

Zionist Regime Plans to Severely Restrict Arab Home Construction

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – On the orders of Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, the parliament is debating whether to make a law restricting Arab residence in the occupied territories even more stringent.

According to Israeli rights group Mossawa Center, which advocates the rights of the Arabs in the occupied territories, the Kaminitz Bill aims to accelerate the demolition of Palestinian homes.

The motion, which also criminalizes “unauthorized” housing and construction by Palestinians, is expected to pass its final reading in the Knesset next week, the group said.

The Mossawa Center explained how the regime’s authorities have restricted the expansion of Arab communities in the occupied territories.

The Zionist regime, it said, “has allocated lands and provided planning services for over 600 Jewish communities since its establishment in 1948, yet it has not created a single Arab locality aside from the seven it established to concentrate the Bedouin community in the south.”



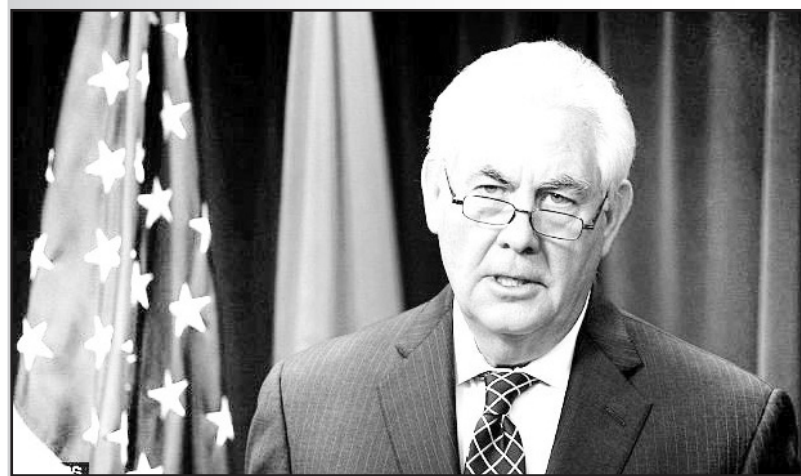
The Zionist regime’s police detain a Bedouin protester on January 18, 2017 in the village of Umm al-Hiran near Beersheba in the Negev desert.

The occupying regime also refuses to recognize many of the pre-existing Arab villages, it added. The occupying regime, instead, has shown a “deliberate unwillingness to approve master plans for Arab localities and

distribute building permits [that] has given rise to a housing shortage in official Arab localities, leaving many with no option other than to build and inhabit structures that are not officially recognized.”

U.S. Secretary of State Confirms:

Blair Offered to Help Trump in Middle East



U.S. State Secretary Rex Tillerson confirmed that former British prime minister Tony Blair has offered to help U.S. President Donald Trump win a Middle East deal.

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has confirmed to the British government that former British prime minister Tony Blair has offered to help U.S. President Donald Trump win a Middle East deal.

Tillerson gave details of Blair’s involvement after The Mail on Sunday revealed last week he had visited the White

House 11 days ago to discuss the issue with the President’s son-in-law Jared Kushner.

Kushner has been tasked by Trump with achieving the ‘ultimate deal’ – “peace” between the Zionist regime and Palestinians.

News of Blair’s White House talks came as a total surprise to current British Prime Minister Theresa May, Boris Johnson

and Britain’s Ambassador in Washington, Kim Darroch. Embarrassed British officials said the first they knew about Blair’s visit was when they read it in this newspaper. Some expressed surprise that Blair had not told them in advance.

American State Department and White House officials told Downing Street and the Foreign Office that this newspaper’s account was accurate: Blair had offered to help Kushner’s Middle East effort – and the Trump administration had ‘taken his approach seriously’.

Shortly after meeting Kushner for three hours in the White House West Wing on March 1, Blair jetted to the occupied territories for talks with Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s team. Kushner, 36, has close family ties with Netanyahu.

He first met Netanyahu as a child when the Zionist prime minister visited Kushner’s fa-

ther, a Jewish U.S. property magnate. Kushner junior, who is married to Trump’s daughter Ivanka, 35, introduced Trump to Netanyahu and is credited with persuading the U.S. president to take a much more pro-Zionist stance.

One official said: ‘The basis of Mr Blair’s approach was that he has years of experience of Middle East politics and in particular has much better Arab contacts than anyone in the White House.’

After leaving No 10 in 2007, Blair was the so-called Middle East peace envoy, appointed by the EU, Russia, U.S. and United Nations.

A senior diplomatic source said: ‘Blair has offered to help Kushner and the White House and they are very interested. They think his general diplomatic and Middle East background could be useful.’ However, many analysts believe that his policies yielded no results.

Bennett...

(Continued From Page One)

of which he gave a number of interviews to the Egyptian media. “As long as Israel occupies land and covets the natural resources of Lebanon, and as long as the Lebanese military lacks the power to stand up to Israel, (Hezbollah’s) arms are essential, in that they complement the actions of the army and do not contradict them,” he said, adding, “They are a major part of Lebanon’s defense.”

Turkey...

(Continued From Page One)

“There is no prospect of entry in the long run. Turkey is getting further and further away from the European Union. Support programs (that it gets as an EU candidate) are therefore a waste of taxpayers’ money,” he said in a statement.

“It is time that the EU stops performing like a diplomatic paper tiger toward Ankara. Europe must not be led by the nose round the Turkish election arena.”

European Parliament Vice President Alexander Graff Lambsdorff demanded a ban on Turkish ministers campaigning in the EU.

“The European Union should agree on a line that Turkish ministers are not allowed to campaign in the EU,” he said.

“The Dutch are showing how it is done, the German government pussyfoots around ... in that way Turkey can try to play one country off the other,” he told Die Welt newspaper.

Erdogan’s spokesman said the Netherlands had bowed to anti-Islam sentiment.

“Shame on the Dutch government for succumbing to anti-Islam racists and fascists, and damaging long-standing Turkey-NL relations,” spokesman Ibrahim Kalin tweeted.

In a sign the row might spread further, the owner of a venue in Sweden where a senior official from Turkey’s ruling party had been due to hold a rally on Sunday canceled the rental contract, Turkey’s private Dogan news agency reported.

The news agency said the owner had not given a reason for the decision.

Cavusoglu also decided against traveling to Switzerland for an event on Sunday after failing to find a suitable venue. Zurich’s security authorities had unsuccessfully lobbied the federal government in Bern to ban Cavusoglu’s appearance.

France ...

(Continued From Page One)

There has been no claim of responsibility. The Hezbollah-run Al-Manar TV station said it was carried out by two suicide bombers.

Syrian President Bashar Assad has been supported in the country’s war by volunteers from countries including Iraq, Afghanistan and Lebanon.

Russia ...

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The flotilla is the fourth fleet dispatched by the Iranian Navy to its northern waters. The Navy has previously sent three fleets to Russia and one to Azerbaijan.

The Caspian Flotilla is the oldest Russian military fleet stationed in the Caspian Sea.

The 44th flotilla of the Iranian Navy successfully ended its five-month mission in the high seas and returned home on Saturday.

The flotilla, consisting of the Alvand destroyer and the Bushehr logistic support vessel, succeeded in circumnavigating the African continent and sailed into the Atlantic Ocean for the first time in November 2016.

A Pakistan Navy’s flotilla of warships was scheduled to berth at the southern Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas on Sunday for a three-day stay.

In October 2016, the 43rd flotilla of the Iranian Navy participated in a joint relief and rescue drill with Pakistani naval forces in waters off the port city of Karachi.

Massive Protest Held in Turkey Against Post-Coup Crackdown

ANKARA (Press TV) – A group of Turkish journalists and opposition lawmakers have launched a protest in Istanbul against Ankara’s massive crackdown on reporters and media following the last July coup attempt against President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

A crowd of some 50 people chanted “Journalism is not a crime” and “We will not remain silent,” during the Saturday rally.

“Many jailed journalists are not allowed to receive letters under the state of emergency conditions,” opposition lawmaker Baris Yarkadas said.

After the failed coup, Turkey introduced a state of emergency and launched a sweeping crackdown on those believed to have played a role in the attempted putsch.

The massive crackdown has resulted in the imprisonment of 40,000 people and the firing of some 110,000 others.

Over 100 journalists are currently in detention in Turkey, Reporters Without Borders says, while according to Turkish Journalists’ Associations, about 170 media outlets have been shut down and 800 press cards revoked.

Turkey has also jailed or expelled foreign correspondents for The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Die Welt, and the French website Les Jours.

In February, Turkey arrested Die Welt journalist Deniz Yucel, whom Erdogan has described as both a German spy and a representative of the outlawed militant group Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK). The arrest triggered a row between Ankara and Berlin.



A Turkish protester holds a copy of the latest edition of opposition newspaper “Cumhuriyet” during a demonstration outside the daily’s headquarters in Istanbul on November 2, 2016.

Turkey accuses Germany of directly supporting anti-Ankara Kurdish militants.

Chancellor Angela Merkel has underlined Berlin’s determination to do all in its power to secure the release of Yucel.

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