

Wildfires Rage in Israeli-Occupied Territories

AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – Firefighters have battled wildfires that scorched swathes of forests in central parts of the Israeli-occupied territories, forcing some small towns to be evacuated, during a heatwave that brought record temperatures to parts of the territory.

Rescue efforts focused on a wooded area between al-Quds and Tel Aviv, where ground teams and airplane tankers fought back the flames for hours. By nightfall, the fires were mostly under control, according to police.

Some 3,500 residents of small towns were evacuated, officials said. More than a dozen houses burned down, local media reported.

The first fruit of forbearance is that people will sympathize with you and they will go against the man who offended you arrogantly.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

'Bahraini Regime Contributing to Liquidation of Palestinian Cause'

Yemeni Forces Release Footage on Abu Dhabi Airport Strike



Saudi soldiers stand guard before aid supplies are unloaded from a Saudi air force cargo plane at an airfield in Yemen's central province of Ma'rib, on March 12, 2018.

SANAA (Dispatches) – Yemeni forces have released footage verifying a retaliatory attack on the Abu Dhabi International Airport carried out last year, which had been denied by officials of the United Arab Emirates.

The video shows a Sammad-3 (Invincible-3) unmanned aerial vehicle flying at low altitude before it fires a missile, setting two trucks parked at the airport ablaze.

The attack took place on July 26, 2018 when Yemeni army soldiers, backed by allied fighters from Popular Committees, launched an airstrike against the airport using a domestically-built long-endurance Sammad-3 (Invincible-3) unmanned aerial vehicle.

Abdullah al-Jafri, a spokesman for Yemeni air force and air defense, said at the time that the drone attack on Abu Dhabi International Airport had halted flights to and from the airport, adding that this was the first time that Yemeni forces used a drone to attack the airport.

He added that Yemeni forces will continue to target the infrastructure of countries that have taken part in the aggression against Yemen in future attacks.

Meanwhile, Yemeni army forces, supported by allied fighters from Popular Committees, launched an airstrike against an MIM-104 Pa-

triot surface-to-air missile system stationed at an airport in Saudi Arabia's southwestern border region of Najran.

Yemeni soldiers and their allies attacked the U.S.-built system on Thursday, using a domestically-designed and -manufactured Qasef-2K (Striker-2K) combat drone, a Yemeni military source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the local Arabic-language al-Masirah television network.

The source added that the aerial attack was carried out following close surveillance by Yemeni forces.

According to Yemeni sources, this is the third consecutive attack by Yemeni forces' drones on the Saudi airport.

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

The U.S.-based Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project (ACLED), a nonprofit conflict-research organization, estimates that the Saudi-led war has claimed the lives of over 60,000 Yemenis since January 2016.

Daesh Releases New 'Guerrilla Manual'

CAIRO (Dispatches) – After losing territory, Daesh terrorists are turning to "guerrilla war" - and the group's newspaper is telling them exactly how to do it.

In recent weeks, Daesh's al-Naba online newspaper has encouraged followers to adopt guerrilla tactics and published detailed instructions on how to carry out hit-and-run operations.

The group is using such tactics in places where it aims to expand beyond Iraq and Syria. While Daesh has tried this approach before, the guidelines make clear the group is adopting it as standard operating procedure.

At the height of its power Daesh ruled over millions in large parts of Syria and Iraq.

But in March it lost its last significant piece of territory, the Syrian village of Baghouz, and the group has been forced to return to its roots: a style of fighting that avoids direct confrontation.

In a rare video published by Daesh's Al Furqan network in April, the group's ringleader Abu Bakr al-

Baghdadi encouraged terrorists to fight on and weaken the enemy by attrition, stressing that waging war is more important than winning.

It was more downbeat than his only other video appearance from the pulpit of the Grand al-Nuri Mosque in Mosul in 2014, when he was dressed all in black and sporting a fancy watch.

In the new video, he sat cross-legged on a mattress as he spoke to three aides. A Kalashnikov rifle rested against the wall behind him — the same type of weapon that appeared in videos of Al Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden and Baghdadi's predecessor Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who both adopted the guerrilla warfare tactic.

Hassan Abu Hanieh, a Jordanian expert on terrorism, said Daesh has used guerrilla tactics to temporarily seize towns in order to attract media coverage but also as part of a new strategic approach.

"This kind of war has turned into a strategy for the group," he said. "At this stage they are using it as a war of attrition, like Baghdadi said in his latest speech."



Palestinian demonstrators hold signs bearing pictures condemning US President Donald Trump.

MANAMA (Dispatches) – Bahrain's main Shia opposition group, the al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, says the ruling Al Khalifah regime is contributing to the liquidation of the Palestinian cause through hosting a Washington-led conference in support of U.S. President Donald Trump's controversial proposal for "peace" between the Zionist regime and Palestinians, dubbed "the deal of the century."

"The Manama regime, through hosting a U.S.-Zionist conference

next month, is helping the obliteration of the Palestinian cause in favor of the Zionist regime, and according to Israeli conditions," the deputy secretary general of al-Wefaq, Sheikh Hussein al-Daihi, said.

He added, "It's not the first time that the Bahraini regime stabs Muslims and reneges on their major issue of concern, which is Palestine. The regime has rushed to normalize ties with the Zionist entity."

The opposition figure further noted that the Manama conference

scheduled for June 25-26 is a "failed step to establish a new Middle East" according to U.S. standards.

"The hypocrisy of those fooling with the Palestinian cause and Palestinians' sufferings has been unmasked. Their intentions and schemes aimed at liquidation of the Palestinian cause have now been exposed," Daihi pointed out.

The Arab governments of the Persian Gulf region and the Zionist regime are known to have been rather secretly cozying up to one another.

The regime has recently stepped up its push to make its ties with Arab governments public and establish formal relations with them.

Israel's Channel 13 news network reported that Bahrain had informed the Zionist regime more than two years ago that it was interested in normalizing relations with the regime.

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Hamas resistance movement have called for an Arab boycott of the Bahrain confab.

Hamas, in a statement issued on Monday, also called on Arab countries to provide the Palestinian people with every support to confront and frustrate the US "deal of the century."

"We are following with great concern the American announcement about holding an economic workshop next June in the Bahraini capital of Manama," Hamas said, describing it as the first American confab in support of the so-called deal of the century.

The movement also denounced any Arab participation in adopting and executing the deal, saying any attendance in the American-led Bahrain conference would be considered a deviation from Arab and Islamic values.

Trump's "peace plan" has already been dismissed by Palestinian authorities ahead of its unveiling at the end of the holy fasting month of Ramadan and the formation of the new Israeli cabinet, most likely in June.

Exodus Grows From Northwest Syria in Intensified Fighting

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – Thousands more people have fled violence in northwest Syria, the United Nations and a medical agency says, as an assault on the last big terrorist enclave met a counter-attack.

Syrian President Bashar al-Assad launched the operation at the end of April in Idlib and parts of adjacent provinces with an intense bombardment, saying terrorists had broken a truce.

Government forces are buttressed by Russian air power, while the main militant group that dominates Idlib has been reinforced by Turkey-backed militants.

Eight years into the foreign-backed war, Assad has retaken most of Syria and terrorists still fighting him are squeezed into the northwest. Turkey-backed groups hold a strip of territory on the border, and Kurdish-led militants hold the northeast.

This week's fighting brought a big increase in air strikes, with bombs falling across the southern part of the enclave.

The Syrian army warned civilians to leave the country's northwestern Idlib province as it prepares for a final military campaign to flush terrorists out of the region.

Leaflets were distributed from

Syrian helicopters urging residents to leave the entire province in order to protect their lives.

The impending operation comes amid an escalation in clashes in the province after the Syrian army launched an offensive to counter numerous terrorist violations of an earlier de-escalation agreement.

Under the agreement, which was signed between Russia and Turkey last year, terrorist groups had to withdraw from areas bordering government-controlled areas in the region.

Despite Turkey's pledge to implement the deal, the Tak-

firi groups have never complied with the agreement and have periodically launched attacks against Syrian troops from the buffer zone.

Syria has witnessed increased hostile drone attacks, notably targeting the strategic Hmeimim airbase in the northeastern Latakia province and various vital installations in the west-central Hama province.

Russia had previously warned that advanced technologies on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) acquired by terrorists required "professional knowledge and experience" in operating drones.

Bomb in Afghan Mosque Kills Senior Cleric

KABUL (Dispatches) – A bomb exploded in a mosque in the Afghan capital, Kabul, during Friday prayers, officials said, killing three people including a senior preacher and wounding at least 20 men who had gathered for worship.

The preacher, Samiullah Raihan, was a supporter of the Afghan government which Taliban militants are trying to bring down. He was also a member of the National Ulema Council, Afghanistan's top Muslim clerical body.

Firdaws Faramarz, a police spokesman, said explosives were apparently placed near the altar of the Al-Taqwa mosque, a place used by the mosque leader to initiate the prayers.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack but the Taliban and Daesh terrorists regular-

ly stage attacks in the capital.

The explosion hit at a time when dozens of men had gathered for prayers. The death toll could rise, said a second official.

The Taliban's five-year rule over at least three quarters of Afghanistan came to an end in the wake of a U.S.-led invasion in 2001, but the militant group still continues to attack government and civilian targets as well as foreign forces.

The administration of U.S. President Donald Trump is now negotiating with the Taliban group.

In an earlier development, two airstrikes carried out by U.S. forces in Afghanistan's southern Helmand and eastern Kunar provinces killed at least 14 civilians, mostly children and women.

Five women and seven children were among

those killed in the attacks that took place in Helmand's Gereshk and Kunar's Chawki districts on Monday and Wednesday, the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) said Thursday.

"Civilian casualty toll from airstrikes in Afghanistan continues to rise," UNAMA said on Twitter. "Parties must respect international obligations to protect civilians from harm."

The attacks came days after at least eight Afghan policemen were killed in a US airstrike on Helmand province On May 16.

A spokesman for U.S. forces in Afghanistan, Colonel Dave Butler, said the aerial attack took place after Afghan forces requested U.S. air support during a firefight with Taliban militants near the provincial capital of Lashkar Gah.