

MOSCOW (Reuters) – Russia's defense ministry said on Wednesday Russian and Syrian authorities had set up a refugee center in Syria to help refugees return home from abroad.

The defense ministry said in a statement that the Centre for the Reception, Allocation and Accommodation of Refugees will "monitor the return of all temporarily-displaced people and Syrian refugees from foreign countries to their places of permanent residence".

Whenever a tradition of the Holy Prophet is related to you, scrutinize it, do not be satisfied with mere verbatim repetition of the same because there are many people who repeat the words containing knowledge but only few ponder over them and try to fully grasp the meaning they convey.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Syrian Army Continues to Push Back Terrorists



The Syrian Army and its allies continue to push back terrorists in Dara'a.

AMMAN (Dispatches) – The Syrian army has launched intensive strikes on the city of Nawa in southern Dara'a province to push back terrorists in the area.

A resident said dozens of missiles were also fired on the city that lies near Quneitra province adjoining the Israeli-occupied Syrian Golan Heights where the army moved

earlier this week to control the remaining parts of the country's southwest in terrorist hands.

The city of Nawa is the largest urban centre left in terrorist hands in Dara'a province, where a Russian-backed offensive begun last month defeated terrorists across a swathe of territory near Jordan and the occupied territories.

In another development in the country, dozens of buses arrived in Kefraya and al-Foua, both in Syria's northwestern Idlib Province, as part of an evacuation deal to get locals out of the Shia-majority towns, which have long been besieged by foreign-backed terrorists.

Syrian state TV reported on

Wednesday that 88 buses and several ambulances were ready to evacuate civilians from Kefraya and al-Foua, which have been encircled by terrorists since March 2015.

A pro-Damascus commander said a total of 6,300 people were expected to be evacuated from the area.

The Syrian government and its allies usually seek to secure such evacuation deals with the militants to decrease civilian casualties in the wake of a military operation.

The fresh evacuation builds on a deal, known as the "Four Towns Agreement," reached last year between the Syrian government and militants. The agreement, however, was never fully implemented.

In April 2017, thousands of Kefraya and al-Foua residents were bussed out to government-held areas in a swap that granted, in exchange, safe passage to hundreds of people living in two militant-held towns near Damascus, Madaya and Zabadani.

However, the evacuation of some 7,000 Kefraya and al-Foua residents in return for the release of 1,500 militant prisoners did not go through.

If Assault Ends: Yemen to Allow UN Supervision of Hudaydah



Saudi-backed militants loyal to ex-Yemeni president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi gather with armed pick-up trucks and armored vehicles on the side of a road near the Hudaydah airport on June 21, 2018.

SANAA (Press TV) – The leader of Yemen's Houthi Ansarullah movement says he will not reject the United Nations' supervisory role in Hudaydah if the Saudi-led coalition ends its weeks-long aggression against the Red Sea port city.

In an interview with French daily Le Figaro published on Tuesday, Abdul-Malik Badreddin al-Houthi said he had informed Martin Griffiths, the UN special envoy for Yemen, about his readiness to place Hudaydah under the world body's supervision.

"We told the UN envoy, Martin Griffiths, that we are not rejecting the role of supervision and logistics that the UN wants to hold in the port, but on the condition that the aggression against Hudaydah stops," he said.

Backed by Saudi-led airstrikes, Emirati forces and militants loyal to Yemen's former president, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, launched the Hudaydah offensive on June 13 despite international warnings that it would compound the impoverished nation's humanitarian crisis.

The Saudi-led coalition claims that the Houthis are using Hudaydah for weapons delivery, an allegation rejected by the fighters.

The coalition of aggressors has, however, failed to make any major gains in Hudaydah in the face of stiff resistance from Houthi fighters and their allied forces.

On the diplomatic front, Griffiths has reportedly been pushing for a deal in which the Houthis place the Hudaydah port under the supervision of a UN-monitored committee.

The UAE, however, dismisses such an arrangement, under which Hudaydah would remain under the control of the Houthis and their allied forces, demanding their unconditional withdrawal.

"It is strange to demand that the Yemenis pull out of their city of Hudaydah for handing it over to the United Arab Emirates, which is committing an act of aggression against us. Such a demand violates international conventions," the Houthi chief said.

"It is as if the United Kingdom called on the French to abandon Paris or another city and give it up to the British. It is not logical," he added.

He further censured France for "contributing to Arab-led aggression" in Yemen by selling weapons to the aggressors.

Knesset Revokes Zionist PM's Power to Declare War

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Israeli parliament known as the Knesset has struck down a law passed earlier this year, which would enable the Zionist regime's prime minister and minister of military affairs to declare war on their own.

The lawmakers rescinded the law, which had cleared the Knesset in late April, with 77 votes to 16.

The legal amendment would allow the duo to forgo a full-cabinet approval before ordering a war or a major military operation that could lead to war.

It would enable them to take such decisions in "extreme cir-

cumstances," without specifying those situations.

The clause, which has replaced it, now says that such a decision has to be made "by as wide a panel as possible."

Lawmaker Ofer Shelah of the Yesh Atid party hailed the vote, saying that it was "inconceivable that a decision to go to war could be in the hands of one person, without consultation with cabinet members."

The Zionist regime has a long history of waging wars and occupying sovereign states.

The regime, under hawkish Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, has escalated its attacks

against the Gaza Strip to a scale unprecedented since its last war against the Tel Aviv-blockaded Palestinian territory in 2014.

Tel Aviv has also been conducting sporadic aerial assaults against Syria in what is widely viewed as an attempt to support the terror groups operating against the Damascus government.

The Zionist regime has, meanwhile, been threatening Lebanon with a new military offensive in recent months.

Separately, the Knesset approved with 56 votes to 48 a law extending the jurisdiction of Israel's Administrative Court to the

occupied West Bank.

The Jerusalem Post called it the "latest push for de facto annexation" of the Palestinian territory, which Israel occupied back in 1967.

Zionist minister of judiciary affairs Ayelet Shaked said, "The Knesset today has made an important statement – the residents of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) are indistinguishable from other Israeli citizens."

Since the occupation, the Zionist regime has built hundreds of settlements across the land against the international law, which forbids construction on occupied land.

Turkey Keeps U.S. Pastor in Jail, Washington 'Deeply Concerned'

ALIAGA (Reuters) – A Turkish court decided on Wednesday to keep an American pastor in jail, dashing hopes that he could be released during his trial on terrorism and spying charges, a case that has deepened a rift with NATO ally Washington.

Andrew Brunson, a Christian pastor from North Carolina who has lived in Turkey for more than two decades, was indicted on charges of helping the group that Ankara blames for the failed 2016 coup against President Tayyip Erdogan, as well as supporting outlawed PKK Kurdish militants.

Brunson, who denies the charges, faces up to 35 years in jail if found guilty.

"It is really hard to stay in jail and be separated from my wife and children," Brunson, wearing a black suit and a white shirt, told the court in Turkish.

President Donald Trump has called for his

release and the U.S. Senate passed a bill last month including a measure that prohibits Turkey from buying F-35 Joint Strike Fighter jets because of Brunson's imprisonment and Turkey's purchase of Russia's S-400 missile system.

The U.S. envoy to Turkey said he was "disappointed" by the ruling by the court in the Aegean province of Izmir where Brunson had been living.

"Our government is deeply concerned about his status and the status of other American citizens and Turkish local employees of the U.S. diplomatic mission who have been detained under state of emergency rules," Charge d'affaires Philip Kosnett told reporters outside the courtroom.

"We have great respect for both Turkey's traditional role as a haven for people of faiths and

Turkey's legal traditions. We believe this case is out of step with these traditions," he said.

Brunson was pastor of the Izmir Resurrection Church, serving a small Protestant congregation in Turkey's third-largest city, south of the Aegean town of Aliaga where he is now on trial.

His lawyer Ismail Cem Halavurt had raised hopes that he could be released as the prosecution witnesses finish testifying.

But Halavurt said on Wednesday the prosecution has added the testimonies of two new anonymous witnesses to the case and that the court will hold its next hearing on October 12 to hear them and view new evidence.

Turkey's lira weakened against the dollar immediately after the ruling, reflecting investor worries about tensions with the United States. It was nearly half a percent weaker on the day, at 4.8215 at 1234 GMT.

U.S. Sends More Troops to Syria Border With Iraq

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – The U.S. Army dispatched a long convoy of troops and equipment to southeastern Dayr al-Zawr as the U.S.-led coalition fighter jets once again targeted residential areas in the region on Wednesday.

The coalition forwarded a long column, including several military vehicles and heavy weapons and equipment to southeastern Dayr al-Zawr at Syria's border with Iraq.

In the meantime, the fighter jets intensified their attacks on several regions in southeastern Dayr al-Zawr, destroying infrastructures and residential areas.

The number of casualties is still unknown due to the heavy bombardment.

Early reports said all members of at least two families have been killed in the air attacks on al-Souseh.

The warplanes have been bombing villages, townships and towns in Dayr al-Zawr under the pretext of war on the Daesh terrorists group.

On Monday, eight civilians were killed and several more were wounded in a fresh round of air attacks by the U.S.-led coalition fighter jets in Dayr al-Zawr. The warplanes bombed several times the township of al-Souseh in southeastern Dayr al-Zawr, killing eight civilians, including women and children, and wounding at least a dozen others.

Local sources said that some of the injured were in critical conditions, adding that the township's infrastructures and residential units sustained major damage in the attacks.

In another development, a number of terrorists of Tahrir al-Sham Hay'at were killed or wounded after a bomb-laden vehicle exploded at a base of the terrorist group in northern Idlib on Wednesday.

Scores of Tahrir al-Sham gunmen were killed or wounded after a bomb-laden vehicle exploded at a base of the terrorist group's military police in the town of al-Dana in northern Idlib.