

DAMASCUS (AFP) – Russia says a member of the country’s Naval Infantry was killed after his Mi-8 helicopter made an emergency landing shortly after coming under terrorist fire in northwestern Syria. A Tuesday statement by Chief of the Main Operational Directorate of the General Staff of the Russian Armed Forces Lieutenant General Sergei Rudskoy said that two Mi-8 helicopters had been deployed to the region to conduct a search-and-rescue operation to retrieve the two pilots aboard a Russian warplane that had been shot down by Turkish fighter jets earlier in the day.

O son of Adam, when you see that your Lord, the Glorified, bestows His Favors on you while you disobey Him, you should fear Him (take warning that His Wrath may not turn those very blessings into misfortunes).

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Erdogan:

Turkey Does Not Want Escalation With Russia

ANKARA (Dispatches) – Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan says Ankara does not want any escalation with Moscow following Turkey’s recent downing of a Russian fighter jet inside Syria.

“We have no intention to escalate this incident. We are just defending our security and the rights of our brothers,” Erdogan said in a televised speech from the Turkish city of Istanbul on Wednesday.

No one should expect Turkey “to

remain silent” when its border security is violated, he added.

On Tuesday morning, Turkey shot down a Russian Su-24M Fencer jet with two pilots aboard, claiming the warplane had violated its airspace. One of the pilots was killed by terrorists in Syria after ejecting out of the targeted jet and another was rescued by the Syrian army.

Russia denies all of Ankara’s claims, saying that the jet was downed in Syrian airspace, where

Moscow has been carrying out operations against ISIL Takfiri terrorists since September 30 upon a request by the Damascus government.

Based on radar imaging from Russia’s Hmeymim airbase in Syria, a Turkish jet actually violated Syrian airspace to attack the Russian warplane.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday that the aircraft was downed over the territory of

Syria with an air-to-air missile from a Turkish F-16, adding that it fell on the Syrian territory.

Putin also denounced the attack as a “stab in the back” administered by “the accomplices of terrorists.”

Furthermore, an unnamed US official told Reuters that based on the detection of the heat signature of the Russian jet, Washington believes that the aircraft was hit inside Syrian airspace.

Palestinian Authority:

3,500 Gaza Patients Threatened By Rafah Closure



A Palestinian ambulance waits to cross into Egypt at the Rafah border crossing in the southern Gaza Strip.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Palestinian officials have warned about the deteriorating health conditions of thousands of patients in the besieged Gaza Strip following Egypt’s closure of the Rafah crossing.

The spokesperson for the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza, Ashraf al-Qidra, said that some 3,500 Palestinian patients are in dire need of medical treatment in the coastal sliver which is under the Zionist regime’s siege.

Qidra warned that Palestinians were eagerly waiting for the Rafah crossing, along the Gaza Strip’s border with Egypt, to open as they must travel to the neighboring country in order to receive much-needed treatment.

He called on the International Red Cross and human rights organizations to pressure Egypt to open the Rafah crossing and to allow patients to travel to receive medical treatment.

The crossing was last opened for four days in August. Following its closure, Palestinian border of-

ficial Maher Abu Sabha expressed hope that the crossing would soon “reopen in both directions permanently.”

The Rafah crossing serves as the only gateway out of the blockaded Palestinian territory bypassing Israel, which closed all other crossings several years ago.

It has only been open for a total of two weeks since the start of the year.

Cairo tightened the restrictions on the border crossing after the Egyptian military ousted former President Mohammed Morsi in a 2013 coup.

Dozens of Palestinian patients have lost their lives due to a lack of medicine and medical supplies since the regime imposed a blockade against the impoverished Gaza Strip, which is home to some 1.8 million people, in 2007.

In August, the Palestinian resistance movement, Hamas, warned that some 17,000 Palestinians were in urgent need to leave the strip for medical assistance.

Yemeni Army, Allied Fighters Kill Dozens of Saudi Mercenaries

SANAA (Press TV) – The Yemeni army, backed by Popular Committees loyal to the Houthis Ansarullah movement, has killed dozens of Saudi mercenaries in a retaliatory attack in the southwestern Yemeni province of Ta’izz.

According to a report by Yemen’s official Saba Net news agency, Yemeni forces also liberated the al-Kasarah and Ra’as al-Najd districts of Ta’izz from Saudi forces late on Tuesday.

Ansarullah fighters also destroyed a Saudi tank in the al-Omari district of Ta’izz.

Also on Tuesday, two Yemeni civilians were killed in a Saudi airstrike on the al-Rahedah district of Ta’izz.

In another development, Saudi fighter jets mistakenly bombarded the Riyadh-allied militants who fight against Ansarullah forces in Yemen’s southern province of Shabwah, killing 18 of them.

In a similar incident, Saudi warplanes targeted their allied militants in the central province of Ma’rib four times.

Yemen has been witnessing



This file photo shows Ansarullah fighters in the Yemeni capital, Sana’a.

ceaseless military attacks by Saudi Arabia since late March. The military strikes are supposedly meant to undermine the Ansarullah movement and bring

Hadi back to power.

The Saudi aggression has reportedly claimed the lives of more than 7,500 people and injured over 14,000 others. The

strikes have also taken a heavy toll on the impoverished country’s facilities and infrastructure, destroying many hospitals, schools, and factories

Syrian Army Making More Advances Against Terrorists



Syrian pro-government forces walk at a military airbase in the northern province of Aleppo.

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Syrian armed forces have succeeded in taking control of more strategic areas across the Arab country, targeting positions of Takfiri terrorist

groups operating against the government of President Bashar al-Assad.

Army units and allied forces established control over several areas and a village in the north-

eastern countryside of the western province of Latakia, the official SANA news agency quoted a Syrian military source as saying on Tuesday.

The Syrian army also made significant gains in other provinces, killing a number of terrorists and destroying their arms and munitions.

According to SANA, the Syrian air force launched intensive strikes against positions and hideouts of the ISIL Takfiri terrorists and the al-Qaeda-linked al-Nusra Front terrorists in the eastern and northern countryside of the central province of Homs.

The foreign-backed terrorists suffered heavy losses as a number of their members were killed in the attacks and their weapons and ammunition destroyed.

Similar air raids were carried out

in the villages and countryside of the provinces of Hama and Aleppo against positions and vehicles belonging to the Takfiri terrorists.

Syrian forces in the southwestern province of Dara’a hit terrorists’ vehicles and hideouts, while army units fired two guided missiles at a vehicle and a hideout of terrorists in the northwestern province of Idlib on the border with Hama.

Syrian forces have recently made rapid advances against the Takfiri terrorists, who are committing heinous crimes against all ethnic and religious groups, in several parts of the crisis-hit country.

The advances of the Syrian government forces against ISIL and other terrorist groups have been expedited by the air cover provided by Russia, which began on September 30 at the request of the Damascus government.

Afghan Forces Start Operation to Rescue Captured Soldiers

KABUL (Press TV) – Afghan security forces have launched an operation to rescue the soldiers that were taken into captivity by the Taliban terrorist group after their helicopter made an emergency landing in a territory under the militants’ control.

“Security forces have started a clearance operation to free the captives,” the Afghan Defense Ministry said in a statement released on Wednesday.

A security source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a Russian-built Mil Mi-17 helicopter, with 17 Afghan army soldiers on board, was flying from Balkh’s provincial capital city of Mazar-i-Sharif to the northern province of Faryab on Tuesday when it performed an emergency landing in the Pashtun Kot district due to poor weather conditions.

Three troops reportedly died in the landing, and then Taliban militants attacked the aircraft and took the other soldiers hostage.

Faryab is among the relatively volatile provinces in northern Afghanistan, where militant groups are actively operating in a number of its districts and often perpetrate

acts of terror.

Meanwhile, Afghan forces have killed more than two dozen Taliban militants and wounded a number of others in a series of clean-up operations across the strife-torn country over the past 24 hours.

The Afghan Interior Ministry said in a statement on Wednesday that 31 militants were killed, six injured and two others arrested in a series of operations carried out in the provinces of Faryab, Ghor, Helmand, Jowzjan, Kunar, Laghman, Nangarhar and Paktia.

The statement, however, did not provide any information about potential casualties among soldiers and security forces.

Afghan soldiers also confiscated light and heavy weaponry and defused several rounds of improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Afghanistan is gripped by insecurity 14 years after the United States and its allies attacked the country as part of Washington’s so-called war on terror. Although the 2001 attack overthrew the Taliban, many areas across Afghanistan still face violence and insecurity.