

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – At least two people were killed and six wounded when a bomb went off at a crowded market in Baghdad on Tuesday, police said. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing in the Sadr City district, a stronghold of nationalist cleric Moqtada al-Sadr whose bloc won a parliamentary election in May.

Iraq declared victory over Daesh in December but security officials say the terrorist group is likely to wage an insurgency after its self-proclaimed “caliphate” collapsed and the terrorists were dislodged from all the territory they held in the country.

Success is the result of foresight and resolution, foresight depends upon deep thinking and planning and the most important factor of planning is to keep your secrets to yourself.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Turkish President:

Buying Dollar Means ‘Surrender to Devil’



This handout picture taken and released on August 12, 2018 by the Turkish Presidential Press Office shows Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan greeting supporters in the Black Sea city of Trabzon.

ANKARA (Dispatches) – President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has urged Turkish people not to “divert our money to foreign currency.”

Addressing a conference of his ruling party supporters in the capital, he also renewed a call for Turks to convert their dollars into the Turkish lira, to help strengthen the currency.

“You’re Turks, you’ll walk along your way with the Turkish lira,” Erdogan told the conference in Ankara,

The Turkish lira has nosedived in value in the past week over concerns about Erdogan’s economic policies and after the United States slapped sanctions on Turkey angered by the continued detention of

an American pastor.

Erdogan has said that Turkey would boycott U.S. electronic goods in retaliation for punitive sanctions from Washington.

He made announcement in a speech in the capital Ankara. “We will boycott U.S. electronic goods.”

“We will produce every product we are importing from abroad with

foreign currency here and we will be the ones exporting these products. We will impose a boycott on U.S. electronic products. If they have iPhones, there is Samsung on the other side,” the president said, referring to U.S. giant Apple’s iconic phone and the top South Korean brand.

“We (also) have our Venus and Vestel,” Erdogan said about homegrown Turkish electronics brands.

Elsewhere in his remarks, Erdogan said Turkey was facing an “economic attack” and a “bigger, deeper operation”.

“They don’t hesitate to use the economy as a weapon,” he said. “What do you want to do? What do you want to achieve?” he added, referring to the U.S.

Relations between Washington and Ankara have taken a turn for the worse amid bitter dispute over the detention in Turkey of an American evangelical pastor on terrorism charges. The growing rift has also sent the Turkish lira into a tailspin.

U.S. President Donald Trump wrote on Twitter late last month that his country “will impose large sanctions on Turkey for their long time detainment of Pastor Andrew Brunson.” He also said he had ordered to double U.S. tariffs on Turkish aluminum and steel imports to 20 percent and 50 percent, respectively.

Zionist Minister Confirms Netanyahu Secretly Met Sisi

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime’s finance minister confirmed on Tuesday that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in Egypt in May.

A spokesman for Netanyahu had declined to comment on the meeting after it was first reported on Monday by Israel’s Channel Ten News.

U.S. sources had earlier said that the Zionist prime minister and Sisi discussed the possibility of a long-term truce in the Gaza Strip and the potential return of the Palestinian Authority to the region on May 22.

The meeting was held several days after the May 14 deadly protests along the Gaza border against the opening of the U.S. embassy in al-Quds.

According to Gaza health officials, at least 58 Palestinians were shot dead and over 2,700 wounded by Zionist snipers who were positioned along the fence. An infant and a man succumbed to their injuries later bringing the total fatalities from the violence to 60.

Every year on May 15, Palestinians all over the world hold demonstrations to commemorate the day, which marks the anniversary

of the forcible Zionist eviction of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their homeland in 1948.

Also on Monday, Zionist war minister Avigdor Lieberman said that another round of fighting between the occupying regime and Palestinians in Gaza was unavoidable.

Apart from the months of tension along the border, there have also been three major military flare-ups between the regime and Hamas since July.

On Thursday, Palestinian officials confirmed that the resistance movement Hamas and the Zionist

regime had agreed on a ceasefire mediated by Egypt to stop cross-border fire in the Gaza Strip.

The development comes after two days of the regime’s aerial raids against at least 150 positions in Gaza.

The regime in Tel Aviv says the airstrikes were launched after a long-range rocket fired from the Palestinian coastal sliver hit an uninhabited area to the south of the occupied Palestinian territories. Hamas has claimed responsibility for the rocket attack, stressing that they were in retaliation for the killing of two Palestinians by Israeli forces.

More Yemeni Civilians Killed in Saudi Airstrikes



People carry the body of a woman they recovered from under the rubble of a house destroyed by a Saudi-led air strike in Sana’a, Yemen.

HUDAYDAH (Dispatches) – In a new Saudi airstrike in Yemen’s Hudaydah province, five members of a family have been killed.

A couple and their three children were killed when Saudi warplanes targeted the province’s al-Ashraf district, Yemen’s Arabic-language al-Masirah television network reported on Monday.

In another incident, a roadside bomb in Yemen’s southern city of Aden targeted the convoy of a Saudi-backed Yemeni provincial governor but he was unhurt, witnesses said on Tuesday.

Some people were injured in the attack on Ameen Mahmood, governor of Taiz province and a member of Yemen’s former government.

“The governor was not injured, but some of the escorts were injured and taken to hospital,” an official at the governor’s office told Reuters.

The incident took place just several days after Saudi warplanes attacked a school bus at a market in the town of Dahyan in Sa’ada, leaving at least 51 civilians dead, including 40 children, and nearly 80 others injured.

Thousands of mourners attended a funeral procession for many of the dead children in Sa’ada’s provincial capital of the same name on Monday, venting their anger against Riyadh and Washington.

The crowd held pictures of the children and chanted slogans against Saudi Arabia and its ally and key arms supplier, the United States.

The Supreme Revolutionary Committee of Yemen has held the U.S. -- the main weapons supplier to the Riyadh regime -- responsible for the carnage.

The UNICEF, the United Nation’s children fund, called the carnage the single biggest attack.

The Saudi-led coalition however described the attack as “legitimate,” with coalition spokesman Turki al Malki even claiming that the strikes “conformed to international and humanitarian laws.”

Geert Cappelaere, the regional director in the Middle East and North Africa at UNICEF, has said there is “no excuse” for the continued complacency towards the war on Yemen.

The United Nations Security Council has called for a “credible and transparent” investigation into the airstrike.

The Saudi regime along with some of its allies, particularly the UAE, has been waging a deadly war against impoverished Yemen since March 2015 in an attempt to reinstall former president Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi and crush the popular Ansarullah movement.

Russia Shoots Down 5 Drones Near Syria’s Hmeimim

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Russian military forces have intercepted and targeted five unmanned aerial vehicles as they were flying in the skies near its strategic Hmeimim airbase in Syria’s western coastal province of Latakia.

The reconnaissance drones were hit mid-air and at a safe distance from the base, Syria’s official news agency SANA reported. There were no reports of casualties or material damage in the area.

The development came only a day after Russian air defenses at Hmeimim air base shot down two combat drones launched by foreign-sponsored terrorists operating in Syria’s de-escalation zone of Idlib.

The head of the Russian Center for Syrian Reconciliation, Major General Alexei Tsygankov, said the incident resulted in no casualties or material damage, and the operations at the base were not disrupted.

Late last week, the Russian military announced that its forces in Syria had downed a drone flying near Hmeimim airbase.

Russian media outlets reported that the drone, launched from territory controlled by terrorists, had been shut down after it targeted the military site.

“On August 9, the air defense systems of the Hmeimim airbase detected an aerial drone launched from the territory controlled by illegal armed groups in the north of Latakia province,” the Russian Center for Syrian Reconciliation said in a statement.

Syria has been gripped by foreign-backed terrorism since March 2011. The Syrian government says the Israeli regime and its Western and regional allies are aiding Takfiri terrorist groups that are wreaking havoc in the country.

Russia and Iran have been helping Syrian forces in ongoing battles across the conflict-plagued Arab country.

‘Kurdish-Led Council Visits Damascus for New Talks’

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – The political wing of the Kurdish-led so-called Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) went to Damascus last week for a second round of talks with the government, its co-chair said on Tuesday.

A delegation including members of the U.S.-backed SDF, which controls roughly a quarter of Syria, held talks with Damascus this month in their first declared visit to the capital.

The visits highlight efforts by the Kurdish-led authorities to open new channels to President Bashar al-Assad’s government, as they seek to negotiate a political deal that keeps their autonomy within Syria.

Negotiations could also raise new questions for U.S. policy in Syria, where the U.S. military has deployed into SDF territory during the battle against Daesh terrorists.

The SDF is spearheaded by the Kurdish YPG militia, which has mostly avoided

conflict with the Syrian government and has said it aimed to secure “Kurdish rights” rather than topple the government.

Back in May, President Assad had said he was “opening doors” for talks with the group.

The SDF is led by People’s Protection Units (YPG), a Kurdish militant outfit.

The Kurdish militants controlling areas in northern Syria have been facing a Turkish offensive since January. That operation was launched out of Ankara’s anger over growing U.S. support for the Kurdish militants, which it associates with the homegrown Kurdistan Workers’ Party militants.

In the face of the incursion, the Kurds turned to the Syrian president and asked for the central government’s help.

Months into Turkey’s military intervention, the Kurds lost the Afrin region to Ankara, which threatened to take its offensive to the

nearby city of Manbij.

Amid Ankara’s advances, the US softened its staunch support for the Kurds and agreed to a roadmap with the Turkish government, which would see a complete withdrawal of Kurdish militants from Manbij.

Observers say Washington’s failure to stand by the Kurds against Turkey pushed them closer to the central government. Ankara has also been propping up other militants to confront the YPG in Syria.

The talks between the SDF and Damascus are underway amid reports that the Turkish-backed militants are creating a “national army” with Ankara’s support in the Arab country’s northwest.

The reports say that the militants are sewing up rifts within their ranks towards building the force. It comprises some 35,000 members from the biggest factions that have been waging militancy against Syria since 2011.