

DUBAI (Dispatches) – Bahrain has ordered 17,000 English school textbooks reprinted for labeling the body of water surrounding the tiny kingdom as the Persian Gulf, state news agency BNA reported on Monday. Bahrain and the other U.S.-allied Persian Gulf states resent the term, even though valid history books corroborate the face the real name of the body of water is "Persian Gulf". Bahrain's education ministry, the news report said, had commissioned an unnamed "overseas establishment" to print the books for third-grade schoolchildren and provided it with "correct material" to include in the book.

*During civil disturbance adopt such an attitude that people do not attach any importance to you - they neither burden you with complicated affairs, nor try to derive any advantage out of you.*

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

# Zionist Regime Helpless Before Hezbollah Power



**Zionist troops look from behind the border at Lebanese supporters (unseen) of the Hezbollah resistance movement attending a rally in the southern Lebanese village of Alma al-Shaab, January 28, 2018.**

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Lebanese resistance movement of Hezbollah says the Zionist regime knows not how to deal with the rising power of resistance forces in Lebanon.

Speaking at an event, Hezbollah Deputy Secretary General Sheikh Naim Qassem said Tel Aviv faced two equally unfavorable realities.

"Israel cannot make a decision to wage war [on Lebanon] as it can have grave consequences for it (Tel

Aviv)...; on the other hand, it can't watch the other side growing [in power], and it does not know how to deal with this power," Sheikh Qassem said.

The Zionist regime has waged three wars on Lebanon — in 1982, 2000, and 2006. It has also carried out assassinations in Lebanese territory.

Since its establishment in 1985, the Hezbollah resistance group has

helped the army defend Lebanon both in the face of foreign aggression, including in the 2000 and 2006 wars, and against terrorism.

The occupying regime considers the presence of Hezbollah a major threat, and has repeatedly threatened the Lebanese state with new aggression. In November 2017, the Israeli military said Hezbollah's Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah would be a target in a fu-

ture Israeli war on Lebanon.

Most recently, Zionist war minister Avigdor Lieberman said, "Lebanon's army and Hezbollah are the same — they will all pay the full price in the event of an escalation."

In January, Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri said the regime was "the real threat" to Lebanon.

"The only threat I see is Israel taking some kind of action against Lebanon, out of a miscalculation," Hariri said. "And this is the real threat, I believe."

The occupying regime has also been violating Lebanese airspace on an almost daily basis, carrying out what it calls "routine reconnaissance missions."

In his Sunday remarks, Sheikh Qassem said the recent downing of an advanced Israeli F-16 that had violated Syrian airspace meant that violations by the occupying regime would no more go without a response.

Syria on Saturday fired anti-aircraft missiles at Israeli warplanes that had violated its airspace to conduct airstrikes. At least one Israeli warplane was hit and went down in northern parts of the occupied territories.

"The shooting down of the Israeli fighter jet means that the principle of not responding to attacks is obsolete, and that Israel can no more rely on that principle in confrontations," Hezbollah's number two said.

## Yemen Former President: UAE Undermining Stability in Yemen



**Fighters from the separatist Southern Transitional Council rest at a military camp after they took control of the position of forces loyal to Yemen's former President Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi in the northern Dar Saad district of Aden on January 31, 2018.**

SANAA (Press TV) – Yemen's former president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi has finally broken his silence, accusing the United Arab Emirates of undermining stability in Yemen.

Hadi, who is reportedly under a house arrest in Saudi Arabia, released an audio recording from Riyadh, saying the UAE is behind the latest clashes in Yemen's city of Aden, Watan newspaper reported.

The UAE, he said, is plotting a coup in the southern port city.

Hadi said the Emirati regime is pursuing its own interests in Yemen and is competing with Saudi Arabia for influence in the impoverished country. Saudi Arabia launched a bloody military campaign early in 2015 in an attempt to reinstall Hadi and crush the Houthis who administer the capital Sana'a.

Saudi-backed forces loyal Hadi controlled Eden but were ousted last month by UAE-

backed separatists after bloody clashes.

The recent fighting, in which the so-called Southern Transitional Council (STC) turned against their former allies, laid bare underlying rifts between the UAE and Saudi Arabia and their jockeying for position in Yemen.

The STC first joined forces with the pro-Hadi militants against the Houthis, but divisions appeared amid accusations that Hadi sought to marginalize the UAE-trained forces.

Riyadh and Abu Dhabi are currently in a damage control mode, sending a "top military and security delegation" to Eden where dozens of people were killed and hundreds of others injured in clashes.

Aden lies at the cross-section of multiple trade routes. The resulting commercial importance has prompted a historical struggle over the city's control.

## 'Iraq Reconstruction After Daesh to Cost \$88 Billion'

KUWAIT (Dispatches) – Rebuilding Iraq after three years of war with Daesh will cost \$88.2 billion, with housing a particularly urgent priority, Iraqi officials told an international conference on Monday.

Donors and investors have gathered in Kuwait this week to discuss efforts to rebuild Iraq's economy and infrastructure as it emerges from a devastating conflict with the terrorists who seized almost a third of the country.

Iraq declared victory over Daesh in December, having taken back all the territory captured by the terrorists in 2014 and 2015.

About \$22 billion will be required in the short term and another \$66 billion in the medium term, the director-general of the country's planning ministry, Qusay Adulfattah, told the conference, without indicating any timeframe.

"Rebuilding Iraq is restoring hope to Iraq, and restoring the stability of Iraq is stabilizing the states of the region and the world," said Planning Minister Salman al-Jumaili, adding that the reconstruction was therefore also the responsibility of the international community.

The United States does not plan

to pledge any money at the Kuwait conference, U.S. officials said.

Nations could help by acting as guarantors with lenders, allowing Iraq to take out soft loans to fund infrastructure projects, Mahdi al-Alaq, the Secretary-General of Iraq's Council of Ministers, told the conference, adding that there were preliminary indications that some states would do so.

The housing sector has the most urgent need for funds, said Raja Rehan Arshad, the lead disaster risk management specialist for the World Bank.

Around 138,000 housing units

had been damaged and half of them were completely destroyed said Mustafa al-Hiti, who runs Iraq's Reconstruction Fund for Areas Affected by Terroristic Operations.

About 2.5 million Iraqis remain displaced by the fighting, he added.

Iraq has been plagued by violence over the past 15 years.

A U.S.-led invasion toppled Saddam Hussein and was followed by years of terrorism, bloodletting between different militant groups, as well as ethnic tensions between the Arabs and Kurds, all before Daesh emerged in 2014.

## Syrian Frontline Town Divides Turkey, U.S.

ISTANBUL (Dispatches) – A dispute between Turkey and the United States over control of a north Syrian town has put the NATO allies on opposing sides of the conflict's front line, deepening a diplomatic rift ahead of a visit to Turkey by U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

This week's talks, already challenging given disagreements over President Tayyip Erdogan's crackdown after a failed 2016 coup, the detention of U.S. consulate staff and citizens, and the trial of a Turkish bank executive for evading U.S. sanctions on Iran, have been given added edge by the dispute over Syria.

Turkish and U.S. troops, deployed alongside local fighters, have carved out rival areas of influence on Syria's northern border. To Ankara's fury, Washington allied itself with a force led by the Kurdish YPG, a militia which Turkey says is commanded by the same leaders over-

seeing an insurgency in its southeast.

The dispute has come to a head over the Syrian town of Manbij, where Turkey has threatened to drive out a YPG-led force and warned the United States - which has troops there - not to get in the way.

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu says Ankara's ties with Washington will either be mended or severed, as relations between the two North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies have suffered serious damage in the wake of Ankara's ongoing cross-border offensive in Syria's northwestern region of Afrin against the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG).

"Our relations are at a very critical point. They will either be fixed or these ties will be completely damaged," Cavusoglu told reporters in Istanbul on the sidelines of a Turkish-African

meeting.

He also elaborated on Ankara's expectations, and condemned continuous U.S. support for the YPG.

"We don't want promises and pledges from the U.S. We want concrete steps [regarding the YPG]. For us to discuss multiple issues with the U.S., the trust that has been lost needs to be restored. And the cause of the lost trust is U.S. [actions]," the top Turkish diplomat pointed out.

Cavusoglu added, "The U.S. is not touching Daesh members in Syria as an excuse to continue working with YPG terrorist group."

The remarks came as U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson is due in Ankara later this week for talks aimed at finding a way forward as Washington is seriously concerned about Turkey's Operation Olive Branch in northern Syria.

## Taliban Infiltrator Kills 16 Afghan Gov't Militiamen

LASHKAR GAH, Afghanistan (Dispatches) – A Taliban infiltrator killed 16 members of a pro-government militia force in the insurgency ridden southern province of Helmand when he turned his gun on men who he had worked with for months, officials said on Monday.

The Afghan security agency had set up the militia to infiltrate the Taliban, a security official told Reuters, though a spokesman for Helmand's governor was unable to identify the group.

"We know that a Taliban fighter killed 16 militiamen fighting alongside government forces, but who these forces belong to, we don't know yet," said the spokesman, Omar Zwak.

The Taliban claimed responsibility for the killings in the province's Gereskh district on Saturday, saying two of its fighters were involved.

A security official, who declined to be identified, said the suspected gunman had worked

with the militia for months and took arms and ammunition after killing the men.

Helmand is one of Afghanistan's most violent provinces, and also a major source of opium, the narcotic used to make heroin.

Meanwhile, Taliban has invited a U.S. senator for "mutual talks" in the Qatari capital Doha, where the so-called Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has an office.

The terror group's social media accounts extended the invitation to Kentucky Republican Senator Rand Paul over his latest comments about the United States' long war in Afghanistan, The Washington Times reported Sunday.

"We invite the respectable U.S. Senator Rand Paul, in his official capacity to visit our political office in Doha for mutual talks," read a Twitter post by the self-declared Information Committee of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.