If good befalls thee,

it grieves them; but if a misfortune befalls thee, they say, "We took indeed our precautions

beforehand," and they

The Holy Qur'an (9:50)

PRAYER TIMINGS

UK Bank

Hit With

Fresh Lawsuit

18:33

04:47

06:11

turn away rejoicing.

Noon (Zohr)

Evening(Maghreb)

Sunrise "Tomorrow"

Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow"

International

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Iraqis Determined to Kick Out CENTCOM Terrorists

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The message to the US from Iraq is loud and clear. In fact, it is getting louder every day that the country and its people will no longer tolerate the presence of any CENTCOM terrorists on their soil.

The official complain to the UN Security Council by Baghdad of the recent violation of Iraqi airspace and sovereignty by the criminal administration in Washington in bombing five points in Iraq, including the under construction civilian airport near the holy city of Karbala, maybe a polite way of asking the Americans to leave the Land of the Two Rivers.

It is obvious the UN will not condemn the US for its crimes against humanity. Actually the so-called World Body has no power in forcing the American troops to wind up their bases in Iraq, in accordance with the formal demand of the Iraqi parliament a couple of months ago for closure of these centres of terrorism.

Thus, since Donald Trump and his team of terrorists in the White House do not understand the language of diplomacy, the other and more direct way of the Iraqi people in telling the Americans to leave their country is the growing spate of katyusha attacks on US bases.

Observers believe that the recent attacks on the Taji terrorist base north of Baghdad which resulted in the death and injury of several American soldiers, is a sampling of the terrible fate awaiting the US terrorists.

It is a way of telling the intransigent Americans that they should keep body bags ready for return home of their dead soldiers, if these miserable military personnel are not allowed by the US to return alive and in peace to their families.

The Iraqis, irrespective of the political parties to which they owe allegiance or the religious and ethnic groups to which they belong, are unanimous that their country should be indepen-

They believe that it was a costly error by the then prime minister, Haider al-Ebadi, to invite the US troops to Iraq in 2015 on the wrong assumption of checking the advance towards Baghdad of the macabrely murderous takfiri terrorists after seizing Mosul, Tikrit, Ramadi and Falluja.

This blunder greatly aided Daesh, as these cowardly terrorists are also called, since the Americans were among their creators, and on the pretext of bombing them, US aircraft used to drop crates of arms to these takfiris, while bombing the positions of Irag's defenders, the Popular Mobilization Units (PMU).

It was timely advisor help from friendly and fraternal Iran to the Iraqi people, along with the needed armaments and professional training that routed the terrorists to the exasperation of the American regime.

In vengeance for the shattering of its devilish designs, the US criminally murdered Iran's iconic anti-terrorist general, Qassem Soleimani and Iraq's PMU Deputy Chief, Abu Muhanddes, and is now trying to resuscitate the Daesh terrorists in Iraq.

Therefore, the Iraqi people, who missed a golden chance in overrunning the US Den of Terrorists in Baghdad (so-called embassy) last December, should give no respite to the CENT-COM terrorists until the last American is kicked out from the sacred soil of Iraq.

Kayhan Zarif Urges World Nations to Defy U.S. Sanctions on Iran



A nurse cares for patients in a ward set aside for people infected with the coronavirus, at Forqani Hospital in Qom.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif on Tuesday called on world countries to join a global campaign to disregard the U.S. sanctions against Iran.

In a post on his Twitter account, Zarif said the unlawful U.S. sanctions have drained Iran's economic resources and impaired its ability to fight COVID-19.

"They (U.S. sanctions) literally kill innocents," he added.

"It is immoral to observe them: doing so has never saved anyone from future U.S. wrath," the Iranian foreign minister stated.

He asked other countries to "join the growing global campaign to disregard US sanctions on Iran."

Zarif also called on Britain not to follow the cruel and illegal sanctions the U.S. has imposed on the people of Iran.

Zarif and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the UK Dominic Raab held a telephone conversation on Monday evening.

The two top diplomats discussed a range of issues, including the latest developments surrounding the outbreak of the coronavirus in Iran and the world, the unilateral sanctions imposed by the U.S., the JCPOA, consular affairs between Tehran and London, and regional developments.

Zarif commended the European Union and the three EU members of the JCPOA -the UK, France and Germany- for sending aid to Iran for the fight against coronavirus, slammed the U.S.' illegal and unilateral sanctions as an obstacle to the battle with the global pandemic, and called on the UK to defy the U.S.' cruel sanctions against the Iranian nation under such circumstance, both on the basis of its (Britain's) JCPOA commitments and the human considerations.

Meanwhile, in a press conference, Iranian Judiciary spokesman Gholam Hossein Esmaeili slammed European countries for their compliance with the U.S. sanctions on Iran's medicine sector as the country is fighting the coronavirus outbreak.

"The U.S.-led global arrogance and hegemonic system is hostile not only to our ruling system but also to our people and our citizens," Esmaeili said.

The cruel and unilateral sanctions imposed by the U.S. against Iran, including those hampering the country's medicine imports are a clear example of criminal moves by the U.S.-led global arrogance,

He emphasized that while the U.S. is not expected to lift the sanctions because of its endless enmity, there is expectation from European countries that claim to be inde-

by Iranian **Customers** LONDON (Dispatches) **Embattled lender Metro Bank** has been hit with a fresh law-

suit by a group of Iranian customers who say their accounts were unfairly suspended without notice or explanation.

The group of 17 claimants, who are expected to seek at least £1.5mn in damages, include Iranians living in the UK and several UK-based businesses including an engineering firm and a consultancy.

Law firm Ronald Fletcher Baker said its clients were blocked from accessing their accounts and cash between May and September 2019 without notice and without explanation. It first contacted Metro about the issue in July and served the bank with legal papers last week.

Rokhsareh Vahid, a sanctions and banking specialist at the law firm, said: "Our clients are all UK residents and they have made it clear to Metro Bank that they did not use their accounts in an unlawful or illegitimate manner.

"Metro Bank has not alleged that any of the claimants were involved in any illegal or illegitimate activities and it has released the restrictions on some accounts during this process, which effectively confirms that our clients were not involved in any wrongdoing," she added.

Vahid said her clients suffered financially and one business had been forced to lay off staff after its accounts were restricted for nearly two months. She said: "One can imagine

how difficult it would be for individuals to meet their financial responsibilities when their account is suddenly restricted without an explanation and the restriction continues for so

UNICEF, Countries Send Aid to Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iran says the UN's Children Fund (UNICEF) Uzbekistan, the United Arab Emirates, China and Kuwait have sent separate cargos of humanitarian aid to the Islamic Republic to help the country combat the deadly coronavirus.

Iran's foreign ministry said UNICEF has shipped the third consignment of medicine and supplies to support Iranian children against the coronavirus epidemic.

Uzbekistan's humanitarian aid arrived on Monday morning which included medical supplies.

An Uzbek plane brought the batch to Iran on March

The United Arab Emirates also sent two aid planes carrying critical medical supplies to Iran to support Tehran's efforts to combat the COVID-19 disease.

Abu Dhabi says the two aid aircraft contained over 32 metric tonnes of supplies, including boxes filled with thousands of pairs of gloves, surgical masks, and protective equipment.

On March 3, the UAE had contributed to a coronavirus aid mission to the Islamic Republic in collaboration with the World Health Organisation, WHO, by dispatching a UAE aircraft carrying 7.5 tonnes of medical supplies and five WHO experts.

A consignment of medical supplies, weighing 15 tons, provided by the people of China is going to be shipped to Iran on Tuesday night, the Iranian envoy to Beijing said.

Mohammad Keshavarzzadeh announced in a post on his Twitter account on Tuesday that a shipment of humanitarian aid, weighing 15 tons, will be delivered

He said a same cargo was shipped from China to Iran on Sunday, which included the supplies donated by the people of China, including 1,512 packages of coronavirus diagnostic test kits, oxygen generators and medical ventilators, body temperature monitors, hospital disinfectant machines, ordinary and N95masks, gloves, eyewear, gowns and detergents.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah expressed solidarity with the Iranian government and nation in the battle with the coronavirus epidemic, and unveiled plans for a donation of \$10 million to Iran for the fight against COVID-19.

(Continued on Page 7)

Press Release

Pakistan Calls For Lifting of Sanctions on Iran

TEHRAN - Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan, in an interview with The Associated Press (AP) has called for lifting of sanctions on Iran to enable it to combat Corona Virus.

In a call for action from the international community, Prime Minister Imran Khan said it

was time to end U.S. sanc-

tions on Iran, where one of the worst coronavirus outbreaks in the world has unfolded. Iran has managed the sanctions imposed by the Trump administration.

Prime Minister Imran Khan further added that Iran is a "classic example" of a place

where the humanitarian imper-

ative to contain the outbreak outweighs political rivalries or economic dogmas. The Pakistani prime minister

said he fears the new coronavirus will devastate the economies of developing nations and warned richer economies to prepare to write off the debts of the world's poorer countries.

"It's not just Pakistan. I would imagine the same in India, in the subcontinent, in African countries," the Imran Khan said, referring to the virus, "If it spreads, we will all have problems with our health facilities. We just don't have that capability. We just don't have the resources."