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General Jazayeri:

Iran to Respond to U.S. Regime Change 'Dream'



Deputy Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces Brigadier General Massoud Jazayeri

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- A senior Iranian commander has dismissed the Pentagon chief's call for regime change in the Islamic Republic as a "ridiculous dream", saying Iran would respond to U.S. officials' nonsensical talks.

James Mattis on Monday described Iran "the most destabilizing influence in the Middle East", saying a regime change would be necessary before the U.S. and Iran could have substantially positive relations.

On Thursday, Deputy Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces

Brigadier General Massoud Jazayeri said the Islamic Republic was not perturbed by the remarks.

"The ridiculous dreams of the Americans about the overthrow of the Islamic Republic of Iran is nothing more than disturbed delusions and we are not worried that they have preoccupied themselves in such a way," he said.

"We will respond to the nonsensical talks of the American authorities in the theaters of action," Jazayeri added without elaboration.

Addressing a high school journalism student in Mercer Island, a Seattle suburb, Mattis claimed that Iran was not really a democratic country and acted more like a "revolutionary movement" than a functional state.

Jazayeri said, "The Islamic Republic of Iran, in the framework of its defined goals and policies, will constantly continue to expel foreigners from the region and will not have the least doubt in covering this sacred path."

Earlier this week, Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Hussein Dehqan likened the Pentagon chief's claims to delirious comments by an ill person.

The Holy Qur'an

Let not then their property and their children excite your admiration; Allah only wishes to chastise them with these in this world's life and (that) their souls may depart while they are unbelievers.

The Holy Qur'an (9.55)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:10
Evening (Maghreb)	20:41
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:17
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:00

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qassemi also said while Mattis had repeatedly accused Iran of supporting terrorism, "the U.S. establishment and its current defense secretary, himself, are the symbols of terrorism and violation of human rights."

In his remarks on Thursday, Jazayeri also touched on new U.S. sanctions on Iran, saying the Islamic Republic has worked out plans which could damage the U.S. in a big way.

Last month, U.S. Senate voted for a bill to impose new sanctions on Iran over its ballistic missile program, alleged support for terrorism and human rights violations. The bill would become law if passed in the House of Representatives and signed by U.S. President Donald Trump.

International Crime Against Yemen

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The United States has doubled the amount of fuel and weapons it provides to Saudi-led coalition jets, according to figures obtained from the U.S. military. The numbers underline the fact that U.S. support for the regime-change campaign has continued and even increased despite growing condemnation of civilian casualties and war crimes by Saudis and Emiratis.

According to United Nations estimates, the regime changers are responsible for at least 3,133 civilian deaths in Yemen since the U.S. support began. That represents more than 60 percent of all civilians confirmed killed in hostilities since 2015. The Yemen Data Project, which monitors open source reports of airstrikes in Yemen, has recorded more than 13,081 coalition raids through June 2. Roughly a third hit non-military targets, the group found.

This comes despite the UN warning that such a move against Yemen's largest port could spell catastrophe amid what is already one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. Some 7 million Yemenis are on the brink of famine, including 500,000 severely malnourished children. A cholera outbreak has spun out of control, likely infecting more than 320,000 people and killing more than 1,740. A Saudi-American-imposed blockade and flight ban on Sana'a has left the entire north of the country cut off, and prevented international aid, journalists and human rights workers from entering the country.

The UAE has also worked closely with the United States to bomb civilians in Yemen. In April of last year, Emirati forces occupied the southern city of Mukalla. This January, just days after President Trump took office, Emirati forces were directly involved in a U.S. raid that claimed the lives of dozens of civilians and killed a Navy Seal. Worse still, the UAE is running a network of secret detention centers in southern Yemen where torture is employed in violation of international law. The Pentagon admits that U.S. personnel interrogate prisoners held by the UAE, though they deny any knowledge of torture and abuses. This does in no way mean they are not complicit in Emirati abuses.

The fact remains that the joint Saudi-U.S. war on Yemen is illegal under both U.S. and international law. With that in mind, the United Nations should condemn and prosecute this illegal, undeclared war of aggression – and indict and charge those involved with high crimes.

In a nutshell, the Saudis, the Emiratis and the Americans are inflicting a war of genocide against the people of Yemen with great impunity and no accountability. This illegal war was initiated under President Obama, with left-leaning and liberal media outlets and Democratic Party operators bound to an unofficial regime of silence on the issue of Yemen – hence, almost zero media coverage.

The war on Yemen can no longer be reduced down to a binary argument, blaming the entire affair on Iran, claiming that the "Iranian-backed Houthis" are the antagonists. By framing it in the Iran-centric geopolitical context – and not the true context of U.S.-Saudi aggression and a battle to control some of the region's most lucrative untapped oil and gas reserves – it serves to somehow justify this organized, international crime which has been taking place for more than two years now.

Syrian Defense Minister Lauds Iran's Support

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) -- The Syrian defense minister has lauded Iran, Russia and Lebanon's Hezbollah movement for supporting his country in the fight against foreign-backed terrorists.

Major General Fahd Jassem al-Frej also said Thursday Syria's battle against terrorism was continuous and the terrorist scheme against Syria was collapsing.

The terrorist plot was "retreating thanks to the steadfastness of the Syrian people who rallied around their army and leadership as well as the support provided by the friendly countries, particularly Russia, Iran and the

Lebanese Resistance," he said during a field visit to units of the Syrian army in Damascus countryside.

Russia and Iran are the main international backers of the Syrian government in its battle against foreign-backed terrorists.

At Syria's request, Iran has been providing military advisory support to the Arab nation in its counterterrorism operations.

Russia has been also carrying out an aerial campaign in Syria in coordination with Damascus since September 2015 to further boost the Syrian military's anti-terror fight.

Researcher Recounts Ordeal on U.S. Visit

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- An Iranian cancer researcher who was arrested after arriving at a U.S. airport says he was kept in detention for 30 hours, along with his family, and was interrogated for 12 hours by U.S. police before being deported.

Mohsen Dehnavi was detained at Boston's Logan International Airport along with his wife and three young children upon arrival on Monday. They were sent back to Iran the following day despite holding a J-1 visa for visiting scholars.

In an exclusive interview with Press TV on Thursday, Dehnavi said U.S. officials seized his laptop and cell phone and forced him to reveal his email passwords and other account addresses. Dehnavi was a visiting scholar in-

vited by Boston Children's Hospital. The researcher thanked Boston's mayor, staff of the hospital and Harvard University for their efforts to help end his plight at the airport.

The Boston Children's Hospital and immigration law specialists said Dehnavi had a valid entry visa.

"Based on what we know, it's not travel-ban related. It's probably something much more stupid than that," said Susan Church, the chair of the New England chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. She did not explain.

An author interviewed by Press TV on Wednesday said administration of U.S. President Donald Trump is "tarnishing" itself by adopting foolish decisions including travel ban for Ira-

nians and five other countries, says an author.

John Stepling added that the deportation of the researcher was "a shameful incident" and it showed the current U.S. administration was happy with waging an economic, military, and political war against Iran, the Middle East and the Arab world in general.

"They (American authorities) are not going to be put off by any ideas of embarrassment or the moral bankruptcy in this, but of course it's shameful and there's people that are acutely aware of the clumsiness and the vulgarity of the Trump administration," Stepling said.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) said in a statement on Tuesday that Dehnavi "was deemed inadmissible to the U.S. based on information

discovered during the CBP inspection for reasons unrelated to the Executive Order" that would ban people from six Muslim-majority countries, including Iran, from entering the U.S.

On Wednesday, Sorena Sattari, Iran's vice president for science and technology, said Dehnavi was a nanotechnology PhD graduate, who had made valuable research in the field of cancer treatment. He said Dehnavi was visiting the U.S. for a research opportunity when he was arrested.

Noting that Dehnavi and his family were denied entry to the U.S. "under unconventional pretexts," despite obtaining all legal documents, Sattari added that the incident would not discourage scientific exchanges between Iranian and international researchers.

Press Digest

TOTAL Penalty

KAYHAN: No doubt French company TOTAL has bribed officials and violated the terms of its agreements in the past. Oil minister claims otherwise. He says the company never bribed Iranian officials and was never charged at a U.S. court. A quick look at the official website of the U.S. Justice system will reveal that TOTAL bribed an Iranian official through a former government official. For that, it paid around \$240 million in penalties.

State Exaggeration

RESALAT: The government claims it has no guns. Now it claims it has missiles! It claims it was behind the launch of missiles that hit terrorists in Syria. President Rouhani claims his government built all the missiles – 80 percent of them. This is while during the election campaign he criticized the IRGC for building missile towns and carrying out missile tests. He even sided with Trump as some U.S. media outlets maintained after his controversial remarks.

Popular Force

JAVAN: The IRGC is a popular force. For that reason, it can never remain indifferent to public demands and needs. The IRGC has a duty to eradicate poverty and create jobs in deprived areas. In cooperation with the government, the force is more than ever prepared to help carry out national development projects and plans. It will seek help from people and private sectors to boost production and domestic capabilities in all spheres.

Middleman in Parliament

VATAN EMROOZ: Experts and officials are concerned about the new deal with TOTAL to develop South Pars gas field. Lawmakers say corrupt middlemen played a key role in inking the deal. One of them even accompanied Oil Minister Zanganeh to the parliament to give some details about the deal. He has no official position but attended the Energy Commission meeting at the parliament. This creates concerns among lawmakers. They made that clear during Zanganeh's speech at the parliament on Wednesday.