

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 3311120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue, Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

America's Expensive & Elegant But Obsolete Armaments

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

The recent 'reconsideration' by India's defence ministry for purchase of the US military industry's most sophisticated, most expensive and radar/missile evading high altitude \$220 million apiece drone, after it was shot down by Iran's ever-alert defenders for violating Iranian airspace, means a loss of almost 7 billion dollars for the Donald Trump Administration which had already enticed New Delhi to buy 30 such unmanned aircraft.

This was not the lone loss of a lucrative weapons deal involving several billion dollars for America's 'beautiful armaments', as Trump likes to call them and thinks he can use them to exterminate at least ten million Afghan men, women, and children in a few days, in addition to wiping out Afghanistan from the map of the world.

Earlier this year, India had preferred Russian weaponry to US weaponry, much to the chagrin of Trump, who is finding it increasingly difficult to sell American arms.

Turkey, for its part, brushing aside US warnings went ahead with the purchase of Moscow's highly advanced S-400 air defence system even if it meant Washington won't be selling the supposedly stealth F-35 aircraft to Istanbul – thereby squandering the chance to earn billions of dollars more for its much-propagandized military hardware.

Even Qatar has shown interest in the S-400, despite hosting thousands of American soldiers at its al-Odeid airbase.

Of course, there are eager buyers of American arms and that too at over-inflated prices in the range of several hundred billion dollars. These are the rootless and unrepresentative regimes of the Persian Gulf, especially Saudi Arabia, which thrives on the looted oil wealth of the deprived indigenous people of the Eastern Region, and which Trump humiliatingly calls a 'Milk Cow'.

Since 'cows' are unable to use state-of-the-art military technology, the US provides them military personnel as well – at a very high rate – for operating these weapons, but to the exasperation of Riyadh, the expensive American aircraft have not only failed to bomb the poor Yemenis into submission, but the Patriot anti-missile batteries are being pierced time and again by the locally assembled ballistic missiles of the innovative Ansarallah defenders.

Events of the past few weeks are a firm proof in this regard. The US supplied anti-missile defence system has utterly failed in stopping the barrage of ballistic missiles and explosive-loaded drones which have turned the southern parts of Saudi Arabia into a no fly zone for the regime in Riyadh, which has been forced to close down three airports including the King Khalid International Airport.

It means, either the US is supplying obsolete weapons to Saudi Arabia in exchange for hundreds of billions of dollars, or that American arms are neither 'beautiful and elegant' as Trump calls them nor are effective against the armaments produced by other countries.

Experts are divided. Some think Washington does not want Riyadh to possess state-of-the-art military technology that may cause embarrassment to Israel.

Others opine that the US is deliberately delivering defective defence equipment to Saudi Arabia for fear that sooner or later the tottering Wahhabi regime may be a thing of the past and the falling of American weaponry into the hands of the new rulers or emerging independent states, might pose problems for US allies.

Still others think that the American armament industry has lost the cutting edge when compared to weapons being produced by Russia, China, North Korea, and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

They point out the debacle of the Takfiris in Syria and Iraq, where after initial success the macabrely murderous terrorists, supplied with the latest lethal weapons including poison gas by the US, Britain, France, and Israel, proved no match for the Iranian trained and armed militias of the two countries.

As a matter of fact, military strategists consider the 33-day war of 2006 in Lebanon where the legendary anti-terrorist movement, the Hezbollah, shattered the myth of the illegal Zionist regime's military invincibility, as the turning point.

Since then, Israel and the US, in spite of possessing nuclear arsenals, have lost the expertise to compete with other countries in producing quality conventional weapons, and that is the reason Trump does not want a shooting match with Iran because he has been informed by Pentagon experts of the Islamic Republic's solid defences that will puncture the pride of the CENTCOM terrorists.

Iran's Health Minister: U.S. Sanctions Amount to Crime Against Humanity



A man works at a drugstore at the Nikan hospital in Tehran on Sept. 11, 2018.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran's Minister of Health Saeed Namaki said on Monday sanctions imposed by the United States against Iran's health sector amount to crime against humanity.

"Measures taken by the U.S. administration in banning medicines needed by Iranian patients and pressures mounted by Washington on Iran's health sector amount to crime against humanity," he said at a joint press conference with his Lebanese counterpart Jamil Jabak here.

Officially, humanitarian goods, such as medicine and medicinal instruments are exempt from the sanctions but the measures have restricted Iran's access to medical and health services.

Last November, the Islamic Republic of Iran Medical Council

(IRIMC) said illegal economic sanctions have negative impacts on the country's health sector.

Namaki said sanctions on health and medical sector of any country are illogical and inhumane. He said Iran currently produces 97 of medicines inside the country and "we are facing problems for the supply of only three percent of medications".

"Despite the U.S. pressures, medicines needed by all patients have been supplied. We are also planning, in cooperation with Iranian knowledge-based companies and young scientists, to meet all our medical needs within the country in coming years and become need-less of imports," the Iranian minister added.

Namaki stated that there are enough raw materials for produc-

ing medicines inside the country and Iran does not rely on other countries in this regard.

In a tweet in early March 2019, Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif announced that 66 Iranian scientific medical societies had written to the UN chief in condemnation of the "inhumane and medieval" American sanctions targeting Iran's health sector.

Scholars, scientists and academics of 66 Iranian scientific societies highlighted that the unilateral U.S. bans have "deliberately targeted" patients, healthcare sectors, academic research centers, healthcare providers, medical equipment suppliers, active pharmaceutical ingredients providers, pharmaceutical equipment suppliers and health regulators.

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Germany Rejects U.S. Mission, Australia Non-Committal

BERLIN (Dispatches) -- German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas on Monday reiterated that Germany would not join a U.S.-led naval mission in the Strait of Hormuz, adding that Berlin favored a European mission but warned it was rather difficult to make progress on that.

"At the moment the Britons would rather join an American mission. We won't do that," Maas told reporters.

"We want a European mission," he said, adding that the issue was not off the agenda but it would take time to convince the European Union to carry out such a mission.

The U.S. Embassy in Berlin said on Tuesday the United States had asked Germany to join France and Britain in a mission to purportedly protect shipping through the strait and "combat Iranian aggression". Germany rejected the request.

Britain, however, said it was joining the mission, in a move which is set to further escalate its tensions with Iran.

Last month, Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) seized a British tanker, Stena Impero, near the Strait of Hormuz for marine violations. That came two weeks after Britain "illegally" confiscated an Iranian oil tanker near Gibraltar.

"We look forward to working alongside the U.S. and

others to find an international solution to the problems in the Strait of Hormuz," Defense Minister Ben Wallace told reporters Monday.

Britain currently has deployed a destroyer HMS Duncan and a frigate HMS Montrose to the Persian Gulf to accompany UK-flagged vessels through the strait.

British foreign minister Dominic Raab claimed the latest move did not represent a change in approach to Iran and Britain remained committed to maintaining the 2015 nuclear deal agreed with Tehran in return for an easing of sanctions.

A British security source alleged that the focus of the new mission would be protecting the security of shipping and Britain would not be joining U.S. sanctions against Iran.

The United States and Britain have been shopping for support from Asian and European allies to corner Iran in the Strait of Hormuz, a vital passage way for global oil supplies.

The request, however, has been met with either silence or rejection, including a blunt "no" from Germany, the New York Times wrote on Friday.

The Trump administration has pledged to bring Iran's vital oil exports down to zero, but the shipments

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Iraq Denies Link to Oil Tanker Seized by Iran

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) -- Iraq's oil ministry has denied having any links to an oil tanker confiscated by Iran in the Persian Gulf for smuggling fuel to some Arab states.

"The ministry does not export diesel to the international market," it said in a statement late Sunday, according to the Iraqi News Agency.

A commander with Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards

Corps (IRGC), Ramezan Zirahi, told reporters on Sunday IRGC patrols seized a foreign oil tanker near the Persian Gulf island of Farsi on Wednesday night.

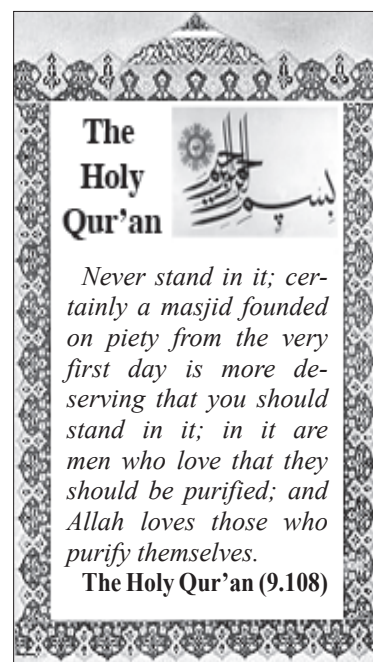
According to the IRGC, the seized ship was carrying 700,000 liters of fuel for delivery to some Arab countries of the Persian Gulf.

The official IRNA news agency reported that the tanker was identified to be an Iraqi ship. Iraq's

oil ministry said Iraqi authorities were working to collect information about the seized ship.

Two Iraqi port officials said initial information showed that the seized "small ship" is owned by a private shipping company which is owned by an Iraqi merchant.

On July 14, the IRGC seized the Panamanian-flagged Ryiah tanker for smuggling one million liters of Iranian fuel south of



The Holy Qur'an

Never stand in it; certainly a masjid founded on piety from the very first day is more deserving that you should stand in it; in it are men who love that they should be purified; and Allah loves those who purify themselves.
The Holy Qur'an (9.108)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:10
Evening (Maghreb)	20:24
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	04:40
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:16

Admiral Khanzadi:

Russia-Iran Naval Deal a 'Turning Point'

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran and Russia will hold joint military drills in the Persian Gulf later this year as part of a classified agreement to expand cooperation between the two nations.

Iranian Navy Rear Admiral Hussein Khanzadi said the agreement with the Russian Defense Ministry was signed last week in Moscow.

"Some articles of this agreement are classified but overall, it is aimed at expanding military cooperation between the two countries," Khanzadi said. "Of course, a large part of it includes the naval forces of the two countries and the agreement can be called the first of its kind between the two sides."

He went on to call the agreement a "turning point" in military-to-military ties between Iran and Russia.

TASS reported that Khanzadi visited Russia in late July. While the location of the exercises has not been confirmed, Iran said that activity could be conducted in the Strait of Hormuz as well as the northern part of the Indian Ocean.

Tensions in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz have reached a new high this summer. The United States has been touting a push to form a coalition force in the Persian Gulf.

Khanzadi said, "The situation in the Persian Gulf is absolutely calm" despite the fact that "the United States and the United Kingdom by their lies and bluff are trying to make this region

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Larac Island in the Persian Gulf.

On June 19, the IRGC impounded the 30,000-tonne UK-flagged Stena Impero tanker as it was passing through the Strait of Hormuz en route to Saudi Arabia "for failing to respect international maritime rules".

The vessel had been involved in an accident with an Iranian fishing boat and had ignored its distress call, changing its route.