

Washington Snubs Zionist War Minister

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The Obama administration has rejected the Zionist war minister’s requests to meet several high-ranking officials during his five-day visit to the United States this week.

Moshe Ya’alon met with US Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power.

But the White House and State

Department reportedly refused Israeli proposals for meetings with Vice President Joe Biden, National Security Advisor Susan Rice, and Secretary of State John Kerry.

Ya’alon has been critical of Kerry’s efforts to forge a peace deal between Tel Aviv and Palestinians.

Earlier in the year, he called Kerry’s efforts for Israeli-Palestinian peace “messianic and obsessive.”

In response, the State Department lashed out at Ya’alon for making “offensive and inappropriate” comments about Kerry.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said that the remarks are “offensive and inappropriate especially given all that the US is doing to support Israel’s security needs.”

In a recent interview, the controversial minister said the borders of

several Middle Eastern countries are bound to change in the future as a result of recent developments in the region.

Ya’alon added that the borders of some countries in the region were artificially drawn by the West.

He did not say whether the borders of the occupying regime, also drawn by Western powers after World War I, would change or not.

Bahrainis Protest Saudi Death Sentence Against Nimr

MANAMA (Press TV) – Demonstrators in Bahrain have taken to the streets in support of prominent Saudi Shia cleric Sheikh Nimr Baqir al-Nimr, who has been sentenced to death by Riyadh.

On Friday, protesters in the coastal village of Malikiyah and on the island of Sitra condemned Saudi Arabia for sentencing the dissident cleric to death and demanded his release.

On October 15, a Saudi court handed down the death penalty to Sheikh Nimr after convicting him of sedition.

The cleric was attacked and arrested in July 2012, accused of delivering anti-regime speeches and defending political prisoners.

In reaction to the sentence, people took to streets in the Saudi city of Qatif to condemn the move. There have also been demonstrations in other countries.

On Friday, a senior Iranian cleric warned Saudi Arabia against executing the death sentence.

“We warn Saudi Arabia...



Demonstrators in Bahrain have taken to the streets in support of prominent Saudi Shia cleric Sheikh Nimr Baqir al-Nimr.

that this government will pay a heavy price for a [possible] execution of a Shia cleric,” Ayatollah Mohammad Ali Movahhedi Kermani told worshippers at the

weekly Friday prayers in Tehran.

Human rights activists say the sentence issued for Sheikh Nimr was politically motivated.

Amnesty International has de-

nounced the verdict, calling it “appalling”.

Rights groups say Bahrain and Saudi Arabia are committing systematic human rights abuses.

Pentagon:

First US Soldier Died In Offensive Against ISIL



US Army Special Forces on operations in Iraq

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The first American military member has been killed in the US-led offensive against the ISIL terrorist group

in Iraq, the Pentagon announced.

Lance Cpl. Sean P. Neal of Riverside, California, was killed in Baghdad on Thursday during what

described by the Pentagon as a non-combat-related incident.

However, the death of the 19-year-old soldier is being investigated, the US Defense Ministry said in a statement.

Neal was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment. He was fighting against ISIL terrorists as part of a Marine task force.

The Pentagon statement came as the US Navy said early in October that Cpl. Jordan L. Spears, 21, who ejected from an Osprey troop transporter in the Persian Gulf, died as the first marine in the campaigns.

Spears was first “presumed lost at sea,” but was eventually identified by the Corps on October 3 following a long search.

Even the Pentagon spokesman John Kirby confirmed the Navy re-

ported. Kirby said “there’s no question that this Marine’s death is related to the operations that are going on in some form or fashion.”

The Pentagon launched airstrikes against ISIL targets in Iraq in August. A US-led coalition also began military campaign against the group in Syria last month.

The ISIL terrorists currently control large swaths of territory across Syria and Iraq. They have carried out heinous atrocities in both countries, including mass executions and beheadings of people.

The Pentagon says the US and its allies have dropped more than 1,700 bombs in air assault on the group in Iraq and Syria. It added that out of 632 bombing raids, Washington’s allies conducted only 79 of the airstrikes.

US:

Palestinian Teenager Killed By Zionist Troops Was American

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – The US State Department has confirmed that a Palestinian teenager who was killed by Zionist troops in the West Bank was an American citizen.

“The United States expresses its deepest condolences to the family of a US citizen minor who was killed by the Israeli Defense Forces during clashes in Silwad on October

24,” State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said.

She also called for a “speedy and transparent investigation.”

American officials would remain “closely engaged with the local authorities, who have the lead on this investigation,” according to the spokeswoman.

On Friday, Zionist troops killed Orwa Hammad, 14, during clashes

near the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah.

Hammad was born in New Orleans and came to the West Bank at age six, one of his relatives said.

He was shot in the head after clashes erupted between Palestinian protesters and Israeli forces in Silwad, located northeast of Ramallah.

According to reports, several protesters also suffered injuries and a

number of others were arrested during skirmishes with Zionist troops in and around the Palestinian city of al-Quds.

Tensions rose on Wednesday after Zionist troops shot dead a Palestinian driver.

Tel Aviv accused the man of deliberately ramming his car into a train station, but his family said it was a car accident.

Rendezvous... (Continued From Page One)

asked to be identified only by his first name, Mustafa, said that late last month, he saw three tall blond men wandering around and approached them to ask if he could help.

Mustafa, an earnest 25-year-old Syrian who wore jeans and a Levi’s shirt, said the men were dressed in shorts, sneakers and long shirts and apparently did not speak Arabic.

One of them addressed him in English and asked how to get to ISIL territory.

“The accent was 100% American,” he recalled. “I watch movies. His accent wasn’t British or anything else.”

He told the men about a nearby crossing and offered to take them there. They set an appointment to meet, but he said the three men never showed up.

Other smugglers backed his account of an ISIL crossing point close to a refugee camp in Kilis, and also mentioned one further east near the Syrian city of Jarablus.

Sipping tea in a black leather jacket, sandals and baseball cap in a cafe in Kilis, a smuggler who identified himself as Abu Muhammad said a Frenchman, his wife and two children approached him early this month. The woman was wearing a hijab, but he could see blond eyebrows and blue eyes. One of the kids was about 3; the other a baby.

He gave his fee as 20 Turkish lira, just under \$9. He splits that with a driver, who brings the travelers to a hole cut in the fence.

Nothing stops them from bringing light weapons through. “You can take over, say, five AK-47s in a bag like this,” he said, indicating with his hands the size of a normal duffel bag.

As he spoke, another smuggler stood on a terrace with three men sealing a deal to cross the border.

Italians... (Continued From Page One)

“We have no intention of giving up. Renzi must know that to change the country, he needs us, those here in the streets of Rome today,” said Maurizio Landini, head of the FIOM union, which joined the CGIL protest.

Renzi’s center-left Democratic Party (PD) is split over the proposed measures, with the deepest division caused by a debate over the future of Article 18, a law which currently protects those who are unfairly dismissed.

In his bid to reboot Italy’s economy and lure in foreign investors, the premier wants to make it easier for companies to fire people and introduce a system by which job protection and benefits are earned by workers over time.

But unions and many on the left are furious over the mooted changes and he has been accused of being a “Thatcherite” -- a term referring to Britain’s former prime minister Margaret Thatcher, who broke unions and did away with job protections in a single-minded push to liberalize her country’s economy.

While Italians are quick to take to the streets to protest, Saturday’s rally was the first large demonstration against the PD by the unions, a sign of a fraying of historic ties that bind the two groups.

The 39-year-old prime minister was in Florence on Saturday when the demonstration -- which included some rebels from the PD -- took place. He was addressing the “Leopolda”, an annual meeting he founded in 2009 to bring leaders and the public together to talk about the future of Italy.

Renzi sought to minimize any impact the rally might have on policy. “I have great respect for the protest, but the era in which protests can block the government and the country are over,” he said.

Italy narrowly escaped its third recession in the last six years this month thanks mainly to a change in the was economic data was calculated across the European Union. But the country still has forecast a debt-to-GDP ratio of 133.4% in 2015 -- more than twice the EU ceiling.

“The CGIL is protesting against a reform which aims to create work. It is protesting to defend the past, but we want to build a future for our young people,” deputy prime minister Angelino Alfano said.

Prospects... (Continued From Page One)

at ending the longstanding dispute over the Islamic Republic’s nuclear energy program as a November 24 deadline approaches.

Sources close to the Iranian negotiating team say the main stumbling block in the way of resolving the Western disputes over Iran’s nuclear energy program remains to

be the removal of all the sanctions imposed on Iran and not the number of centrifuges or the level of enrichment.

Tehran wants the sanctions entirely lifted while the U.S., under pressure from the pro-Israeli lobby, insists that at least the UN-imposed sanctions against Iran should remain in place.

Araqchi said prospects for reaching a deal by the November 24 deadline are not good, and urged the P5+1 world powers to abandon their “excessive demands”.

“The negotiations between Iran and the P5+1 are going ahead on a tough path filled with ups and downs where there is no good prospect for the conclusion of the talks by the deadline,” said Araqchi, according to Tasnim news agency.

On Thursday, Sherman seemed to alter nate between skepticism over Iran’s negotiating position and praise for progress made thus far in an address on Thursday.

Araqchi said, “Undoubtedly, attempting to launch negotiations through media outlets rather than (sitting at the) negotiation table and declaring political demands, once accompanied by illogical excessive demands, will not only not help the progress of the talks, but also will make the present tough path more difficult or impossible.”

Speaking at the Center for Security and International Studies, Sherman talked up U.S. willingness to reach a deal with Tehran, while still casting doubts as to whether such a deal could be reached by November 24. Still, she stressed her desire for a successful resolution of the negotiating process, telling the Iranians that the coming month marked their “best chance” and that now was the time to “finish the job”.

Araqchi indicated that Iran would continue to negotiate until the target date.

“We also believe that the existing opportunity is a great chance which may not be available for neither side again. We are certain that if the other side adheres to its declared objective in the negotiations, that is making sure that Iran’s nuclear program is peaceful, realizing this goal is not that difficult,” said the Iranian official.

In her address, Sherman detailed advances that occurred under the Joint Plan of Action interim agreement reached last year, including Iran halting the expansion of its overall enrichment capacity; capping its stockpile of low-enriched uranium hexafluoride; stopping the production of uranium enriched to 20%; agreeing not to make further advances at the Arak heavy water reactor; and opening the door to “unprecedented daily access for international inspectors to the facilities at Natanz and Fordo”.

Significant hurdles remain, however. “We are aware, of course, that this negotiating process is, shall we say, controversial,” Sherman said.

The US government has come out of those discussions with a reinforced conviction that diplomacy with Iran is worth the risk, Sherman emphasized.

U.S. Congress could prove an obstacle in this regard, given threats by Democrats and Republicans to institute new sanctions if the deal isn’t to their liking.

Germany... (Continued From Page 2)

In late July, IKCO announced plans to establish a joint venture with equal shares with French automakers Renault and PSA Peugeot Citroen to produce four new vehicles in Iran, including Peugeot 301, Peugeot 2008, Clio4 and Capture.

The developments came after the two French automakers showed interest in taking back the significant market position they enjoyed before the U.S.-led sanctions on Iran were toughened in 2012 over the country’s nuclear energy program.

In February 2012, PSA Peugeot Citroen stopped its trade with Iran when the sanctions against the Islamic Republic were extended to the automobile sector. It also halted its exports of vehicles to Iran, which accounted for around 13 percent of the firm’s global deliveries in 2011. It cost the automaker an annual loss of half a million car sales and an estimated 1.5 billion euros in lost revenue last year.

Renault was forced in July 2013 to halt completely knocked-down (CKD) shipments to Iran. It reported a huge fall in profits for the first half of 2013 after writing off the entire value of its business in Iran. The firm suffered a loss of 512 million euros (\$680 million) after halting its activities in the Islamic Republic.

The automakers hope to return to Iran market as Iran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council - China, Russia, Britain, France, and the United States - plus Germany are drafting a final deal on the Islamic Republic’s nuclear energy program with a view to removing sanctions against Tehran.

The two sides clinched a landmark interim deal in the Swiss city of Geneva on November 24, 2013.