

Russian PM:

Ankara Defends ISIL; Turkish Officials Have Interests in Oil Trade with Group

MOSCOW (FNA) – Some Turkish officials have ‘direct financial interest’ in the oil trade with the ISIL terrorist group, Russian PM Dmitry Medvedev said as he detailed possible Russian retaliation to Turkey’s downing of a Russian warplane in Syria on Tuesday.

“Turkey’s actions are de facto protection of Islamic State (of Iraq and the Levant),” Medvedev said, RT reported. “This is no surprise, considering the information we have about direct financial interest of some Turkish officials relating to the supply of oil products refined by plants controlled by ISIS (ISIL).”

“The reckless and criminal actions of the Turkish authorities... have caused a dangerous escalation of relations between Russia and NATO, which cannot be justified by any interest, including protection of state borders,” Medvedev said.

According to the PM, Russia is considering canceling several important projects with Turkey and barring Turkish companies from the Russian market. Russia has already recommended its citizens not to travel to Turkey, citing terrorist threats, resulting in several tourist operators withdrawing tours to Turkey from the market.

Russia may further scrap a gas pipeline project, aimed at turning Turkey into a major transit country for Russian natural gas going to Europe, and the construction of the country’s first nuclear power plant.

Turkey shot down a Russian bomber over Syria on Tuesday, claiming the aircraft had violated Turkish airspace. Russia says no violation took place and considers the hostile act as ‘a stab in the back’ and direct assistance to terrorist forces in Syria.

New Clashes Between Turkey Army, PKK Leave Six Dead

ANKARA (Dispatches) – At least six people have been killed in fresh skirmishes between Turkish security forces and members of the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK) in Turkey’s southeastern province of Sirnak.

The provincial governor’s office, in a statement released on Tuesday, said a police officer lost his life during a clean-up operation against PKK fighters.

The statement added that five Kurdish militants were also killed as they engaged in fierce exchange of gunfire with Turkish security personnel.

The development took place only hours after one Turkish police officer was killed and another sustained injuries in a surprise attack by a group of unidentified gunmen against security forces in the country’s southeastern province of Sanliurfa.

Security sources, speaking on

condition of anonymity, said 31-year-old police officer, Serdal Toprak, and his comrade, Sinan Sengul, were on patrol in the Siverek district of the province, situated some 1,000 kilometers (621 miles) east of the capital, Ankara, early on Tuesday when unknown attackers opened fire on them.

Both policemen sustained gunshot wounds, and were transferred to Siverek State Hospital, where Toprak succumbed to his injuries.

Ankara has been engaged in a large-scale military campaign against the PKK in its southern border region in the recent past. The Turkish military has been also conducting offensives against the positions of the PKK in northern Iraq.

The operations began in the wake of a deadly July 20 bombing in the southern Turkish town of Suruc, an ethnically Kurdish town located close to border with Syria.



Turkish police officers carry the coffin of a comrade during his funeral at the police headquarters in Diyarbakir, southeastern Turkey.

Over 30 people died in the Suruc attack, which the Turkish government blamed on Takfiri ISIL terrorists.

After the bombing in Suruc, the PKK militants, who accuse the

government in Ankara of supporting ISIL, engaged in a series of supposed reprisal attacks against Turkish police and security forces, in turn prompting the Turkish military operations.

NATO Spy Drone Goes Down in Central Afghanistan

KABUL (Press TV) – An unmanned aerial vehicle belonging to the US-led NATO has reportedly gone down in Afghanistan’s central province of Parwan.

Saifullah Baidar, a provincial administrative chief, said on Wednesday that the drone crashed in the Kohi Safi district of the province, located 30 kilometers (18.6 miles) northeast of the capital, Kabul, at around 10 p.m. local time (1730 GMT) on Tuesday.

He said the drone was on a surveillance mission in the area when it crashed.

Taliban spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, claimed the group’s fighters had brought down the unmanned aircraft.

Separately, Afghan authorities said two people have lost their lives in a US drone strike in the Asian country’s troubled eastern province of Nangarhar.

Colonel Hazrat Hussain Mashriqiwal, a spokesman for the Nangarhar

provincial police department, said the aerial attack took place in the Moman Dara district of the province, which is located 120 kilometers (74 miles) east of the Afghan capital, Kabul, on Tuesday afternoon, and that those killed in the assault were members of the Taliban militant group.

The CIA spy agency regularly uses drones for airstrikes and spying missions in Afghanistan as well as Pakistan’s northwestern tribal belt near the Afghan border.

Washington has been also conducting targeted killings through remotely-controlled armed drones in Somalia and Yemen. The US says the airstrikes target members of al-Qaeda and other militants, but according to local officials and witnesses, civilians have in most cases been the victims of the attacks.

The United Nations says the US drone attacks are “targeted killings” that flout international law.

Iraq Forces Gain More Grounds Against ISIL in Ramadi



Iraqi volunteer fighters fighting alongside the government forces fire a rocket during a military operation against ISIL as they advance towards the center of Baiji, north of Baghdad.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraqi military forces and volunteer fighters have retaken more than half of

the areas controlled by the Takfiri ISIL terrorists in the city of Ramadi, west of the country.

A spokesman for Iraq’s Counter-Terrorism Force said on Tuesday that the allied forces have managed to liberate 22 neighborhoods from a total of 39 in Ramadi, the capital of Anbar Province.

Samir al-Shovaili said the pro-government forces have inched closer on ISIL terrorists inside Ramadi, forcing them to hide out in the central parts of the city. He said between 50 and 100 ISIL terrorists were killed in a fresh operation in the city earlier in the day while huge losses were inflicted on their vehicles and ammunition depots.

Other officials said the Iraqi forces have completely purged the terrorists from a key district in Ramadi: the 5 Kilometer area. Reports also said 22 civilians who were used by ISIL as human shields have been freed by Iraqi forces.

Ramadi has been one of the two major bastions of ISIL in Iraq, along Mosul, the capital of the northern province of Nineveh. The terrorist group launched its offensive in Iraq in July 2014 carrying out mass executions and killings inside the towns and villages.

Pro-government forces have managed to push back the terrorists from some of their major strongholds, including the cities of Tikrit and Baiji in Salahuddin Province, while the operation continues to liberate Ramadi and Mosul.

The United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq says a total of 714 Iraqis were killed and 1,269 wounded in acts of terror, violence and armed conflict in October alone. A great portion of the fatalities was recorded in the capital, Baghdad, where 298 civilians were killed.

Leader...

(Continued From Page One)

attractions in order to change beliefs, ideals, views and lifestyle of the nation.

Praising Iran’s Basij force as an “unending treasure”, the Leader warned that those people who accuse Basij of being extremist and radical “are completing the enemy’s infiltration project”.

“Basij is among strong embankments which should not be undermined,” Ayatollah Khamenei said.

No...

(Continued From Page One)

It’s very similar to a planned provocation,” Lavrov said during a news conference in Moscow.

Asked whether he thought the incident could escalate into a conflict, Lavrov said, “We do not intend to fight with Turkey; our relationship with the Turkish people has not changed. There are just questions that have arisen for the Turkish government.”

The plane’s other pilot, Lieutenant Colonel Oleg Peshkov, was killed after he ejected, according to Russian defense officials. Putin said Peshkov will be awarded the Gold Star of the Hero of Russia medal, one of Russia’s highest military honors.

Simultaneously, Russia’s defense ministry announced it would be deploying advanced anti-aircraft missile systems to Syria, close to where the incident happened to prevent further attacks of its planes conducting strikes there.

The downing -- the first of a Russian plane by a NATO aircraft since the 1950s -- has prompted a diplomatic crisis between Russia and Turkey and added yet another tangle to the intractable Syrian conflict.

Russia has been supporting the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad with an air campaign for the past two months. Turkey, which is deeply opposed to Assad, has been supporting terrorist groups with arms and money.

Putin has accused Turkey of supporting terrorism, calling it an “accomplice of terrorists”. The incident has caused a sharp breach in Russian-Turkish relations, with Russia’s foreign ministry recommending Russian citizens stop visiting Turkey and most major tour operators halting sales of trips there.

Five...

(Continued From Page One)

Minister of Petroleum Bijan Zangeneh has said a French company and the Belgians were interested in floating production of liquefied natural gas off the Kharg Island. Germany’s industrial gases maker Linde has also indicated its readiness to join Iran’s LNG projects.

Iran is the world’s fourth biggest producer of natural gas, with 173 billion cubic meters (bcm) a year. It plans to double output to more than 1 bcm a day in the next four years, Araqi said on Tuesday.

Exports, however, are limited amid soaring residential demand which has made the country the world’s fourth biggest gas consumer after the US, Russia and China. On Tuesday, Zangeneh warned that Iran might turn into a net importer of gas in the next few years if consumption is not checked.

More than 50 bcm is also used to fuel power plants, while plentiful amount of gas is injected into Iranian oilfields to boost production.

Iran currently exports about 10 bcm a year to Turkey, Azerbaijan and Armenia through pipelines and imports gas from Turkmenistan for use in its northern provinces which are far from hydrocarbon reserves in the country’s south.

Several gas production projects are in different stages of implementation which mainly includes development of the giant South Pars field.

According Araqi, negotiations are underway with five neighboring countries for starting or boosting gas exports.

Deals for starting gas flow to Iraq and Pakistan in the “near future” has been finalized while there are talks to build pipelines to India, Oman and Kuwait and additional capacities for exports to Turkey and Iraq, he said.

“Iran’s gas production capacity will reach 330 bcm a year in 2017 which will make it possible to increase exports,” Araqi said.

Kayhan International
Advertising Dept.
33110251-9
Ext. 2336