

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranians from all walks of life will hold rallies in five provinces on Friday to condemn recent Israeli crimes against the Palestinian nation as well as atrocities being committed against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar.

In a statement, Iran's Islamic Propagation Coordination Council decried recent Israeli attacks against Palestinians and said the "shameful and savage crimes" of the Zionist regime have entered a new phase. The regime is desecrating Al-Aqsa Mosque and killing Palestinian worshippers and youths, the statement added.

TEHRAN (Fars) -- Deputy Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Brigadier General Abdolrahim Moussavi said on Wednesday Iran has intelligence superiority over the enemy's sensitive regions, and can target them anytime it chose.

"The enemy's key regions are under our intelligence monitoring and we can target them any time we want," General Moussavi said. He said the world should come to realize that Iran will not negotiate with anyone about its values and would not withdraw from its ideals even an iota, adding, "We will respond to fireworks with missiles."

Viewpoint
By Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer
Nigeria Should Release Sheikh Zakzaky
P. 2

Scientists Use Yeast to Build DNA
P. 3



Iran U-23 Defeat Chinese Taipei at Asian Volleyball Championship
P. 6



Stop Zionist Regime's Destructive Agenda
P. 8



New U.S. Sanctions Anger Russia, EU

MOSCOW (Dispatches) – Moscow and the European Union hit out at the United States on Wednesday after an overwhelming vote by the House of Representatives to impose new sanctions on Russia left President Donald Trump facing a tough call.

The package, which targets Russia, Iran and North Korea, "tightens the screws on our most dangerous adversaries in order to keep Americans safe," House Speaker Paul Ryan said after it passed on Tuesday by 419 votes to three.

It now heads to the Senate before Trump faces the tricky choice of whether to veto the bill, which has been opposed by the White House and considerably constrains his ability to lift the penalties.

While Moscow and Tehran raised the prospect of retaliation over any fresh punitive measures, the EU also warned it was "ready to act to protect European interests" if the legislation hit dealings with the Russian energy sector.

The U.S. bill was the result of a congressional compromise aimed at punishing the Kremlin for allegedly interfering in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and intervening in Ukraine.

Key among the provisions is one that handcuffs Trump by complicating any unilateral efforts to ease sanctions against Moscow in future -- effectively placing him under Congress's watch.

"Left unchecked, Russia is sure to continue its aggression," House Foreign Affairs Committee chairman Ed Royce said, applauding the bill's backing.

Sanctions "Will Not Go Unanswered"

Despite initially opposing the bill, Trump appears to have few options in the face of near-total consensus in Congress, with a decision likely due by mid-August.

Spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the White House was still "reviewing the House legislation and awaits a final

legislative package for the president's desk".

But even if Trump were to veto the legislation, Congress would likely be able to overcome such a blockage with a two-thirds majority in each chamber.

Moscow responded angrily to the vote, with deputy foreign minister Sergei Ryabkov insisting Washington had been warned "dozens of times" that any new sanctions would "not go unanswered".

"The authors and sponsors of this bill are taking a very serious step towards destroying the possibilities for normalizing relations with Russia," he told state-run TASS news agency.

Ties between Moscow and Washington have been at their lowest point since the Cold War since the U.S. began slapping sanctions on Russia after its annexation of Crimea in 2014.

Trump repeatedly pledged to improve relations during his campaign, raising the prospect that he could roll back the Obama-era punishments.

Since then, accusations from U.S. intelligence that the Kremlin meddled in the vote to get Trump elected have made any softening of the stance on Russia politically toxic.

In a rare feat, the U.S. vote has also managed to upset European Union nations worried that it could damage their energy interests.

European commissioners, the EU executive's top officials, "expressed their concerns notably because of the draft bill's possible impact on EU energy independence," the bloc said in a statement following talks in Brussels on Wednesday.

In an apparent concession, the House modified a provision so the bill only targets pipelines originating in Russia, sparing those that merely pass through, such as the Caspian pipeline that carries oil from Kazakhstan to Europe.

(Continued on Page 7)

Americans Move to Kill JCPOA: President: Iran Will Respond to U.S. Sanctions



U.S. House adopted a bill on July 25, 2017 to impose new sanctions on Iran, Russia and North Korea.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- President Hassan Rouhani said on Wednesday that Iran would respond in kind to any breach by the United States of the 2015 nuclear deal after the House of Representatives passed a new sanctions bill.

"If the enemy steps over part of the agreement, we will do the same, and if they step over the entire deal, we will do the same too," Rouhani said at a cabinet meeting.

The Iranian parliament's national security and foreign affairs committee said it would hold an extraordinary session on Saturday to discuss its response.

The parliament voted earlier this month to fast-track a bill introduced in June that would increase funds for Iran's missile program and Revolutionary Guards.

"We must always develop our defense capability and we will strengthen our defensive weapons regardless of the opinion of others," Rouhani said.

The U.S. House passed a new sanctions bill on Tuesday targeting Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), as well as Russia

and North Korea.

Rouhani said, "We will take any step that we deem necessary in line with the interests of our country, and we would continue our path without paying attention to their sanctions and policies."

Over the past 40 years, he said, the Iranians have been subject to sanctions, pressure and false accusations by American politicians and propaganda apparatus.

"The U.S. is not only hostile to Iran's Islamic establishment, but also to the Iranian nation's resistance," Rouhani said, adding Washington cannot accept the country as a role model for independence in the region.

The president said the U.S. has no other alternative but to pursue peace and respect the Iranian nation's rights and the Islamic

Revolution and the establishment.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi said the bill was "very clearly a hostile measure" even if it was only "a compilation of previous U.S. sanctions in the non-nuclear fields."

Araqchi led the negotiating team that reached the deal with world powers in 2015 known as the JCPOA, under which Iran agreed to strict limits on its nuclear program in exchange for an easing of sanctions.

The new sanctions bill "can influence the successful implementation of the JCPOA and reduce Iran's benefits under the JCPOA," Araqchi said.

"That's why it is incompatible with various sections of the JCPOA which the U.S. has committed to implement with good intention and

in a constructive atmosphere," the ISNA news agency quoted him as saying.

The UN and other signatories to the nuclear deal have agreed that Iran has stuck to its commitments, which has been reluctantly accepted by the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump.

"The new U.S. administration has been forced to confirm Iran's loyalty to the deal twice within the past six months and it has had no other option as the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) in various reports has clearly expressed Iran's compliance with its commitments," Araqchi said.

Trump on Tuesday threatened Iran with "big, big problems" if Tehran failed to comply with the nuclear agreement.

His remarks came a week after the White House certified to Congress that the Islamic Republic was complying with the agreement.

"If that deal doesn't conform to what it's supposed to conform to, it's going to be big, big problems for them. That I can tell you. Believe me," Trump said during a speech in Youngstown, Ohio.

"You would have thought they would have said 'thank you United States. We really love you very much.' Instead, they've become emboldened. That won't take place much longer," he added.

Meanwhile, the Republican president told The Wall Street Journal that he would be surprised if Iran were in compliance with the nuclear deal when he should re-certify it in three months.

"We'll talk about the subject in 90 days but I would be surprised if they were in compliance," he told the Journal in an interview.

Palestinians Vow to Continue Al-Aqsa Protests

OCCUPIED AL-QUDS (Dispatches) -- A senior Muslim official in Jerusalem Al-Quds said Wednesday that worshippers would not return to a holy site until the occupying regime of Israel removes the new railings and cameras it installed after a deadly attack there.

Ikrema Sabri, head of the Supreme Islamic Committee, said that even after the Zionist regime removed metal detectors from the site, more steps are required to restore calm. He said mass prayer protests would continue until the gates of the compound are opened, metal railings and an iron bridge removed and newly installed cameras taken down.

"We will not enter the mosque until these things are implemented," Sabri told The Associated Press. "Now we are

awaiting the response of the police."

The demands set off the prospect of a renewed showdown ahead of Friday prayers at the site, when a large number of worshippers arrive for the centerpiece of the Muslim prayer week.

The Zionist regime installed the new measures earlier this month after Arab gunmen shot and killed two police officers from within the site. Palestinians say the occupying regime is using the incident as a pretext to expand its control over the site. The issue sparked some of the worst street clashes in years and threatened to draw Israel into conflict with other Arab and Muslim nations.

Under intense pressure, the occupying regime removed the metal detectors and said it planned to install sophisticated

security cameras instead.

But Palestinian politicians and Muslim clerics say that isn't enough and are demanding Israel restore the situation at the shrine in the Old City of Al-Quds to what it was before the July 14 deadly attack.

In response to that attack, the occupying regime of closed the site for two days for purported weapons searches and installed the metal detectors. The decision quickly triggered Muslim protests amid fears that Israel was trying to expand its control at the site under the guise of security.

Low-level clashes have continued in and around Jerusalem Al-Quds. The Red Crescent said 13 people were treated Tuesday night after being hit by rubber bullets during protests.

(Continued on Page 7)

Hariri Unhappy With Hezbollah Routing of Takfiris

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri on Wednesday said he did not condone Hezbollah's armed offensive against Takfiri terrorists in northeast Lebanon's Aarsal outskirts.

Hariri, speaking to The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, added that he preferred to see the Lebanese Army conducting the operation against the militants entrenched in the mountainous border area with Syria.

The prime minister has close ties to Saudi Arabia which is widely

believed to be supporting terrorists fighting to topple Syria's President Bashar al-Assad.

Aarsal is the latest front for Hezbollah in its battle with Takfiri militants to secure Lebanon's Syrian border.

Hezbollah has made rapid advances against Nusra Front since launching the offensive jointly with the Syrian army on Friday, aiming to clear the terrorists out of their last border foothold.

The terrorists have repeatedly attacked Lebanese army troops in the area and killed or taken them hostage.

Hariri's contention that Hezbollah should have left the battle to the army to fight the terrorists is out of place because Nusra and Daesh militants have been in the area for months, where Lebanese troops have taken no serious action against them, or rather they have unable of taking one.

In 2016, after the majority of parties agreed on electing President Michel Aoun, the country ended a two and a half year presidential vacancy under a bargain which elected Hariri to the post of prime minister.