



Russia:

U.S. Provides Air Cover for Daesh in Syria



Syrian government forces patrol in the eastern city of Day al-Zawr on November 4, 2017.

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Russian Defense Ministry has accused the U.S. of only pretending to fight terrorism in the Middle East, saying it has “conclusive evidence” that Washington provides air cover for Daesh in Syria.

In a Tuesday statement, the ministry said the U.S. air force has sought to hinder Russian strikes

on Daesh terrorists near the Syrian town of Albu Kamal.

“These facts are conclusive evidence that the United States, while imitating an uncompromising fight against international terrorism for the global community, in fact provides cover for Islamic State (Daesh) units,” the statement pointed out.

Moscow and Washington support opposing sides in the Syrian conflict. Russia assists the Syrian government and has been carrying out an aerial bombardment campaign against terrorist positions in Syria. The U.S.-led coalition has been conducting airstrikes against what are said to be Daesh targets inside Syria since September 2014

without any authorization from the Damascus government or a UN mandate.

The military alliance has repeatedly been accused of targeting and killing civilians. It has also been largely incapable of achieving its declared goal of destroying Daesh.

In early October, the Russian Defense Ministry accused the U.S. forces of providing intelligence to the Daesh terrorists in eastern Syria, saying Washington’s “flirtation” with the terrorists is the “main obstacle” to eradicate Daesh in Syria.

The accusations came after a group of Syrian forces came under a series of attacks by Daesh in the province of Dayr al-Zawr, where Syria is trying to push the terrorists out of their last strongholds in the region.

The Russian Defense Ministry said the attacks on the Syrian government forces had come from an area near the border with Jordan where the U.S. maintains a military mission.

The ministry noted that Daesh had the precise coordinates of the Syrian forces before the attack and that such information could only have been obtained through aerial reconnaissance.

UN Warns Millions at Risk in Yemen Over Saudi Blockade



Yemeni children gather at a crater at the site of an airstrike by Saudi Arabia against a health center in the area of Abbas in the northern province of Hajjah, October 7, 2017.

GENEVA (Dispatches) – The UN aid coordinator called on the Saudi-led coalition to open all Yemen’s seaports urgently on Tuesday, saying millions of lives were at risk.

The Saudi-led coalition said last week it had closed all air, land and seaports in Yemen.

“We have some 21 million people needing assistance and seven million of those are in famine-like conditions and rely completely on food aid,” UN humanitarian coordinator for Yemen Jamie McGoldrick said.

“The continued closure by the Saudi-led coalition of critical seaports and airports is aggravating an already dire humanitarian situation. I think it poses a critical threat to the lives of millions who are already struggling to survive.”

McGoldrick was speaking to reporters in Geneva by phone from Amman, because he said flights into Sanaa were blocked.

“The humanitarian impact of what is happening right now is unimaginable,” he said.

McGoldrick went on to say that the northern region of Yemen only had 20 days’ stock of diesel, which is crucial for pumping water and battling the cholera outbreak. Yemen, he said, had 10 days’ stock of gasoline, with no prospect of resupply soon.

The United Nations says there is “no indication” that the Saudi-led coalition is lifting the naval and aerial blockade.

‘U.S. Congress Against Military Assistance to Riyadh’

Meanwhile, the U.S. House of Representatives has overwhelmingly passed a resolution clearly stating that U.S. military assistance to Saudi Arabia in its war against neighboring Yemen is not authorized by Congress.

In a rare exercise of its war-making role, the House of Representatives on Monday overwhelmingly passed a resolution explicitly stating that U.S. military assistance to Saudi Arabia in its war in Yemen is not authorized under legislation passed by Congress to fight terrorism or invade Iraq.

The House adopted the nonbinding resolution by 366-30 vote on Monday. In a rare exercise, the House publicly acknowledged the Pentagon has been sharing targeting information and refueling warplanes that Saudi Arabia and its allies are using in its war of aggression against the impoverished nation.

The resolution states that U.S. military operations are partly authorized to fight only al-Qaeda and other allied terrorist groups in Yemen, but not Houthi fighters.

“To date,” the resolution says, “Congress has not enacted specific legislation authorizing the use of military force against parties participating in the Yemeni civil war that are not otherwise subject to” the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force or the 2003 AUMF in Iraq.

The House vote is being seen as a key victory for members of both Democratic and Republican Parties who believe only Congress has the power to authorize U.S. military operations overseas.

Zionist Regime Deploys Missiles Weeks After Bombing Gaza Tunnel

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has deployed missile systems to the center of occupied territories for fear of a possible retaliatory attack, two weeks after the regime’s warplanes bombed Gaza and killed a dozen members of Palestinian resistance movements there.

The Zionist regime’s military did not elaborate on where the so-called Iron Dome batteries had exactly been installed.

This is the first time such a war-like posture has been adopted by the Tel Aviv regime since 2014, when the occupying regime launched a bloody 50-day war on the blockaded Gaza Strip.

In late October, the Zionist regime’s fighter jets destroyed a lifeline tunnel in the southern part of the besieged Gaza Strip, killing 10 members of the Gaza-based Islamic Jihad resistance movement and two other fighters with the fellow Hamas resistance group.

In a video posted on YouTube on Saturday, Zionist Major General Yoav Mordechai warned Islamic Jihad that any retaliatory attack by the group “will be met with a powerful and determined Israeli response, not only against the Jihad, but also against Hamas.”

A day later, the resistance movement said in a statement on

Sunday it would not back down on its “right to respond to any aggression, including our right to respond to the crime of aggression on the resistance tunnel.”

The Zionist regime’s “threats to target the movement’s leadership is a declaration of war, which we will confront,” the statement read.

In yet another measure against Islamic Jihad, the regime arrested one of its senior leaders, identified as Tareq Qadaan, near the city of Jenin in the northern part of the occupied West Bank.

Israel claims that resistance fighters use the Gaza underground tunnels to stockpile weapons and

infiltrate into the occupied lands.

They, however, say the tunnels are needed to transfer essential supplies, including food and fuel, into the Palestinian territory, which has been under a crippling siege by the regime for over a decade.

The blockade has caused a decline in living standards as well as unprecedented unemployment and poverty.

The fresh Zionist campaign of confrontation comes as Palestinian factions Fatah, based in Ramallah, and Hamas, which used to run the Gaza Strip, have reached a national unity deal designed to bridge the political rift between them and to allow Fatah to govern the coastal enclave.

UAE Buys New Weapons Worth \$684 Million From U.S. Firm

ABU DHABI (Dispatches) – The United Arab Emirates has signed a new deal with an American arms manufacturer under which the firm would supply the small Persian Gulf country with laser-guided bombs, authorities say.

The deal, announced Tuesday at the Dubai Airshow and worth 2.5 billion dirhams (\$684.4 million), would see the American missile maker Raytheon Co. sell GBU-10 and GBU-12 Paveway laser-guided bomb kits to Abu Dhabi, among other weapons.

UAE authorities also signed arms deals with Germany’s Rheinmetall to buy artillery from the company. The contract will

also enable Rheinmetall to support Etihad Airways with transportation equipment.

The purchase of weapons comes amid the UAE’s involvement in a deadly campaign, led by Saudi Arabia, against Yemen. More than 12,000 people have been killed and over two million have been displaced since March 2015, when the regime in Riyadh began the campaign.

Abu Dhabi has also announced plans for buying 75 Mirage 2000-9 aircraft from the French multinational company Dassault and Thales to upgrade its air force fleet. That comes despite increasing calls for a halt to the UAE’s

contribution to the devastating Saudi-led airstrikes on civilian areas in Yemen.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE are two major recipients in the Persian Gulf of weapons from the United States and other Western countries. Other countries in the region have accused the two of sparking an arms race by their excessive purchase of modern weaponry from the West.

Reports over the past few years have indicated that much of the UAE’s modern weaponry have found their way into the hands of militants in Libya, where Abu Dhabi supports an administration opposed to Tripoli’s internationally-recognized government.

More Than 20 Afghan Police Killed In Taliban Attacks

KABUL (Press TV) – Almost two dozen police officers have been killed by Taliban militants in southern Afghanistan.

Police said on Tuesday that the militants staged a series of attacks on more than a dozen checkpoints in the province of Kandahar.

The overnight attacks left 22 police officers dead and 15 other wounded, according to police.

Authorities said government forces killed 45 militants and wounded 35.

The militants failed to seize any of the checkpoints. “Our forces resisted until they received reinforcement and air support,” said Zia Durrani, a spokesman for Kandahar’s police chief. “The Taliban were defeated.” Local sources cited Kandahar police as saying that

Taliban militants attacked security checkpoints in Zhari and Maiwand districts. The attack was one of the biggest attacks by the Taliban group in the past years.

Afghanistan is engulfed by violence and many parts of the country remain plagued by militancy despite the presence of foreign troops.

The United States and its NATO allies occupied the country as part of Washington’s so-called war on terror in 2001, which toppled the Taliban regime.

Over the past 16 years, the Taliban have been carrying out militancy across Afghanistan, killing and displacing government officials, security forces, and civilians.

The Daesh terrorist group has also more recently gained a foothold in the country.