

KABUL (FNA) – Afghanistan's security forces killed at least 18 Taliban militants in the country's Northern province of Faryab on Tuesday, the Afghan Defense Ministry said in a statement.

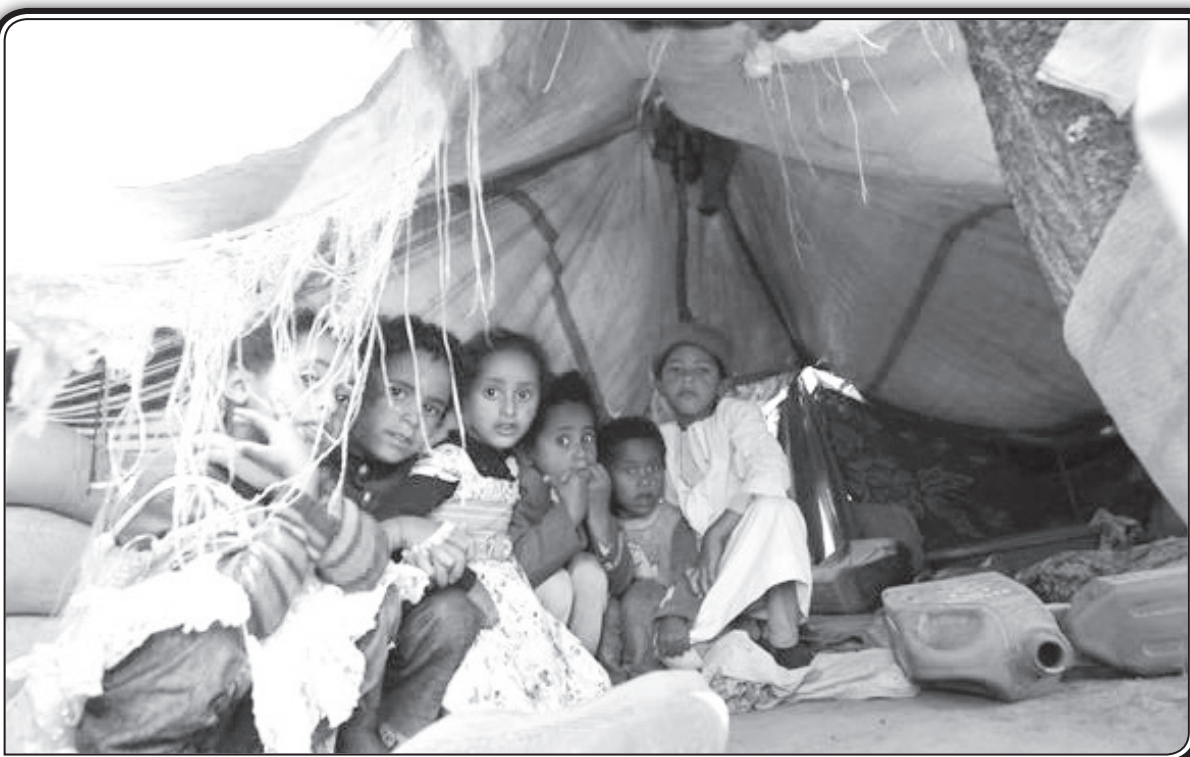
Eight other militants were severely injured and two vehicles were destroyed during the joint operation by the Afghanistan Army's infantry and the air forces, according to the statement, Khaama Press reported.

The Faryab province remains unstable amid active operations of the militant groups in the region.

So He made hypocrisy to follow as a consequence into their hearts till the day when they shall meet Him because they failed to perform towards Allah what they had promised with Him and because they told lies.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

UN Agencies Warn of 'Food Emergency' in Yemen



Yemeni children are seen inside a tent at a makeshift camp housing internally displaced persons (IDPs) on the outskirts of the capital, Sana'a.

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – Two UN agencies have warned of acute food shortages and a hunger crisis amounting to an "emergency" in Yemen, where Saudi Arabia has been waging a deadly war for some 15 months.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Food

Programme, in a report published on Tuesday, announced that food insecurity in Yemen has intensified significantly over the past year, and three million Yemeni children are currently at risk of malnutrition.

"At least seven million people — a quarter of the population — are living under emergency levels of

food insecurity," the UN agencies said in a statement.

"This reflects a 15-percent increase since June 2015. A further 7.1 million people are in a state of crisis," they added.

Jamie McGoldrick, the UN humanitarian coordinator for Yemen, said, "This clearly shows the huge

magnitude of the humanitarian crisis in Yemen."

"This is one of the worst crises in the world and is continuing to get worse," he said.

In a separate development, more than a dozen civilians have lost their lives in a new Saudi airstrike against Yemen's southwestern province of Lahij.

Saudi jets attacked a residential neighborhood in the al-Ka'abin district of the province, killing 15 people, Yemen's al-Masirah reported.

Saudi warplanes also carried out a number of sorties over the mountainous northwestern province of Sa'ada, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

Separately, Saudi-sponsored Yemeni militiamen loyal to former President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi launched missiles against the positions of Houthi Ansarullah fighters in the Nihm district of Sana'a Province as well as al-Wazi'iyah district in the southwestern province of Ta'izz, though no casualties were reported.

Ansarullah fighters also established control over the strategic al-Jales hilltop surrounding the al-Qabbaytah district of the Lahij Province on Tuesday after two weeks of fighting with pro-Saudi militia forces.

Bahrainis Voice Solidarity With Sheikh Qassim

MANAMA (Press TV) – Dozens of demonstrators have taken to the streets across Bahrain to express solidarity with prominent Shia cleric Sheikh Isa Qassim, who was recently stripped of his citizenship, as well as jailed activists and political prisoners.

Protesters demonstrated in Bilad al-Qadeem, a suburb of the capital, Manama, al-Musalla Village, the north-central village of Bu Quwah, the northwestern village of Diraz, and the town of A'ali, on Tuesday evening, chanting slogans against the ruling Al Khalifah regime in condemnation of the measure against the 79-year-old clergyman.

The protesters also carried the portraits of the spiritual leader of Bahrain's main opposition bloc, the al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, and prominent Bahraini opposition figure as well as national Bahraini flags.

A similar rally was also staged in the island of Sitra, located five kilometers (3.1 miles) south of Manama, where clashes broke between demonstrators and Bahraini regime forces.

Regime forces fired a number of teargas canisters to suppress the

protest and disperse the crowd.

Separately, a group of young Bahraini men blocked the King Fahd Causeway, which connects Saudi Arabia with Bahrain.

The Lebanese resistance movement, Hezbollah, has denounced Manama's measure against Sheikh Qassim as "silly" and "dangerous," warning that the move will trigger a harsh response from the Bahraini people.

Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) has also condemned the decision as "a Saudi plot," saying it will fuel the flames of "Bahrain's Islamic Revolution" against the ruling family.

Al Khalifah regime's move against Sheikh Qassim came less than a week after the Bahraini Justice Ministry suspended all activities by al-Wefaq, and dissolved the opposition Islamic Enlightenment Institution and al-Risala Islamic Association.

Since February 14, 2011, thousands of anti-regime protesters have held numerous demonstrations on an almost daily basis in Bahrain, calling for the Al Khalifah family to relinquish power.

Turkish Jets Bomb PKK Sites in North Iraq, Southeast Turkey



Blood is seen on the uniform of a Turkish soldier following an attack on an army vehicle at Lice in Diyarbakir, southeastern Turkey.

ANKARA (Dispatches) – Turkish fighter jets have conducted fresh air strikes against the positions of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in northern Iraq and southeastern Turkey.

The air strikes were carried out overnight on Wednesday, destroying PKK militants' hideouts and weapon caches in the areas, security sources said.

The warplanes hit targets near the Turkish towns of Lice, in Diyarbakir Province, and Semdinli, in Hakkari Province.

The Iraqi government and semi-autonomous Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) have frequently objected to Turkey's airstrikes on Iraq's territory.

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

as well.

On June 11, some 13 PKK militants were killed in Lice bombing. A number of militants were also injured in the attack.

Turkey's operations began in the wake of a deadly July 2015 bombing in the southern town of Suruc.

More than 30 people died in the attack, which the Turkish government blamed on the ISIL Takfiri terrorist group.

After the bombing, the PKK engaged in a series of attacks against Turkish police and security forces, prompting the Turkish military operations.

A shaky ceasefire between Ankara and the PKK that had stood since 2013 was declared null and void by the militants following the Turkish strikes against the group.

The PKK has been fighting for an autonomous Kurdish region in southeastern Turkey since 1984. The conflict has left more than 40,000 people dead.

PLO Slams Zionist Regime's 'Brutal' Killing of Palestinian Teen

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has condemned the Zionist regime's killing of a Palestinian teenager in the occupied West Bank as a "brutal attack."

Mahmoud Badran was shot and killed on Monday for allegedly throwing stones at moving vehicles between the villages of Beit Sira and Beit Ur in the West Bank.

Several others were also wounded in the incident. The Israeli army later announced that the teenagers were mistakenly targeted and had no connection to the stone throwing incident.

"From initial inquiry, it appears uninvolved bystanders were mistakenly hit during the pursuit," said an Israeli army spokeswoman.

"This coldblooded assassination

reaffirms our calls to the UN Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial, Summary, or Arbitrary Executions, to initiate an immediate extensive investigation into Israeli extrajudicial killings of Palestinians, particularly children," said PLO Secretary General Saeb Erekat in a statement released on Tuesday.

"The international community has the responsibility to stop allowing Israel's impunity for the crimes it commits against the occupied land and people of Palestine," he added.

The incident was also slammed by the Palestinian Foreign Ministry, which referred to it as Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's "reaction to EU's adoption of the French initiative."

An international French-backed conference is planned to convene



Zionist troops gather at the scene where a Palestinian man was shot at the Tapuah junction, south of Nablus in the Zionist-occupied West Bank.

later in the year to discuss the so-called peace process between Israelis and Palestinians. A meeting of the European Union

foreign ministers in Luxembourg on Monday voiced support for the project, although Israel reiterated its opposition.

ISIL Abducts Hundreds of Civilians in Syria's Aleppo

DAMASCUS (FNA) – Terrorists of ISIL have kidnapped at least 800 civilians in Northern Aleppo in recent days, eyewitnesses reported on Wednesday.

"Following advances of the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) in Northeastern Aleppo near Manbij, the ISIL launched vast operations near the towns of al-Bab, Azaz, Manbij and Jarabulus and captured at least 800 civilians, mainly Kurds," the sources said.

"The ISIL also arrested over 26 civilians in Northern Aleppo and killed four of them who were Kurds," they added.

"The ISIL also arrested six people in the small town of Qabasin in Northern side of al-Bab, while 12 villagers in Sour and another villager in Tal Jorji near al-Bab were arrested by the ISIL," the sources said.

"The ISIL did the same in the villages of al-Borj, al-Ka'abiyeh,

Borj As'ad, Kawkeli, Arab Wiran, Qa'ar Kalbin, Qandouzeh, Na'aman and al-Sheih al-Arimeh," they added.

"The ISIL captured over 700 civilians in al-Shahb region and killed at least seven of them," the sources went on to say.

"The ISIL has transferred the abducted civilians to unknown locations," the sources said.

Reports said earlier this month that the ISIL militants stormed the

villages of Shawa, Qaarkalbin, Tel Jarja, Sosinbat, Numan and Qabasin, and abducted more than 210 Kurdish civilians.

The ISIL militants have been involved in heavy fighting with the SDF forces in the Northern countryside of Aleppo for over a year, and most recently in Manbij, where the Kurdish-led SDF has repeatedly raised concerns about civilians used by ISIL as human shields during the battles.