

ANKARA (Dispatches) – The Ankara Chief Public Prosecutor’s Office has submitted a summary of proceedings to the Turkish parliament accusing main opposition leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu of insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, the Milliyet daily has reported. In December 2018 Republican People’s Party (CHP) Chairman Kılıçdaroğlu implied that Erdogan was the head of the FETO’s political branch. FETO is a derogatory term coined by the Erdogan government to refer to the Gulen movement after accusing it of orchestrating a 2016 coup attempt.

Blessed is the man who always kept the life after death in his view, who remembered the Day of Judgment through all his deeds, who led a contented life and who was happy with the lot that Allah had destined for him.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Iraqi Forces, Hashd al-Sha’abi Purge Over Dozen Villages of Daesh



Iraqi government forces are seen in an area north of the capital Baghdad on July 21, 2019 during the second phase of the Will of Victory Operation against remnants of the Daesh terrorist group.

BAGHDAD (Press TV) – Iraqi army troops, supported by allied fighters from Popular Mobilization Units, have successfully purged more than a dozen villages north of the capital Baghdad of Daesh Takfiri terrorists.

The media bureau of the volunteer fighters, commonly known by the Arabic name Hashd al-Sha’abi, announced in a statement on Sunday that they, together with government troops, had cleansed four villages, including al-Anaz, Arab Rashid Mahmoud and Arab As’af, in al-Moshahedah region of the extremists following multi-pronged

military operations there.

Hashd al-Sha’abi fighters and army soldiers had earlier purged fifteen villages surrounding Tarmiyah town, located about 25 kilometers north of Baghdad, of Daesh militants.

Also on Sunday, pro-government Iraqi forces could wipe Daesh terrorists off Basatin ‘Awad and Hurrah districts west of Tarmiyah.

Second-in-Command of the Joint Operations Command (JOC), Lieutenant General Abdul Amir Rasheed Yarallah, said in a statement on Saturday that Iraqi military forces had launched the sec-

ond phase of a major operation to hunt down the remnants of the Daesh terror group north of Baghdad and areas nearby.

The statement noted that the offensive aims to “to beef up security and stability in areas north of Baghdad and surrounding areas in the provinces of Diyala, Salahuddin and Anbar.”

It said that units from the Baghdad Operations Command, command operations from Diyala, Samarra and Anbar, the Federal Police Command, rapid response teams, voluntary Hashd al-Sha’abi fighters and the special forces regi-

ment of the Operations Department of the Chief of Staff of the Army as well as the Special Task Force of the Directorate of Military Intelligence were participating in the offensive.

Iraq’s army and the voluntary forces began the first phase of the Will of Victory Operation early on July 7, the military said in a statement, adding that the operation would last several days and was aimed at securing the province of Anbar and the central and northern regions of Salahuddin and Nineveh.

“We press on the hands of our heroic forces that will achieve victory with the will of its heroes against the gangs of Daesh,” Iraqi Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi said.

“May God protect you and make you victorious,” he added.

Former Iraqi prime minister Haider al-Abadi declared the end of military operations against Daesh in the country on December 9, 2017.

On July 10 that year, he had formally declared victory over Daesh in Mosul, which served as the terrorists’ last main urban stronghold in Iraq.

In the run-up to Mosul’s liberation, Iraqi army soldiers and volunteer Hashd al-Sha’abi fighters had made sweeping gains against Daesh.

Iraqi forces took control of eastern Mosul in January 2017 after 100 days of fighting, and launched the battle in the west on February 19 last year.

UAE Says Yemen Coalition ‘Preparing for Next Phase’

ABU DHABI (Dispatches) – The Saudi-led coalition that has waged a war in Yemen is preparing for the next phase, a United Arab Emirates minister says.

“The coalition is preparing for the next phase with its political and military tools and is determined to achieve its strategic objectives,” said UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash on Twitter. The alliance “repelled attempts to change the balance of power and restored the government and what now remains is restoring sustainable political stability,” he claimed.

The claims come as the UAE withdrew large numbers of troops from the embattled country last month allegedly in fear of escalating tensions between the United States and Iran.

The withdrawal took place because Abu Dhabi wanted to have forces and equipment “on hand” following recent tensions in the Persian Gulf region, Reuters cited four unnamed Western diplomats as saying on Friday.

The troop withdrawal comes as the Saudi-led coalition has recently come under much pressure from Yemen’s Houthis

movement and armed forces.

In the past two months, the Yemeni forces have launched an array of missile and drone attacks on vital Saudi facilities, including oil installations, airports and air defense batteries in response to incessant Saudi-led strikes on the country.

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 Houthis.

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.

The war has also taken a heavy toll on the country’s infrastructure, destroying hospitals, schools, and factories. The UN says over 24 million Yemenis are in dire need of humanitarian aid, including 10 million suffering from extreme levels of hunger.

Turkey Intensifies Attacks on Kurds in Syria’s Aleppo

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The Turkish Army and its allied militants have intensified their attacks on the Kurdish militias in northern Aleppo and the two sides engaged in fierce clashes after Ankara dispatched massive military equipment to borders with Syria, the Kurdish-language media outlets said.

The Kurdish-language Hawar News reported that the Turkish Army and the Ankara-backed so-called Free Syrian Army (FSA) pounded the city of Tal Ra’afat and its surrounding areas in northern Aleppo with rockets.

It noted that the Turkish Army and FSA, meantime, hit the towns of Malekieh, Shavareqeh and

Maranaz near the city of Afrin in northwestern Aleppo with tens of rockets and canon shells.

The so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights pointed to the attacks by the Turkish Army and its allied militants on Ein Daqaneh, Mang, outskirts of Tal Ra’afat and Tal Maziq in northern Aleppo, and said that the Kurdish militants heavily pounded the Turkish Army’s military positions in northern Aleppo.

The SOHR also pointed to the deployment of massive military equipment by Ankara along border regions adjacent to Manbij in northern Aleppo and Tal Abyaz in northern Raqqa, and said that the Turkish Army and its allied mili-

itants are planning to conduct massive military operation against the Kurds in Manbij city.

The Turkish Army’s fresh military convoys comprising elite forces arrived along the border with Syria on Wednesday as Ankara and its allied militants continued their attacks on the Kurdish militias’ military positions in Northern Aleppo.

The Ankara-backed militants of the “Euphrates Shield” launched mortar attacks on Al-Bab Military Council’s positions in the town of Kurhovich town in Eastern al-Bab in northeastern Aleppo from their positions in Jeb al-Dam town, the Kurdish-language Hawar News said.

Palestinians Urges ICC Probe into Zionist Demolition Threats in West Bank



Palestinians run from tear gas canisters fired by Zionist troops during a demonstration against planned demolition of buildings in the Palestinian village of Sur Baher, in East al-Quds, in the occupied West Bank, on July 20, 2019.

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Palestinian Foreign Ministry has called on the International Criminal Court to launch an investigation into the Zionist regime’s threats to demolish houses in Sur Baher town of East al-Quds.

The ICC should launch an official investigation into the “house demolition crimes,” the ministry said in a press statement.

The ministry statement condemned the occupying regime’s high court’s ruling against the appeal submitted by the Palestinian residents facing demolition and displacement.

Palestinians protested the pending mass demolition plan by the Zionist regime against a village located in East al-Quds in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The protest was held by around 50 Palestinians at the village of Sur Baher on Saturday.

The Associated Press cited witnesses as saying that Zionist troops arrived and used tear gas canisters and stun grenades to disperse the protesters.

A wall that the regime has been building since 2000 under the pretext of keeping out the Pal-

estinians regularly protesting the regime’s occupation and aggression runs through the village.

The regime alleges that 10 Palestinian-owned buildings have been built too close to the barrier and is set to tear them down.

In June, Israel’s supreme court rejected a petition by the owners to cancel the demolitions. A deadline for the residents to abandon the houses expired on Friday.

“I don’t have any other place to live. I don’t have an alternative,” Reuters cited Ismail Obeideh, a father of six and the owner of one of the houses, as saying.

Israel claims that the owners had failed to obtain “building permits” from the regime.

Obeideh and the other Sur Baher residents, however, say they did not need the Zionist regime’s permission to build their homes because they had received approvals from the Palestinian Authority, which is tasked with running the West Bank’s affairs.

The United Nations, which recognizes al-Quds as occupied territory, has urged the occupying regime to halt the demolitions.

Zionist Regime to Host Arab Journalists for First Time

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime’s foreign ministry said Sunday the regime will this week host six journalists from Arab countries including, for the first time, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

The visit comes as the occupying regime seeks to improve ties with Persian Gulf Arab countries, with which it has no formal diplomatic relations.

Those states have resisted offering the regime formal recognition due to its continuing occupation of Palestinian territory, but their relations have warmed of late.

The journalists will visit Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in al-Quds, parliament and holy sites, among others, the foreign ministry said in a statement.

It claimed it had “the aim of exposing the journalists -- some of whom come from countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel -- to Israeli positions on diplomatic and geopolitical issues”.

Jordan is also participating, the ministry said.

Jordan is one of only two Arab countries, along with Egypt, that have diplomatic relations with the regime.

In another recent sign of a thaw, a group of Zionist journalists attended the U.S.-led economic conference on Zionist-Palestinian “peace” in the Persian Gulf state of Bahrain in late June.

The Palestinian leadership boycotted the conference, citing a series of moves against them by U.S. President Donald Trump’s administration.

On Thursday, Zionist foreign minister Israel Katz said that he had met his Bahraini counterpart publicly for the first time during a visit to Washington last week.

Katz also recently visited Abu Dhabi for a UN climate conference, where he met United Nations chief Antonio Guterres and an unnamed “high ranking UAE official”.