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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Mercenaries at Wit's End as Resistance Movement Gathers Strength

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

At a time when positive developments are underway in the region, with Syria's string of victories over terrorists, and the growing ties between the brotherly Muslim people of Iraq, an exasperated US and equally harebrained pro-Zionist Arab reactionary regimes, have resorted to desperate measures in a bid to stop the inevitable.

The day the Islamic Republic of Iran held glorious military parades all over the country on Army Day with Tehran witnessing grand display of armed units and equipment, ministers of defence of Iran and Iraq held crucial cooperation talks on continuing the campaign against terrorism.

It is obvious that these terrorist elements are mercenaries of the US, Arab reactionary regimes, and Israel.

In other words, without support from this unholy trinity, terrorism doesn't stand any chance to survive in the Muslim World.

Now comes the news that the US, eager to find a way of exit for its occupation forces in Syria, despite its cowardly barrage of missiles last Saturday – most of which were shot down –, is asking its mercenary regimes in the Arab World to assemble a force to continue state-sponsored terrorism in the Levant.

Do Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain, or for that matter Jordan, Egypt and distant Morocco, which have been terrorizing the people of Yemen for the past three years, have the guts to send a joint force to safeguard American interests in Syria?

The answer is a definite No. Syria is a different turf, and so also is Iraq. This means no reactionary Arab regime will risk humiliation and utter defeat by sending its armed units to Syria, albeit under US protection.

For Jordan such a step would be suicide, in view of its sharing of borders with Syria. Moreover, the majority of Syrians view Jordan – created by the British in 1921 – as part of Greater Syria.

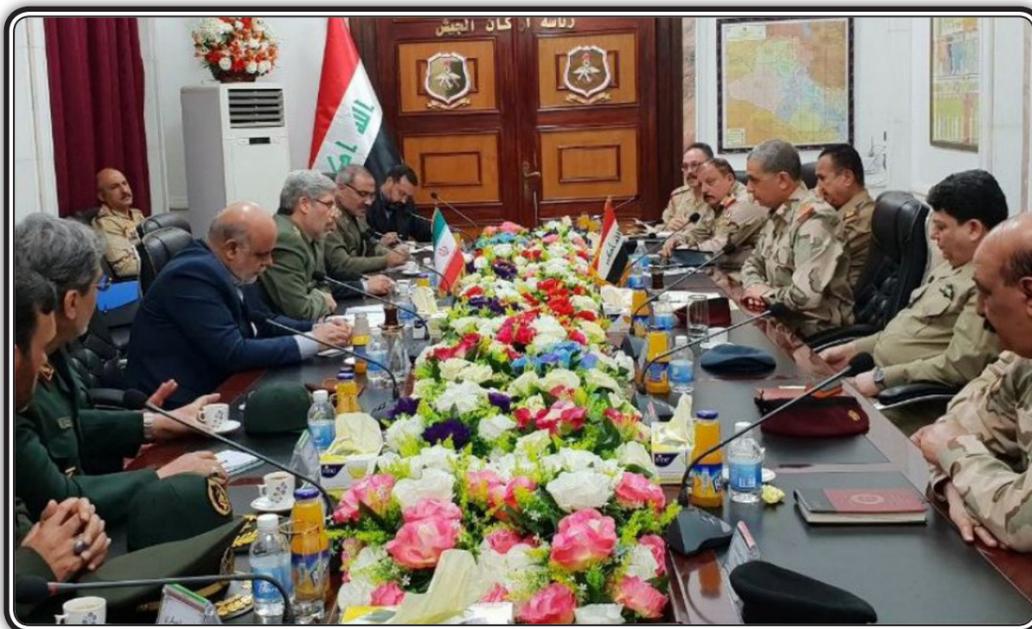
The Saudis are gutless and not men of fighting. They only know how to spend their billions in creating macabre terrorist outfits.

This means that the least the Arab reactionary regimes could do is to hire mercenaries from African states and other impoverished regions to go to Syria and lose their life for a fistful of dollars.

The recent mass demonstrations in Basra by the Iraqi people on the opening of the Saudi consulate and demanding its hat the government close it, is another indication of the deep hatred of the Iraqi people towards the Wahhabi regime in Riyadh which is seen as the mother of all terrorists.

Thus, these undeniable facts, coupled with the strengthening of the Resistance Movement stretching from Iran to Lebanon, and Gaza, have unnerved the Israelis, the Americans and the reactionary Arabs, who have realized the approaching doom and are making vain efforts to avert the inevitable.

Defense Minister Gen. Hatami in Baghdad: Iran, Iraq Discuss Boosting Defense Ties



Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami (4th, L) and Chief of Staff of the Iraqi Army General Othman al-Ghanmi (3rd, R) meet in Baghdad on April 18, 2018.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami arrived here on Wednesday for talks on various issues, including ways to boost defense cooperation between the Islamic Republic and the Arab country.

Speaking to reporters upon his arrival, the defense minister said numerous topics, including the latest developments in the region, would be raised in his talks with Iraqi officials.

“One of the main objectives of the trip is to enhance military cooperation between the two countries,” he said.

In December 2014, Iraq's former defense minister Khalid al-Obeidi paid a visit to Iran and signed a defense cooperation agreement with the Islamic Republic.

Iraq has been facing the threat of terrorism in recent years, mainly posed by the Daesh terrorist group. Iran was famously the first country to rush to Iraq's help when Daesh terrorists reached the gates of Baghdad.

Hatami said he would discuss with Iraqi officials a joint missile attack by the U.S., Britain and France on Syria last week.

The Iraqi government denounced the airstrikes as a “very dangerous” development that could help Takfiri

terrorists re-emerge in the region.

A day after the attack, Iraqis came out in their thousands in Baghdad as well as the holy cities of Najaf and Basra to protest the attacks.

They burned and stomped on several U.S. flags. “Stop destroying Syria as you destroyed our country,” shouted the protesters, in reference to the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq. “No to America, no to the bombardment of Syria,” they chanted.

Hatami said Iran will keep up its counter-terrorism cooperation with Iraq until the annihilation of terrorism.

Daesh, he said, had inflicted a lot of damage on the nations of the region, especially Iraq, and that all countries needed to put an all-out anti-terror fight high on their agenda or they would suffer.

“The Islamic Republic of Iran stood by the Iraqi nation and army in this crisis and hardships and we are determined in the fight against terrorism until the very end,” Hatami said in the first joint high commission for defense cooperation.

The Iranian defense minister congratulated the Iraqi people and government on the defeat of Daesh as well as victories made by Iraqi popular fighters and the armed forces.

Hatami also welcomed further de-

fense cooperation with Baghdad.

“We are very interested in maintaining defense and military cooperation between the two countries so that we can achieve the highest level of interactions,” he said.

The Iranian defense minister criticized double standards toward fighting terror in the region, and said terrorism was totally denounced in any part of the world.

Hatami said Iran is honestly and benevolently fighting against Daesh and other Takfiri groups alongside the Iraqi government and nation.

Defense cooperation among Iran, Iraq and Syria and later the participation of Russia has become a symbol of the fight against terrorism in the region, he added.

For his part, the Iraqi defense minister praised Iran's support for his country. He also expressed hope that Iran would actively participate in reconstruction of his country.

Later on Wednesday, the Iranian defense chief also met and held talks with Chief of Staff of the Iraqi Army General Othman al-Ghanmi, during which the two sides discussed regional developments and matters of mutual interest.

Ghanmi said Baghdad and Tehran were keeping their anti-terror cooperation with the aim of totally clearing the Iraqi soil of terrorists.

U.S., UK Blame Others to Conceal 'Shameful' Complicity

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran has firmly rejected fresh U.S. and British allegations that Tehran was sending missiles to Yemen, saying the two countries are seeking to whitewash their “shameful” complicity the atrocities being committed against the Yemeni people by leveling “false” charges against others.

Iran's permanent mission to the United Nations was reacting to remarks by U.S. and British ambassadors to the UN during a Security Council meeting on Yemen Tuesday.

“The fact is that the war of aggression of Saudi Arabia in Yemen is the main underlying reason for

the escalation of the crisis,” the mission said.

“It is regrettable that Saudi Arabia and its warmonger supporters, as the main party responsible for such a catastrophic humanitarian situation, are trying to cover up their shameful crimes by introducing false charges against others or trying to spread the crisis beyond Yemen's borders,” it added.

Several Western countries, the U.S. and the UK in particular, are accused of being complicit in the aggression against Yemen as they supply the Riyadh regime with advanced weapons and military equipment.

FM Zarif to Head to New York Thursday

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iranian Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif will visit New York on Thursday to attend a high-level UN meeting and a session of the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations.

During his six-day trip, Zarif will participate in a high-level meeting on peace-building and sustaining peace on April 24 and 25 organized by the United Nations.

He will also take part and deliver a speech at the Council on For-

eign Relations in New York.

The Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), founded in 1921, is a non-profit think tank specializing in U.S. foreign policy and international affairs.

According to a report by IRIB, Zarif will also hold bilateral talks with his counterparts as well as a meeting with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

Zarif's meetings and speeches will focus on regional issues, in-

cluding Syria and Yemen, and Iran's nuclear deal.

Senior nuclear negotiator and Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi will be accompanying him in the visit.

On Tuesday, Zarif warned Iran's reaction to a possible ditching of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) by the United States would be “unpleasant” for Washington.

Addressing reporters in Tajik-

The Holy Qur'an

They who turn (to Allah), who serve (Him), who praise (Him), who fast, who bow down, who prostrate themselves, who enjoin what is good and forbid what is evil, and who keep the limits of Allah; and give good news to the believers.

The Holy Qur'an (9.112)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:03
Evening (Maghreb)	19:59
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:58
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:27

Gaffe Exposes Zionist Misinformation Against Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – The occupying regime of Israel has fabricated evidence to justify its recent attack on an airbase in Homs, releasing satellite images about Mehrabad airport in Tehran to claim that they showed Iran's military bases in Syria.

In the pictures, released by the Zionist war ministry on Tuesday, Mehrabad is shown as one of the airfields where Iranian personnel are allegedly stationed.

“The photographic intelligence seems to have been released in order to demonstrate to the Iranians that Israel knows and understands what the Iranian government's intentions are in Syria and to reduce the scope of Iranian intervention in Syria,” the photo caption read.

Several Zionists websites later removed the photo caption after being notified of the gaffe.

Iran has denounced the occupying regime's attack on the T-4 airbase on April 8 that left seven Iranian military advisers martyred, saying Israel will be punished “sooner or later” for the aggression.

“Gone are the days when the Zionist regime would hit and run and the resistance forces in the region are able to respond to this crime at an appropriate time,” Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Qasemi said on Monday.

“The occupying regime will sooner or later receive the necessary responses to its recent crime and aggression, and they will regret their misdeed,” he added.

istan's capital of Dushanbe, Zarif said Iran had on multiple occasions stressed that it would safeguard its national interests if the U.S. withdrew from the deal.

Zarif called the JCPOA a multi-lateral deal which cannot be renegotiated.

His warning came ahead of a May 12 deadline set by U.S. President Donald Trump for Congress and the Europeans to “fix” the JCPOA or see him abandon it.