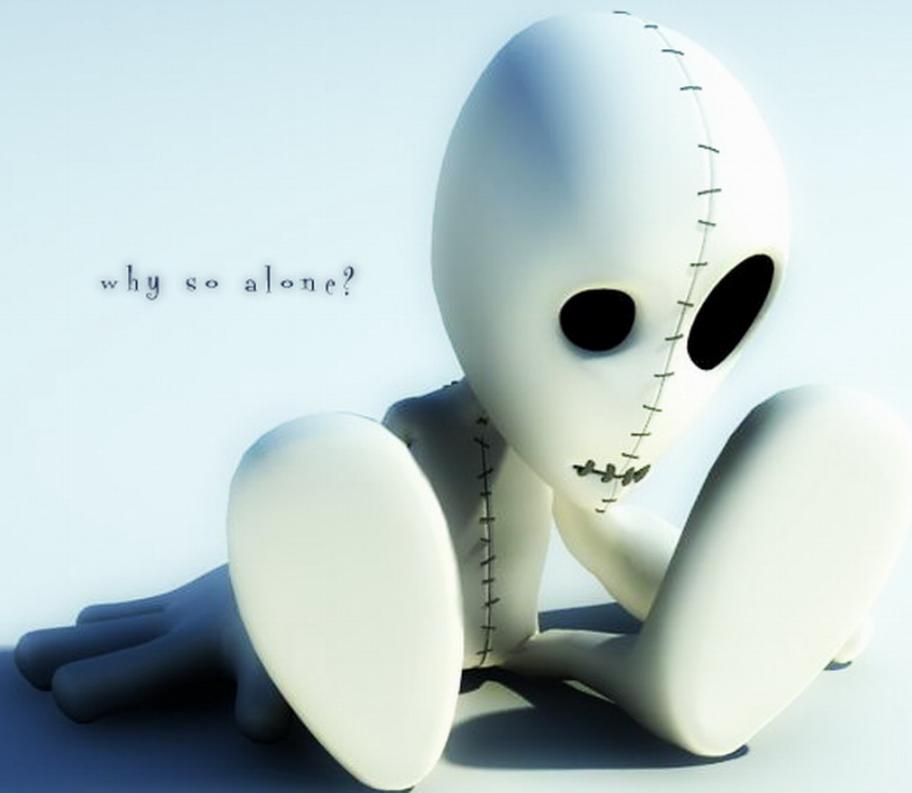


Current Events #2

why so alone?



Monopoly is Corrupting Our Youth



Hundreds of environmental activists plan to "flood" Wall Street on Monday to protest the role Big Business plays in climate change.

The #FloodWallStreet campaign is part of a series of demonstrations taking place this week as world leaders gather in New York for a climate change summit on Tuesday at the United Nations.

The goal is to highlight "a financial system that's perpetuating the climate crisis," said Bessie Schwarz, a spokeswoman for the group behind the #FloodWallStreet campaign.

http://money.cnn.com/2014/09/21/news/economy/wall-street-climate-protest/index.html?iid=HP_LN&hpt=hp_c2

Lockdown to Educate

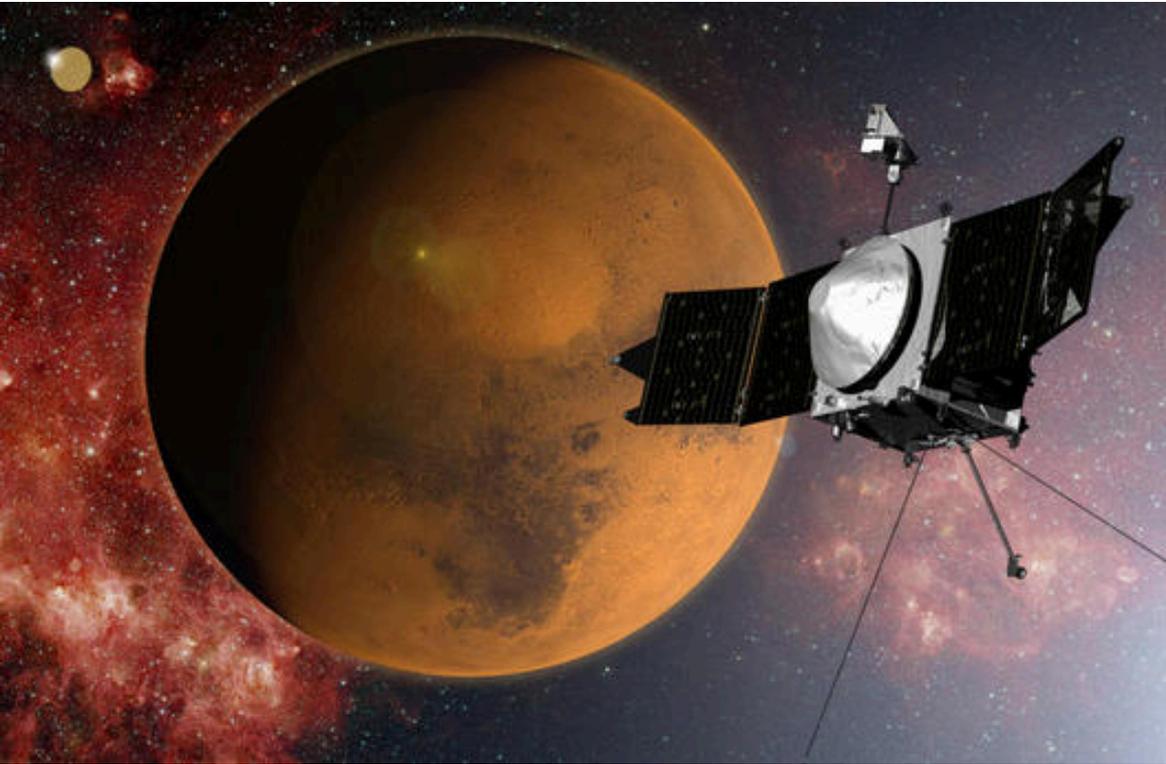
Officials said most of Sierra Leone's 6 million people were complying with orders to stay at home as nearly 30,000 volunteers and health care workers fanned out across the country to distribute soap and information on how to prevent Ebola.

The virus, spread by contact with bodily fluids, has killed than 560 people in Sierra Leone and more than 2,600 in West Africa since the outbreak began last December, according to the World Health Organization. It is killing about half of the people it infects.



http://www.oregonlive.com/today/index.ssf/2014/09/amid_ebola-related_lockdown_si.html

Leave Mars Alone



NASA says its latest Mars-exploring spacecraft is on track to fire up its thrusters and enter orbit this Sunday night, completing a 10-month journey of 442 million miles.

NASA's MAVEN craft will live up to its formal name -- the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution craft -- by helping scientists figure out how ancient Mars changed so dramatically into the planet we know today.

It will be the first mission devoted to studying the upper Martian atmosphere as a key to understanding the history of Mars' climate, water and habitability.

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/17/tech/mars-maven-spacecraft-orbit/index.html?iref=allsearch>

The Mountain is on Fire

The wildfire was reported after 2:20 p.m. near Southwest Scoggins Valley Road and Stepien Road and ignited forest lands with 10 to 15 year old replanted timber, said Jen Warren, an Oregon Department of Forestry spokeswoman. The cause of the fire is still under investigation, she said.

At least 70 firefighters responded to the scene, but the wind-aided flames forced crews to rely heavily on a helicopter dumping water retrieved from Hagg Lake onto the flames, according to Joel Peterson, a Gaston Rural Fire District chaplain. The lake was closed to the public due to firefighting efforts.



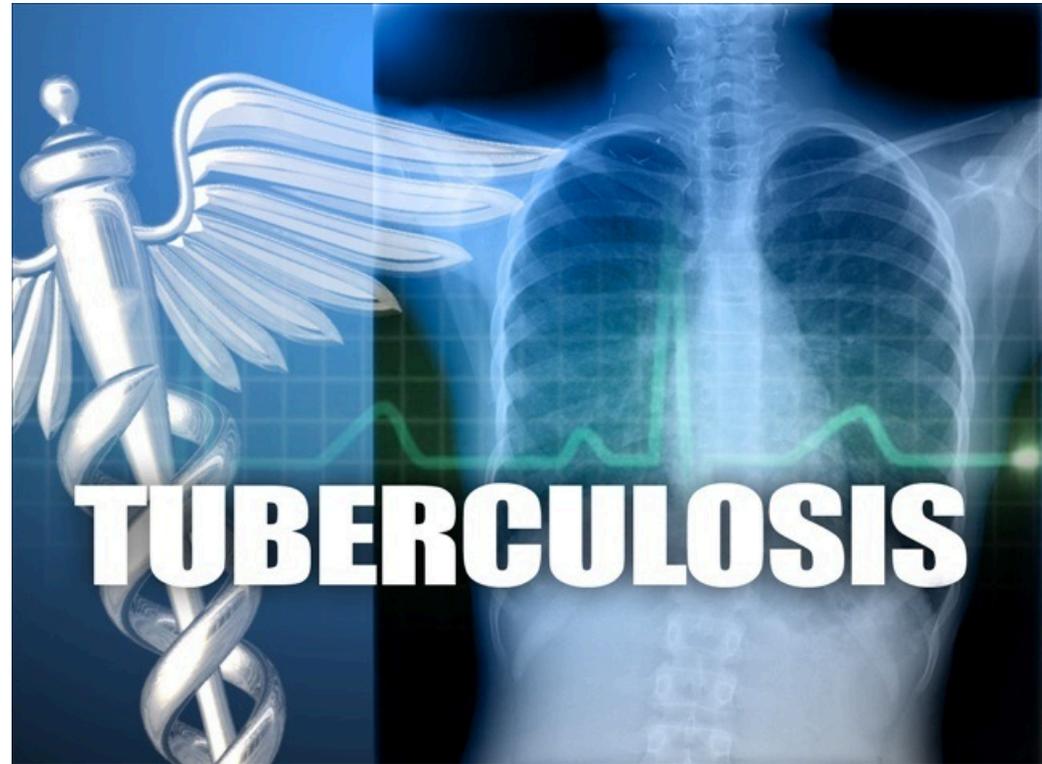
http://www.oregonlive.com/forest-grove/index.ssf/2014/09/scoggins_creek_fire_near_hagg.html

Good Time to Call in Sick

More than 700 infants and 40 health care workers have been exposed to tuberculosis, commonly called TB, at a hospital in El Paso, Texas, according to the city's Department of Public Health.

Health officials are not yet saying if any of the people exposed have tested positive for the disease.

An employee at Providence Memorial Hospital in El Paso came to work with an active case of TB some time between September 2013 and August 2014. He or she worked with infants in the nursery and in the post-partum unit at the hospital, the health department says.



<http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/22/health/infants-tb-texas/>

Do Not Drink the Water

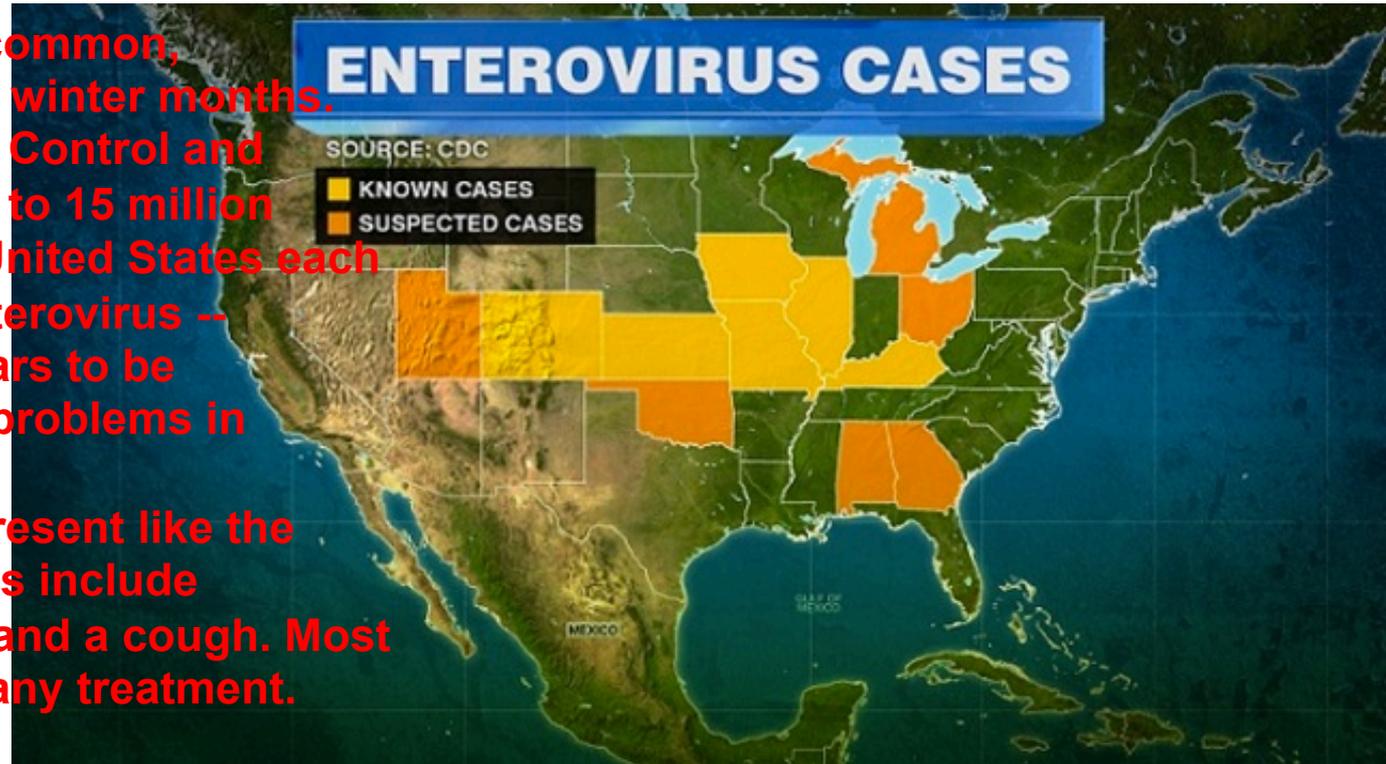


The Oregon Health Authority on Friday afternoon expanded a health advisory along the Willamette River, recommending people stay out of the water from Ross Island to the south end of Sauvie Island.

The state agency said test results show that the blue-green algae that can be seen on the Willamette River flowing through downtown Portland is one of a toxic species. Tests performed by Aquatic Scientific Resource identify the species as *Microcystis aeruginosa*.

D68 is Not a Bingo Space

Enteroviruses are very common, especially in the fall and winter months. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 10 to 15 million infections occur in the United States each year. But this type of enterovirus -- Enterovirus D68 -- appears to be exacerbating breathing problems in children with asthma. These viruses usually present like the common cold; symptoms include sneezing, a runny nose and a cough. Most people recover without any treatment.



As of September 11, the CDC had confirmed more than 80 cases of Enterovirus D68 in six states: Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Missouri. New York also announced on Friday that it had more than a dozen confirmed cases of the virus.

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/15/health/enterovirus-outbreak/>

Get Him!



One man was carrying a weapon; the other had reportedly attempted to slip by security before. New details have emerged about two recent security incidents at the White House.

The man who jumped a fence at the White House late Friday and made it through the North Portico doors was carrying a folding knife in his pants pocket, according to a Secret Service affidavit filed Saturday.

Initially, officers believed Omar Gonzalez, 42, of Copperas Cove, Texas, to be unarmed.

And a man who failed to stop his car at a White House complex entrance on Saturday, after officers asked he do so, had tried to gain entrance a short time before on foot, the New York Times reported, citing Secret Service spokesman Ed Donovan.

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/20/us/white-house-security-incident/>

Pleas Fall on Deaf Ears

The wife of British hostage Alan Henning pleaded Saturday with ISIS to release him, describing her husband as a "peaceful, selfless man" who was only in Syria to help people in need.

In a videotaped execution of British aid worker David Haines, made public last weekend, ISIS displayed Henning and threatened to kill him next.

The Sunni extremist group, which controls large areas of Iraq and Syria, has already beheaded three Western captives in recent weeks -- Haines, and the American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff.



The videos of the executions have pointed to U.S. airstrikes against ISIS forces in Iraq as the motivation. In Haines' case, the militant group described the killing as "a message to the allies of America."

http://www.cnn.com/2014/09/21/world/europe/isis-alan-henning/index.html?hpt=hp_inthenews

Do Not Drink the Water II



Scientists investigated the effects of storing 16 brands of bottled water (all sold in China) at three temperatures: 39 degrees F, 77 degrees F, and 158 degrees F.

The researchers checked the levels of two substances — antimony and bisphenol A (BPA) — after one, two, and four weeks. Antimony, a trace heavy metal, has been found to play a role in lung, heart, and gastrointestinal diseases, according to a 2009 study review. The International Agency for Research on Cancer classifies one form of the metal, called antimony trioxide, as a “possible carcinogen.” BPA, meanwhile, is a chemical that can mimic estrogen in the body and which is found in some plastics; it’s been banned for use by the FDA in baby bottles and sippy cups.

<https://www.yahoo.com/health/why-you-shouldnt-drink-warm-bottled-water-98234856882.html>

Who Let the Hackers In?

Computer security researchers have discovered a flaw in the way many devices communicate over the Internet. At its most basic, it lets someone hack every device in your house, business or government building -- via something as simple as your light bulb.

With this flaw, criminals can potentially break computers or steal private and government information.

The problem extends to lots of Internet-connected computers located anywhere -- from shops to hospitals to schools.



PHOTO: SHUTTERSTOCK

<http://money.cnn.com/2014/09/24/technology/security/bash-bug/index.html>

It is Getting Warmer



President Obama, emboldened by his use of executive powers to fight climate change at home, challenged China on Tuesday to make the same effort to reduce its greenhouse-gas emissions and join a worldwide campaign to curb global warming.

Declaring that the United States and China — the world's two largest economies and largest polluters — bear a "special responsibility to lead," Mr. Obama said, "That's what big nations have to do."

The president's remarks at the United Nations Climate Summit, delivered in a packed chamber of the General Assembly, were broadly aimed at marshaling more than 100 world leaders to confront climate change. But his words were directly focused on putting the onus on China, an essential partner of the United States if a global climate treaty is to be negotiated by 2015.

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/09/24/world/asia/obama-at-un-climate-summit-calls-for-vast-international-effort.html?ref=todayspaper&_r=0

When in Doubt...Bomb Them

The cost of the American military campaign against ISIS likely has passed \$1 billion.

On the first night of the strikes in Syria, the United States fired 47 Tomahawk missiles, which cost more than \$1 million each, higher for more advanced models.

The military said Tuesday that American forces had carried out 11 airstrikes in Syria over two days, striking ISIS vehicles, a tank, artillery, fighting positions and several buildings.

The U.S. has carried out more than 200 airstrikes in Iraq, and the U.S. and Arab allies have carried out more than 60 in Syria, according to the military.



<http://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-terror/cost-u-s-campaign-against-isis-roughly-1-billion-n215126>

Democracy is Not Free



Nearly a week after Hong Kong students took to the streets to press the government for more democracy, their standoff with the authorities is hardening.

Each day brings larger crowds of protesters to block key traffic arteries in the city, and on Wednesday a student leader threatened that her followers might occupy government buildings in the coming days....

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-Pacific/2014/1001/Hong-Kong-protests-Is-there-room-for-compromise-video>

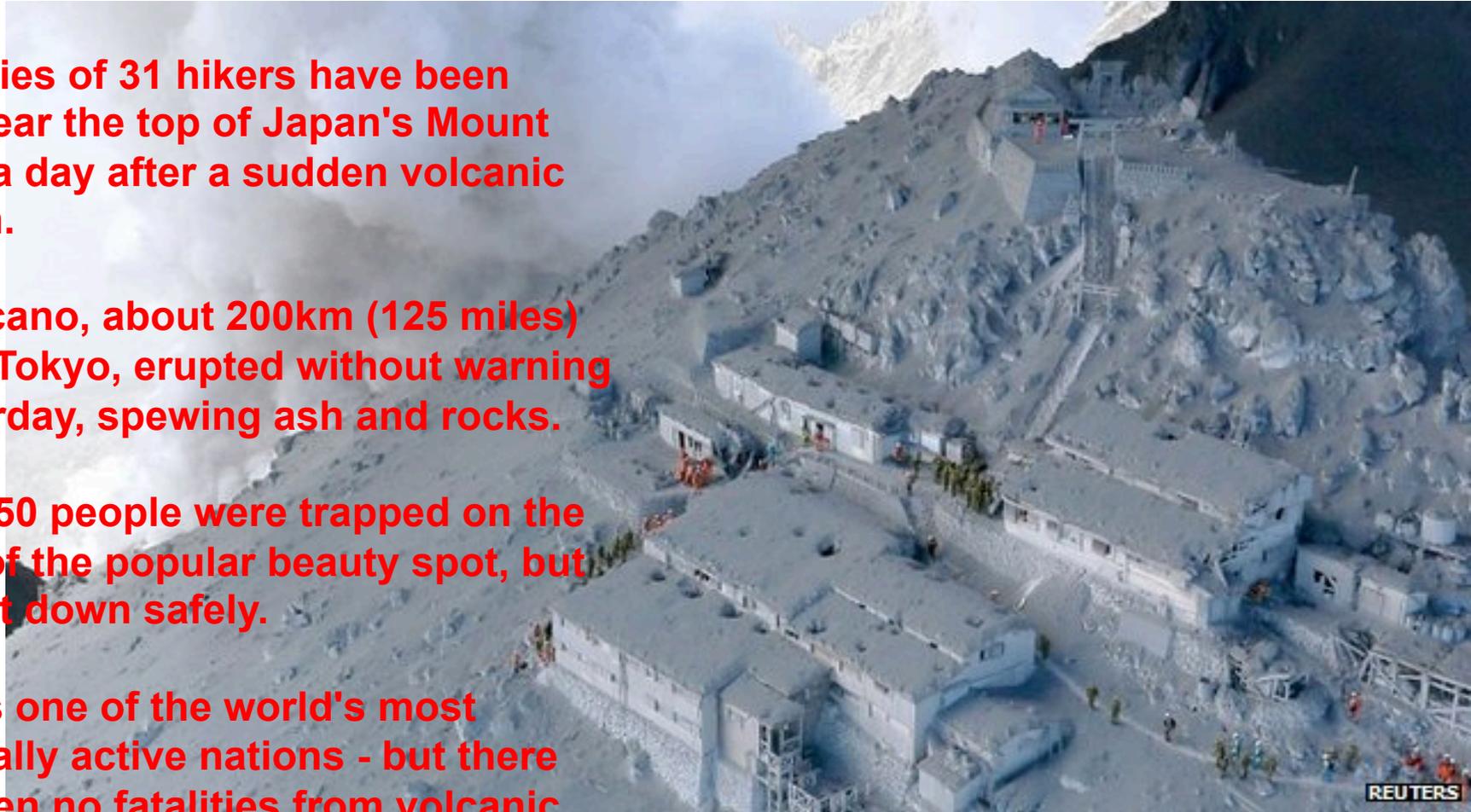
The World in Dust

The bodies of 31 hikers have been found near the top of Japan's Mount Ontake a day after a sudden volcanic eruption.

The volcano, about 200km (125 miles) west of Tokyo, erupted without warning on Saturday, spewing ash and rocks.

About 250 people were trapped on the slopes of the popular beauty spot, but most got down safely.

Japan is one of the world's most seismically active nations - but there have been no fatalities from volcanic eruptions since 1991, when 43 people died at Mount Unzen in the south-west.



<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-29399306>