

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Two Palestinian workers have sustained injuries after a Zionist settler ran them over in the western part of the occupied West Bank. Local sources, requesting anonymity, told Arabic-language Ma'an news agency that the victims, identified as Oqab Raji Mahmoud Abed al-Hafith and Ameer Hayel Raji, were struck near the village of Kafir Laqif, located 22 kilometers southwest of Nablus, on Sunday afternoon.

There have been scores of "hit and run" incidents targeting Palestinians in different parts of the occupied West Bank, with most of them largely going uninvestigated by Zionist regime authorities. Some of such events have resulted in fatalities.

During civil disturbance adopt such an attitude that people do not attach any importance to you - they neither burden you with complicated affairs, nor try to derive any advantage out of you.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Zionist PM Resorts to Threats Against Hamas Again



Masked youth cadets from the Ezzedeen al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of the Palestinian resistance movement Hamas, march in the Gaza city of Khan Yunis on September 15, 2017.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has threatened to land "very strong blows" on the Palestinian resistance movement, Hamas, in defiance of the international outcry against the massacre of Gazans by Zionist troops.

"Hamas has apparently not understood the message – if these

attacks do not stop, they will be stopped in another way, in the form of very, very strong blows," the Zionist premier said during the weekly cabinet meeting on Sunday.

The coastal sliver has been under a crippling Zionist siege since 2007, which has prevented some two million Palestinians from having free access to the remainder of

Palestine and the outside world.

The tight blockade has also undermined living conditions in the enclave and fragmented its economic and social fabric, causing unprecedented unemployment and poverty.

The occupying regime carries out regular air raids on inhabitants of Gaza under the pretext of hitting

alleged positions of Hamas, which governs the enclave and has defended it against three wars waged by the regime.

"We are very close to another type of action which would include very strong blows. If Hamas is intelligent, it will cease fire and violence now," Netanyahu added.

Zionist war minister Avigdor Lieberman ordered to halt fuel deliveries to the strip, after fresh anti-occupation protest rallies along the border separating the sliver from the occupied territories saw seven Gazan protesters killed by the regime's fire.

Since Tuesday, October 9, Qatari-bought fuel had been delivered to Gaza in an attempt to alleviate the humanitarian situation in the blockaded enclave and prevent any further escalation in the conflict.

According to a deal brokered by the United Nations, Doha pledged to pay \$60 million for desperately-needed fuel to be brought into the Gaza Strip over the span of six months in an attempt to supply the strip's sole power plant, which provides the impoverished enclave with some of its electricity needs, particularly for its hospitals and medical centers. Gazans currently receive only three or four hours of electricity a day.

Turkey Renames New U.S. Embassy Street 'Malcolm X Avenue'



General view of the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, December 20, 2016

ISTANBUL (Reuters) – City authorities in Turkey's capital Ankara have renamed the street where the new U.S. embassy is being built 'Malcolm X Avenue' after the U.S. civil rights leader, state media reported.

The move coincides with a period of fraught relations between Turkey and the United States and comes after other politically charged name changes to streets in Ankara.

In February, the city renamed the street outside the current U.S. Embassy "Olive Branch", which is what Turkey called one of its military campaigns in Syria. Ankara is at odds with Washington over its backing of forces led by the Kurdish YPG militia, which Turkey views as a terrorist group.

Radical U.S. civil rights leader Malcolm X remains a divisive figure in U.S. history and Ankara's move will likely be received negatively by critics who say he stirred racist and anti-U.S. sentiment.

"The street was given the name of U.S. Muslim politician and human rights defender Malcolm X, about

whom President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said "we will make his name live on in Ankara," Ankara's municipality said in a statement published by Anadolu news agency on Saturday.

Last month, Erdogan met Malcolm X's daughters during a visit to New York. Erdogan's spokesman Ibrahim Kalin shared the story about the name change on his Twitter account on Sunday.

A major row between Washington and Ankara appeared to have ended on Friday when American pastor Andrew Brunson was released on after two years in Turkish custody, a move which President Donald Trump said was a "tremendous step" toward improved relations.

Construction of the new U.S. embassy in Ankara is scheduled for completion in 2020.

Last December, the mayor of Ankara ordered the street of the United Arab Emirates mission to be renamed after the Ottoman former governor of Medina, following a row between the two countries about the state of the holy city under Ottoman rule.

22 Killed as Truck Carrying Migrants Crashes in Turkey

ISTANBUL (Reuters) – Twenty-two people, including children, were killed when a truck carrying migrants crashed in the western Turkish province of Izmir on Sunday, the state-owned Anadolu news agency reported.

The mangled wreckage of the open-topped truck lay toppled over in a canal, some 20 meters below a highway from which it apparently fell after crashing through a barrier, video and photos published by Anadolu showed.

Thirteen people were injured and taken by ambulance to nearby hospitals, it said.

A state prosecutor has launched an investigation into the crash and the truck driver could face arrest after hospital treatment, it

added.

According to the private Demiroren news agency (DHA), the truck's passengers were foreign migrants who had reached a deal with traffickers to be transported by boat to the Greek island of Samos south of Izmir.

Nine of those injured were children, DHA said. It was not clear where the migrants were from.

Turkey became one of the main launch points for more than a million migrants taking the sea route to EU countries in 2015, many fleeing conflict and poverty in the Middle East and Africa.

The influx of migrants was drastically curtailed by a 2016 accord between Ankara and the EU, after hundreds died crossing to Greek islands a few miles off Turkey.



Turkish police forensic experts examine the wreckage of a truck that had been carrying refugees, after it crashed in Izmir, Turkey, on October 14, 2018.

The truck driver lost control of the vehicle and it crashed at around 8 a.m. (0500 GMT) in the Gaziemir district, near the airport south of Izmir city, DHA said.

A CNN Turk correspondent at the scene said emergency workers had worked to retrieve the dead and wounded trapped beneath the truck.

Jordan, Syria Say to Reopen Border

AMMAN (Dispatches) – The border crossing between Jordan and Syria will reopen on Monday after being closed for three years, the two countries said on Sunday after weeks of talks.

In July, the Syrian government forces regained control of the checkpoint, during a weeks-long Russian-backed offensive to drive terrorists from their stronghold in southwest Syria, captured by terrorists in early 2015.

The border crossing plays a crucial role in

the transit of goods among Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, and the countries of the Persian Gulf.

Technical teams from the two countries met on the Jordanian side on Sunday and agreed on the final arrangements to open the crossing from Oct. 15, said Jordanian government spokeswoman Jumana Ghunaimat.

However, although the crossing will be officially opened on Monday, it will not open to normal traffic just yet, said Nael Husami, head of the Amman chamber of industry.

Syrian state television also cited Interior Minister Mohammed al-Shaar as saying the border crossing and roads leading to it were being renovated.

Earlier, the Syrian official said that the main road to the checkpoint has been restored, while the premises for the preliminary accommodation of the administration are being equipped and the main building is being renovated.

Syria's only other normally operating border is with Lebanon.

Terrorists Fire Shells From Idlib Buffer Zone Despite Deal

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – Terrorists have reportedly fired mortar shells from a planned buffer zone in the northwestern Syrian province of Idlib, killing two Syrian soldiers.

The attack saw several projectiles being fired "at an army position in nearby Hama province", the so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said on Sunday. "This is the first clear violation of the deal since the heavy weapons were withdrawn. This area is supposed to be clear of heavy weapons, including mortar shells," Observatory head Rami Abdel Rahman said.

Shells were also fired from elsewhere inside the de-escalation zone, but did not result in any casualties, the London-based group added.

The zone has been planned out by Russia and Turkey, which sides with anti-Damascus groups. Under the plan, all militant and terrorist groups must hand over their heavy weapons by October 10.

Syria's Al Watan paper reported similar violations. It said that western parts of the neighboring Aleppo Province were being hit

by "rocket fire and shelling with heavy weapons, which were supposed to be pulled out from the area."

Ankara's agreement with Moscow forestalled an imminent offensive to liberate Idlib where several Turkish-backed militant groups are based.

The Turkey-Russia deal also calls for the removal of all members of terrorist groups from the demilitarized zone but they have refused to submit to the requirement.

Damascus has clearly asserted that the Idlib agreement is only "temporary," and that the province should ultimately come under the government control.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on Friday confirmed that the agreement is temporary and that the Syrian government should ultimately regain control over the entire territory.

"Indeed, it is a temporary agreement. The end of the story will be only the Syrian people regaining control of the country and all those who are staying in Syria, especially those who were never invited there, leaving the country.