

### Zionist Regime Claims Spitting Lebanese Drone

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime claims it has identified a drone entering the occupied territories' airspace before returning to Lebanon. Zionist troops observed an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) "infiltrating Israeli airspace from Lebanon before returning shortly thereafter," said the regime's military spokesperson in a brief statement.

"The UAV was monitored by the troops," the spokesperson added, without elaborating on the rare case.

The recent drone was observed hours after Syria accused the regime of carrying out another attack on military positions in southern Syria.

The best way to punish an evil-doer is to reward handsomely a good person for his good deeds.

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# Syria Thwarts Zionist Regime's Missile Attack



This file picture by the media bureau of the Syrian Joint Operations Command purportedly shows Syrian air defense systems intercepting Israeli missiles over Damascus' airspace on May 10, 2018.

CAIRO (Dispatches) – Syrian Air Defenses thwarted an attack by the Zionist regime on Tal al-Hara in southern Syria and shot down a number of them, Syrian state news agency SANA said early on Wednesday.

Located in Daraa Governorate,

Tal al-Hara is considered as a strategic hill overlooking the occupied Golan Heights.

The missile attack resulted only in damage and the Zionist regime then conducted an "electronic war" in which radars were subjected to interference, SANA added.

The attack did cause some material damage, though there were no immediate reports about casualties from the strikes.

On Tuesday evening, Syrian air defense systems intercepted and shot down an unmanned aerial vehicle launched by members of the

Jabhat Fateh al-Sham Takfiri terrorist group, formerly known as al-Nusra Front.

SANA reported that army forces shot down the drone loaded with bombs over Tal Meleh village in the western-central province of Hama.

On June 2, Syrian air defenses "confronted" and "downed hostile missiles" that were targeting positions in southwestern Damascus.

The aggression killed three Syrian soldiers and injured seven others, while causing some material damage.

A Syrian military source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the missiles were coming from the direction of Syria's Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

On May 17, Syrian army said its air defense units had brought down several projectiles fired from Israeli-occupied territories.

Some residents in the Syrian capital said several loud explosions were heard near Damascus.

SANA, quoting an unnamed military official, reported that the projectiles came from "the direction of" Syria's southwestern province of Quneitra near the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights, adding that the air defense units had "countered" them.

## 'One Mother, Six Newborns Die Every Two Hours in Yemen'



A displaced Yemeni child is seen at a makeshift camp in the district of Abs in Yemen's northwest.

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – The UN children's agency UNICEF revealed that the brutal war in Yemen has worsened the humanitarian situation for mothers and babies in the country, with one mother and six newborns dying every two hours due to a lack of health services.

As the world approaches the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), mothers and children continue to bear the brunt of the ongoing Saudi-led war in Yemen, Yemeni News reported.

The brutal conflict continues to cost the lives of civilians, with a mother and six newborns dying every two hours due to poor health care services, the UNICEF said in a report.

In the country profoundly affected by a humanitarian crisis, one out of every 260 women dies during pregnancy and childbirth, and one out of 37 newborns dies in its first month of life, UNICEF added, revealing the lack of routine primary health-care services, crucial for supporting mothers and childbirth.

The report indicated that, "One of the war's repercussions that befell Yemen is the clear assault on motherhood and paternity", noting that "only 51 percent of all health facilities are operating at full capacity. Thus, these facilities suffer from a severe shortage of medicines,

equipment and personnel".

UNICEF also announced that "the rate of births that take place at home is also increasing because Yemeni families are getting poorer every day".

Saudi Arabia and a number of its regional allies launched a devastating campaign against Yemen in March 2015, with the aim of bringing the government of former Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi back to power and crushing the Ansarullah movement.

Despite Riyadh's claims that it is bombing the positions of the Ansarullah fighters, Saudi bombers are flattening residential areas and civilian infrastructures. Weddings, funerals, schools and hospitals, as well as water and electricity plants, have been targeted, killing and wounding hundreds of thousands.

According to a December 2018 report by the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED), a nonprofit conflict-research organization, the Saudi-led war has claimed the lives of over 60,000 Yemenis since January 2016.

Save the Children, a charity, has reported that more than 84,700 children under the age of five may have starved to death in Yemen since the Saudi regime and a coalition of its allies launched the brutal war on the already-impooverished nation.

## Jordan, Egypt Rebuked for Plans to Attend U.S.-Led Conference

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Palestinian Authority says it "deeply regrets" decisions by Jordan and Egypt to attend an upcoming U.S.-led conference in Bahrain, which revolves around a controversial Washington-devised plan on the Zionist-Palestinian conflict.

The Authority "calls on them and all brotherly and friendly countries to withdraw," the PA's spokesman Ibrahim Melhim said Tuesday.

"Under the cover of this participation, the U.S. is trying to create solutions outside the realm of international legitimacy that detracts from the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people," he added.

The comments came after Egypt, Jordan and Morocco reportedly informed Washington of their plans to send representatives to the June 25-26 conference, which seeks to unveil the economic aspects of a scheme forged by the U.S. to resolve the Zionist-Palestinian conflict.

Washington has withheld details about its "deal of the century," but various leaks have revealed that it seriously compromises Palestinians' rights and grievances.

The Times of Israel said the Arab trio's decision now "paves the way for Israel to be invited as well."

According to a report cited by

the paper, U.S. officials wanted to secure enough Arab participation, particularly that of Egypt and Jordan, before bringing Israel into the picture.

Palestinians have accused regional Arab states, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — which have similarly announced plans to participate at the conference — of betraying the Palestinian cause of ending Israel's occupation.

All Palestinian factions, whether in the Gaza Strip or the occupied West Bank, have unanimously boycotted the conference.

Meanwhile, Azzam al-Ahmad, a senior official with the

Fatah Party — which dominates the PA and the Palestine Liberation Organization umbrella group — said the outcome of the Manama event will have "no legal value" as long as "the stakeholders oppose" it.

"How can the workshop take place in a brotherly Arab country in the absence of the main stakeholder of the [Palestinian] issue...? The mere holding of [the conference] is in contravention of the Arab Peace Initiative that affirmed the two-state solution, ending the occupation, establishing an independent Palestinian state and the return of refugees in accordance with UN General Assembly Resolution 194," he said.

## 'UAE Paid Businessman to Spy on Trump'

ABU DHABI (Dispatches) – An Emirati businessman received money from the UAE's National Intelligence Service (NIS) to spy on U.S. President Donald Trump's camp and gather intelligence on his administration's Middle East policy, a report says.

The White House, CIA and Justice Department declined to comment on the allegations, with the businessman's lawyer stressing that his client was "not an intelligence operative."

The Intercept has reported that Rashid al-Malik, an Emirati businessman whose name came up in a federal probe into possible illegal donations to pro-Trump groups, served as a secret paid intelligence source for the sheikdom's intelligence services in 2017.

The report cited official documents and unnamed sources said to be familiar with the mat-

ter.

According to the publication, al-Malik, formally working as an investment consultant, was given an official code name, and paid "tens of thousands of dollars a month" by the Emirati government to search for information on the then-incoming Trump administration's Middle East policy.

Specifically, Abu Dhabi reportedly sought to find out about Washington's stance in the conflict between Saudi Arabia and the UAE and Qatar, the details of U.S. officials' meetings with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, and the administration's attitudes toward the Muslim Brotherhood.

Malik, the report noted, had told his handlers that he had approached unnamed US individuals about a possible business venture that was

indirectly associated with Trump.

It further named NIS Director Ali al-Shamsi as one of the Emirati government officials overseeing Malik, a former Dubai aerospace executive and chair of the investment firm Hayah Holdings.

Shamsi is "more than just a spy. He's also a discreet messenger" for Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and his brother Tahnoun, the UAE's national security adviser, a source told The Intercept.

"Shamsi and the Emirati government clearly think they can influence Trump by doing business with him," said a person with direct knowledge of UAE intelligence operations, requesting anonymity.

Malik's lawyer, however, stressed that his client was "not an intelligence operative."

### Turkey:

## U.S. Letter on F-35s Not in Line With Spirit of Alliance

ISTANBUL (Dispatches) – Turkey on Wednesday criticized a letter from Washington on Ankara's eventual removal from the F-35 fighter jet program, saying the language used did not suit the spirit of alliance between the two NATO allies.

Writing to Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar last week, U.S. acting Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan outlined how Turkey would be pulled out of the F-35 program unless Ankara changes course from its plans to purchase the Russian S-400 missile system.

Akar, cited by his ministry in a statement, said Ankara was working on a response to the letter and that it would be sent to the United States in the coming days.

He added that he was set to speak with Shanahan on the phone and that they would meet in person at a NATO meeting at the end of the month. "In the con-

tacts we will make, whether via mail or a meeting in person, all topics are on the table and we are continuing to openly and clearly express... our known views.

"We will continue to maintain the same attitude and stance."

In what has become a major point of disagreement between the NATO allies, the United States has long pushed Turkey to stop its purchase of the Russian S-400s, saying the system would compromise the F-35s.

Turkey has repeatedly said the purchase of the missile system was a "done deal". Ankara has proposed that the two allies form a working group to assess the impact but says it has yet to hear back from Washington.

Russia said on Tuesday it plans to deliver its S-400 to Turkey in July, setting the clock ticking on a U.S. threat to hit Ankara with sanctions if it goes ahead with the deal.