

ANKARA (Reuters) – Turkey's ruling AK Party will not form an alliance with the nationalist party for the 2019 local elections, but cooperation between the two parties will continue, President Tayyip Erdogan said on Tuesday, after the nationalists pulled out of the alliance earlier.

Erdogan's AK Party and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP) formed an alliance ahead of June elections, but have since been at loggerheads over a disagreement about the MHP's call for an amnesty for some jailed criminals. MHP leader Devlet Bahceli said his party would not seek an alliance in the 2019 local election, weakening the lira more than 3 percent.

O son of Adam, when you see that your Lord, the Glorified, bestows His Favors on you while you disobey Him, you should fear Him (take warning that His Wrath may not turn those very blessings into misfortunes).

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Car Bomb Kills Six, Wounds 30 Near Iraq's Mosul



Iraqis look at the damage following a car bomb explosion in Baghdad's Sadr City, Iraq, on August 28, 2017.

MOSUL (Dispatches) – At least six people were killed, including two soldiers, and 30 wounded in a car bomb blast in the northern Iraqi town of Qayyara on Tuesday, police and medical sources said.

A vehicle packed with explosives

was parked near a restaurant and a crowded market area in Qayyara, south of the city of Mosul, police said. Health officials and police had earlier put the death toll at four but said it could rise as some of the wounded were in critical condition.

No group immediately claimed responsibility, but Daesh terrorists often carry out such attacks.

Iraq's top military commander in Mosul Major-General Najim al-Jabouri accused Daesh of carrying out the Qayyara attack.

"We are positive the car bomb attack was carried out by Daesh terrorists and we will bring them to justice," Jabouri said.

Iraq declared victory over Daesh in December, dislodging the group from all territories it held after its self-proclaimed caliphate, which extended into Syria, collapsed earlier in 2017.

The group's terrorists have since waged a campaign of kidnapping, killing and bomb attacks targeting civilians and security forces.

An interior ministry spokesman said the blast was a result of a "terrorist attack by a car bomb".

The Iraqi parliament speaker condemned the deadly car bomb attack.

"The repeated terrorist attacks in the liberated areas require a quick response to enhance intelligence efforts, and renew the security plans to ensure the protection of people and strengthen stability in these areas," Mohammed al-Halbousi said in a statement released by his office.

Halbousi also called for strengthening local police force and other security services, and urged the residents to support security forces.

After Terrorists Break Ceasefire Syrian Army Shatters Daesh Remnants



This file picture shows members of the Jabhat Fateh al-Sham, formerly known as al-Nusra Front, terrorist group in an undisclosed location in Syria.

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Syrian Army has resumed artillery bombardment of terrorist positions in the area of Tulul al-Safa, a hilly region near a local volcanic plateau in Syria's As-Suwayda province.

Speaking to Sputnik Arabic, a Syrian military source explained that fighting resumed after Daesh broke a truce which would have seen the terrorists' surrender.

Last Tuesday, terrorists occupying the Tulul al-Safa heights reached a ceasefire, agreeing that Daesh would surrender their weapons after being completely surrounded by Syrian troops. However, less than a day later, the terrorists attacked the army, with the attack said to have been successfully foiled, killing and injuring several dozen terrorists.

Syrian command decided to resume bombardment of Daesh remnants in the region, with artillery, multiple rocket launcher systems and air power deployed against them. The ultimate aim is to completely smash the terrorists before the start of Syria's rainy season, which traditionally begins in November.

The Syrian army began to clear

the As-Suwayda desert in late July following a major attack on the city of Suweida and the surrounding countryside which left hundreds of civilians dead and wounded. Since then, the army has cleared about 3,000 square kilometers of the territory, with the remaining terrorists trapped at Tulul al-Safa.

In another development, the Syrian government forces continue mine clearance in the city of Darayya, located just five miles to the southwest of Damascus, and expect to complete the process in one month, a Syrian serviceman said on Tuesday.

"In the nearby building, we found a large amount of ammunition. We inspect house by house, street by street. We bring everything here to the wasteland, where we have deep pits. It is there that we detonate the mines that we find, shells and other explosive objects... We continue the demining. Eight sappers are working in this area. We think that it will take us a month to completely clear the city [of mines]," a serviceman from the Syrian government forces told journalists.

UN: 8.4 Million War-Hit Yemenis Need Urgent Food Aid

SANAA (Press TV) – The United Nations humanitarian chief says the war on Yemen has left as many as 8.4 million people in the Arab world's already poorest nation in need of urgent food aid.

In all, 75 percent of Yemen's 22-million-strong population needed some sort of assistance, said the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock.

Remarking in an analysis obtained by the Associated Press (AP) on Monday, he said three million Yemenis were malnourished, including 1.1 million pregnant women, "and more than 400,000 severely acutely malnourished children."

Humanitarian officials "estimate that 3.5 million to four million more people could become

severely food insecure in the months ahead," the report noted.

If current trends continued, food needs could increase "by as much as 62 percent," it said.

The UN Security Council is to address the report on Tuesday.

According to AP, more than 10,000 people have died since Saudi Arabia led many of its allies into the war on Yemen to reinstall the country's former Riyadh-allied officials. Yemen's Health Ministry, however, puts the number at above 15,000.

The United States, and major European countries, including the UK and France, provide the war with various types of support, most importantly unstinting arms sales.

Lowcock urged easier access for aid operations and an expansion of commercial imports.

The Saudi-led coalition enforces an all-out embargo on



A Yemeni woman carries a malnourished child as she waits during food distribution in the province of al-Hudaydah in western Yemen, May 30, 2018.

Yemen. It claims the siege helps stem arms transfers to the country's Army and popular Houthi Ansarullah movement, which is defending the country against the invaders.

Since June, the coalition has

been engaged in a military operation to seize al-Hudaydah, Yemen's most vital port.

Back in September, the humanitarian chief said Yemen was being tipped over the edge of famine.

Hamas Rejects HRW Report on Arrests

GAZA (Dispatches) – The Ministry of Interior in Gaza Strip, run by Hamas resistance movement, on Tuesday dismissed a report by Human Rights Watch on Hamas arrests and torture as lacking accuracy.

Eyad al Bozzom, the ministry's spokesman, said in an emailed press statement that "the recent HRW report which accused Hamas of practicing arrests and torture is a report that lacks accuracy."

"This report really contradicts with reality on the ground," said al-Bozzom, referring to the HRW report which accused both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority (PA) of practicing torture in their prisons against the prisoners.

Al-Bozzom clarified that, several months ago, HRW asked Hamas to brief it with reports related to arrests in Gaza, and Hamas provided detailed information about the real situation in Gaza.

"Unfortunately, we found out that their report has totally ignored the accurate data we provided to the organization and published inaccurate information that contradict with reality," he said.

The HRW 149-page report, which was titled "Two Authorities, One Way, Zero Dissent," said there are arbitrary arrest and torture under the PA and Hamas.

The report, which was a result of a two-year

investigation of 86 cases and interviews with 147 people, evaluated "patterns of arrest and detention conditions" in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Adnan Dameri, spokesman of the PA security authorities in the West Bank, told reporters that the report "is highly biased and it is full of mistaken information."

He denied that any of the HRW representatives has contacted it to get accurate information on the incidents.

Dameri stressed that the state of Palestine "has signed all international laws and conventions that ban human rights abuses and torture and is committed to enforcing them."

President Aoun: Zionist Regime Seeks to Stir Up Tension in Southern Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – Lebanese President Michel Aoun on Tuesday slammed the Zionist regime for trying to "stir up" tension in southern Lebanon by making "false" accusations that Hezbollah holds secret missiles near Lebanon's Rafic Hariri International Airport.

"We have proved that Israeli's accusations are false. These accusations aim at stirring up tension in southern Lebanon," the Presidency's website cited Aoun as saying.

"Everybody has noticed that Israeli warplanes violate Lebanon's airspace on a continuous basis," the president added.

On Oct. 1, Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu claimed that Hezbollah stockpiled missiles at three different sites near Rafic Hariri Interna-

tional Airport in the south of the capital Beirut.

This prompted caretaker Foreign Minister Gebran Bassil to lead a tour of foreign envoys and journalists to two of the three sites pinpointed out by the Zionist regime.

Aoun made the remarks during his meeting with Stefano Del Col, head of mission and force commander of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), at Baabda Palace.

Aoun praised the UNIFIL's role in southern Lebanon and its cooperation with the Lebanese army.

Del Col said he has been discussing with the United Nations Secretariat about the regime's violations of Lebanon's sovereignty.