

U.S. Arming Terrorists in Plain Sight

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The political class in Washington claims President Donald Trump has decided to formally end the CIA program to arm what they call "rebel factions" in Syria.

Before anything else, it's a formal acknowledgement that this criminal program has been active for years, and that it has been highly criticized and condemned by the world community for having seen a lot of the U.S. provided arms ending up in the hands of ISIL, Al-Qaeda, and their murderous affiliates.

More so, this arms smuggling scheme has been going on for years with no long-standing problems. The U.S. never stopped supporting these ISIL and Qaeda-aligned goons even when they were fighting one another and giving arms to other terrorist groups. They only fought one another for more American cash and weapons – all while doing what they were told to do by Washington: fighting the Syrian government and people for the ultimate goal of regime change

Even if the Trump White House stops supporting certain "moderate" head choppers, others will still get American weaponry for the sole purpose of regime change and division of Syria.

Top this end, the U.S. won't stop arming of the Kurdish YPG either, as this scheme is wholly independent from the CIA program, and is being run directly by the Pentagon regime. The factions getting arms from the CIA are mostly based in Idlib, with some smaller groups along the Jordan border.

Meaning, this is just a change in tactic – not policy. The U.S. reportedly has 10 military bases and outposts in northern Syria where it is leading an operation to capture and occupy ISIL's self-styled capital of Raqqa in broad violation of international law. More so, Turkey has openly criticized the Trump administration for relying in the battle against ISIL on a militia led by Kurds affiliated with the Kurdistan Workers Party or PKK. A separatist movement now at war with Turkey, the PKK has been listed by the U.S. and EU as a terror organization.

The military bases and outposts are illegal as Washington has no permission from the Syrian government to build them in the first place. These bases violate Syria's territorial integrity. They are there to ensure America would be able to occupy Syria permanently and pressurize the government after ISIL is defeated by the allied forces of Iran, Syria, Russia and Hezbollah.

All told, U.S. violations of international law will continue, and the U.S. program of arming terrorists in Syria is one of them. The UN Charter is clear on that: It describes it as an illegal use of force and a crime of aggression. It's a war crime - both arming terrorists and conducting air strikes against civilians.

To the millions of refugees fleeing the war, instability and the breakdown of law and order in Syria, U.S. airstrikes constitute an unlawful use of force. The U.S. has not been attacked by Syria, nor does it have UN approval for its military presence there. But it's still there, arming various terrorist groups and fuelling the flames of an unjustified war.

IRGC Kills Three Terrorists in Northwest Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Ground forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) have killed three terrorists and wounded four others in a clash in a border area in northwest Iran, news agencies said on Friday.

An IRGC member was martyred and another wounded in the clash that happened late Thursday. One terrorist was

detained and some of them escaped, the report said.

Northwest of Iran is close to the borders of both Iraq and Turkey and is the scene of occasional clashes between Iranian forces and PJAK terrorists.

An IRGC statement said the global arrogance" and foreign spy services.

Senior Negotiator Araqchi in Vienna:

Iran Has Options Against U.S. Violation of JCPOA



Iran's senior nuclear negotiator Seyyed Abbas Araqchi talks to reporters in Vienna in this file photo.

VIENNA (Dispatches) -- **Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Yukiya Amano has praised Iran for cooperating with the IAEA and living up to its commitments under the nuclear deal it signed with world powers.**

In a Thursday meeting with Iran's

Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Seyyed Abbas Araqchi here, Amano praised the Islamic Republic for its good and constructive cooperation with the IAEA and fulfilling its nuclear obligations as confirmed in the IAEA reports.

He also expressed hope that the parties to the nuclear deal would continue to fulfill their pledges under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Araqchi, for his part, elaborated on the main policies of the Islamic Republic towards the JCPOA and

Deputy FM Jaber Ansari in Damascus: Syria, Iran Discuss Boosting Ties, Cooperation

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – **Iran and Syria have discussed the enhancement of bilateral ties as well as cooperation in the fight against terrorism.**

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hussein Jaber Ansari met top Syrian officials, including President Bashar al-Assad, here on Thursday to discuss the latest developments in the Arab country as well as other issues of mutual and regional significance.

Jaber Ansari said Iran would keep up its support for the Syrian nation in all areas, including anti-terror battles, until the

restoration of peace to the country, Syria's official SANA news agency reported.

The senior Iranian official further highlighted the importance of Iranian-Syrian-Russian coordination in efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syria crisis.

Foreign Minister Walid al-Muallem thanked Iran for standing with his country, saying Syria, in cooperation with its allies and friends, will continue its fight against terrorists while keeping the diplomatic channels open.

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Senior Military Commander: Anti-Terror Fight Not Limited to Iran's Borders

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- **A senior military commander says Iran's fight against terrorists is not limited to evicting them from the country's borders and goes far beyond borders.**

"Driving out bandits and terrorists from the Islamic Republic of Iran's borders is not our sole goal. Rather, our strategy is to go after the rear detachments and gathering sites of the terrorist groups," Brigadier General Muhammad Pakpour said on Thursday.

On June 7, gunmen mounted assaults on Iran's Parliament and the Mausoleum of late Founder of the Islamic Republic Imam Khomeini, leaving 18 people dead and over 50 others wounded. Both attacks were claimed by the Daesh Takfiri terrorist group.

Iran responded to the attacks with a missile strike, which pummeled Daesh positions in Syria's Dayr al-Zawr, killing more than 170 Takfiri elements and inflicting heavy damage to their weaponry and communication systems.

Pakpour, who is the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps

(IRGC) Ground Forces, said Iran was increasingly and consistently upgrading its intelligence and operational readiness to confront the threats of terrorist groups and protect its borders.

"The security services of some regional countries sponsoring terrorists such as Saudi Arabia and trans-regional states such as the criminal America are attempting to create terrorist groups on Iran's borders in the northwest and southeast and make those regions insecure," he said.

Pakpour said, "Today, the extent of terrorism and terrorist acts in the world has become widespread and the interesting point is that some of the countries that themselves are the main supporters and agents of the creation, development and support of terrorists are accusing others, including the Islamic Republic, of supporting and sponsoring terrorism."

Armed bandits, outlaws and drug dealers regularly attack police forces and border guards in southeastern Iran.

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The Holy Qur'an

Then Allah sent down His tranquillity upon His Apostle and upon the believers, and sent down hosts which you did not see, and chastised those who disbelieved, and that is the reward of the unbelievers.

The Holy Qur'an (9.26)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:10
Evening (Maghreb)	20:36
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:25
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:05

its commitments under the nuclear deal.

He also emphasized the IAEA's important and sensitive role in the impartial and professional implementation of the nuclear deal between Iran and the world powers.

The Iranian diplomat also strongly slammed the new U.S. government for its non-constructive approach towards the nuclear deal as well as its breach of promises.

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Press Digest

29 Conditions

KAYHAN: The government is only allowed to implement the nuclear deal as per 29 conditions set by the Leader, the Supreme National Security Council and the Parliament. Sadly enough, the government failed to follow these specific rules, conditions and guidelines. Leader's top advisor Ali Akbar Velayati says the government failed to fully implement nine of the conditions set by Ayatollah Khamenei within the framework of Iran's obligations and the JCPOA.

Identity Crisis

RESALAT: The reformers face identity crisis. No one has the slightest idea what is the meaning of being a reformer and where its borders are. Its members include Iranians from all walks of life. This is not an opportunity; it's a threat for the political group and the nation. The party is better off reforming itself first. They need to have an identity card and a manifest that separates them from foreign influence.

Poor Judgment

DONYAYE EQTESAD: Officials in the agricultural sector often come up with simple ideas and methods to support farmers. They guarantee purchase of products, offer banking loans, and supply cheap water and energy. They never bother to go for more productive options: Boosting the volume of production, reforming the water supply network and farming methods, and increasing the share of renewable energies. What counts is how these practices and reforms are promoted, implemented and strengthened.

JCPOA Achievements

VATAN EMROOZ: The nuclear deal was a windfall for the United States and Israel. Iran has failed to give a proper response to all the violations by Washington. It serves Washington's interests to violate the deal as it takes no risk at all. The U.S. ripped the deal right from day one while the Rouhani administration continues to sanctify it. They need to show what America is going to lose if it continues to violate the agreement. To this end, a road-map to exit the JCPOA is more than ever desirable.

Big Test

SIASAT ROOZ: The detention of Rouhani's brother is a big test for the president and the Judiciary. He used to defend civil rights against those who took their positions for granted in the government during his presidential campaign. He chanted many slogans to fight corruption and suchlike. The question is whether he will adhere to his own principles in the face of his brother's legal case. Will he prove his honesty in defending public rights? Or will he risk it all and cross the line?