

Zionist Spy Drone Crashes in Southern Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – A Zionist drone has crashed in the southern Lebanese region of Marjayoun near the border with the occupying regime, media reports say. The aircraft fell in the Saradah Valley, about 15 kilometers from the Blue Line, on Saturday. The Lebanese armed forces and peacekeepers with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon cordoned off the site of the crash.

Thought for Today

To refrain from unlawful and impious source of pleasures is an ornament to the poor and to be thankful for the riches granted is the adornment of wealth.

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Clashes Between Yemen Army, Houthi Protesters Kill 6



At least six people are confirmed dead as the Yemeni forces and Houthi fighters engage in a fresh series of violent clashes in Yemen's capital.

SANAA (Press TV) – At least six people are confirmed dead as the Yemeni forces and Houthi fighters engage in a fresh series of violent clashes in Yemen's capital, Sana'a. Yemeni security officials say renewed heavy fighting erupted

between government forces and fighters of the Houthis' movement, Ansarullah, in Sana'a on Saturday. Latest reports say several others were injured by mortar shells near Yemen's state-run television building in the city. Earlier reports sug-

gested that clashes broke out after Houthi fighters targeted the building with rockets. The building and its surrounding are reportedly on fire. A series of separate clashes are also said to be underway near Iman

University as well as outside the Interior Ministry and the residence of the president's security advisor.

Media sources say the death toll is expected to rise as some of the seriously injured are said to be in critical condition.

The latest casualties brought to at least 86 the number of people killed in clashes over the past four days across Yemen.

Protesters have been staging demonstrations in the capital for nearly a month, demanding the establishment of a new government and reinstatement of fuel subsidies. They say the government is corrupt and marginalizes the country's Shia community.

Some local sources say a ceasefire deal between Houthi-led protesters and the government is expected to be announced later today.

Meanwhile, the Human Rights Watch (HRW) recently called on Yemeni authorities to probe the use of force against anti-government protesters in Sana'a and other cities.

The Houthi movement played a key role in the popular revolution that forced former dictator, Ali Abdullah Saleh, to step down in February 2012.

Hundreds of Kurds Enter Syria From Turkey to fight ISIL



Fighters of the Syrian Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) take position behind sand bags inside the Syrian town of Ras al-Ain.

ANKARA (Dispatches) – Over 300 Kurdish fighters have crossed into Syria from Turkey to battle the Takfiri ISIL terrorists operating inside the Arab country.

"They crossed over last night, they are more than 300," the so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) said on Saturday, adding that they joined the Syrian Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in their battle against the ISIL terror group as the cult tries to seize the town of Ain al-Arab, known as Kobane to the Kurds.

The ISIL Takfiris have been seeking to capture the strategic border town since Tuesday and have seized 60 Kurdish villages in the region.

A large number of Syrian Kurds have fled to Turkey due to the clashes in the area. Turkey opened its border on Friday to fleeing Kurds and has since received 45,000 people, according to authorities.

Meanwhile, the UK-based SOHR group noted that fighting continued on Saturday, with heavy clashes in the vicinity of Ain al-Arab, which is Syria's third largest Kurdish town.

The SOHR also said the ISIL terrorists have executed at least 11 Kurds, among them two teenagers, in the area around the town.

The Takfiri ISIL terrorists have seized large swathes of Iraq and Syria. They have carried out heinous crimes in the two countries including mass execution of people.

Syria has been gripped by deadly violence since 2011.

The Western powers and their regional allies -- especially Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey -- are reportedly supporting the terrorists operating inside Syria.

More than 191,000 people have been killed in over three years of fighting in Syria, says the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), calling the figure a probable "underestimate of the real total number of people killed."

On the other hand, Turkey has opened its southern border to allow thousands of Syrian Kurds fleeing the ISIL Takfiri group enter the country.

The terrorists have reportedly been closing in on Kurdish communities following the takeover of dozens of villages in Syria's Kurdish region.

TV footage showed groups of exhausted Syrian Kurds, most of them women and children, crossing into the southeastern Turkish village of Dikmetas on Friday.

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu told reporters in Azerbaijan Republic that more than 4,000 Syrian refugees were sheltered.

"We will take in our brothers fleeing ... from Syria or any other place without any ethnic or sectarian discrimination," Davutoglu said. "Their needs will be met. This is a humanitarian mission."

US Senate: Zionist Regime 'Major Strategic Partner'

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The United States has passed a bill strengthening relations with the Zionist regime and elevating Tel Aviv as its "major strategic partner".

Over three-quarters of US Senate members unanimously voted to the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act on Thursday.

Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Roy Blunt (R-MO) along with 81 co-sponsors authored the legislation out of a total of 100 Senators.

"America's long-standing relationship and strong cooperation with Israel dates back to the presidency of fellow Missourian Harry S. Truman," Senator Blunt said following the bill's passage.

The bill improves Israel's trade status and requires Washington and Tel Aviv increase cooperation on energy, water and other arenas.

It will also enhance the value of US weapons stockpiles in Israel by \$200 million to \$1.8 billion and

further facilitate Tel Aviv's access to the weaponry.

"I'm pleased the Senate has passed this bipartisan bill to reaffirm and broaden the important US-Israel alliance through security, energy, and trade during this critical time in the Middle East region," Blunt stated.

Furthermore, Israel will be able to benefit from the US visa waiver program. The bill makes Israel's inclusion into the program possible

and affirms its ability to join the visa waiver program "as long as she meets existing requirements".

The bill, if receives final approval from the White House, will guarantee the regime's long-term security over the next 10 years.

The Zionist regime had been regarded as "major non-NATO ally," of the United States since 1988.

An analogous bill was passed by the House of Representatives in March.

Afghan Presidential Vote Result to Be Announced Sunday

KABUL (AFP) – Afghanistan's Independent Election Commission (IEC) is due to announce the result of the country's disputed presidential election on Sunday.

"The IEC will officially announce the final result of the presidential election tomorrow," IEC spokesman, Noor Mohammad Noor, said on Saturday.

The announcement came as the two rival candidates, Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah, are holding last-minute talks on a power-sharing agreement.

According to Mujib Rahman Rahimi, a spokesman for Abdullah, the two candidates are preparing to ink a deal.

"They are set to meet again shortly today to reach a final agreement," he said, adding, "The IEC is not supposed to an-

nounce the final results before the agreement is finalized."

Meanwhile, Ghani's campaign team said it would issue an update on the talks later on Saturday.

The impasse between Ghani and Abdullah since the June 14 vote has plunged Afghanistan into a crisis. Both candidates claimed to have won the election, which was engulfed in allegations of massive fraud.

UN and Afghan election officials spent weeks auditing the results following the allegations of vote fraud while both candidates have said they are committed to a power-sharing government regardless of the election outcome.

Ghani, who won the election based on preliminary results, is set to become president, with



Afghan presidential candidates, Abdullah Abdullah (L) and Ashraf Ghani

Abdullah possibly taking on the role of "chief executive officer."

The winner will replace outgoing President Hamid Karzai, who has been in power since Washington and its allies invaded the

country in 2001.

Karzai, whose successor was initially set to be inaugurated on August 2, was constitutionally banned from standing for a third term in office.

US Generals Suppressing Laugh!

The uneasy relationship between the White House and US military is on full display as President Barack Obama and his top generals continue to clash over the new strategy to combat the ISIL terrorist organization.

Obama has authorized airstrikes against ISIL targets in Iraq and Syria, but has ruled out American boots on the ground in a combat role.

US military officials have complained privately for weeks that airstrikes alone would not be sufficient to achieve the announced goal of deafening ISIL.

The administration hopes the Iraqi military and vetted "moderate" Syrian terrorists would lead the ground offensive against ISIL.

"Half-hearted or tentative efforts, or airstrikes alone, can backfire on us and actually strengthen our foes' credibility," Retired Marine Gen. Martin Dempsey said.

US president Barak Obama, as believed by many Americans is not a brilliant politician.

My friend Jamshed, better known as Jimmy (the simple minded) thinks that on the whole Obama is not a smart guy. Commenting on the stance taken by Obama regarding ISIL he said, "The terrorist band of ISIL is certainly not as important as Obama wants his compatriots and his military generals to visualize and believe. It is true relationship between the White House and US military is uneasy. The generals do know ISIL and its potentialities because they had a major share in creating ISIL." Then Jimmy said: "In short, the demon (ISIL), as Obama wants the world to believe, is not at all an outstanding product produced by Obama who is now afraid of that demon." Jimmy continued: "The military generals must be suppressing their laugh when they see Obama in a state of fear."