

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) -- A security expert close to Iraqi intelligence services says there is information that the occupying regime of Israel plans to launch airstrikes against the arms depots of Hashd al-Sha'abi fighters in Iraq.

"Available information suggests that Israel is preparing to bomb the weapons caches of Hashd al-Sha'abi forces, and not the command centers or fortifications of the fighters. This is quite likely to happen," Fadhil Abu Ragheef told Russia's RT Arabic television news network on Tuesday.

# Kayhan International



NEW DELHI (Dispatches) -- Nigeria's Muslim cleric Sheikh Ibrahim al-Zakzaky and his wife arrived here Tuesday to receive medical care for the injuries they sustained in a brutal raid by Nigerian forces in 2015.

The 66-year-old cleric, who is the leader of the Islamic Movement in Nigeria (IMN), and his wife Zinat arrived at the Delhi Indira Gandhi International Airport and were welcomed by a large number of supporters, according to the IMN. The couple was then taken to the Medanta Hospital Gurgaon for treatment.

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VOL NO: LV 10956 TEHRAN / Est.1959 Wednesday, August 14, 2019, Mordad 23, 1398, Zil-Hijjah 12, 1440, Price 30,000 Rials

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**Iran Earn Second Win at 2019 CAFA U-19 Championship**



**Yemen Attacks Saudi Arabia's Abha Airport With Drones**



## Army Unveils New Tactical Armored Vehicles

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Iran on Tuesday unveiled new tactical armored vehicles, designed and manufactured by experts at the country's defense ministry.

The domestically-manufactured military vehicles named Aras-2 were officially delivered to Iran's armed forces during a ceremony in the presence of Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami and commander of the Iranian Army's ground forces Brigadier General Kiomars Heidari.

Speaking at the ceremony, Hatami said the high-speed Aras-2 tactical vehicles enjoy high mobility in rugged terrains and are capable of carrying heavy weaponry on different battlegrounds.

Compared to its older model, Aras-2 is more powerful and has a longer operational range, Hatami said.

Also at the ceremony, a mine-resistant armored personnel carrier named Ra'ad was put on display.

Iran has recently made major breakthroughs in its defense sector and attained self-sufficiency in producing military equipment and hardware despite facing sanctions and Western economic pressure.

The Islamic Republic says its military power is solely for defensive purposes and does not pose any threat to other countries.

Iran unveiled on Saturday a locally upgraded radar system with a range of 400 km (250 miles) that could help defend against cruise and ballistic mis-

siles and drones.

The announcement comes at a time of rising tension between Iran and United States. Iran shot down a U.S. military surveillance drone in the Persian Gulf with a surface-to-air missile in June after it intruded into the Iranian airspace.

Earlier this week, the National Interest magazine published a report examining Iran's military industry. It said recent Iranian ship interceptions highlight Iran's military challenge to the West.

Whereas Persian Gulf Cooperation Council states spend lavishly on high-end, off-the-shelf, U.S.-built platforms, decades of sanctions and post-revolutionary strategic decisions to be militarily self-sufficient has led Islamic Republic to focus more on its own indigenous industries, the American bimonthly international affairs magazine said.

According to the publication, there is a persistent tendency within Washington to underestimate Iran. Iran's entire nuclear program demonstrated the Iranian ability to achieve advanced technological abilities indigenously, it said.

"Simply put, Iranian engineers and scientists are adept at developing cutting edge military technologies."

"While diplomats continue to focus on Iran's nuclear program, the next generation of military technology involves hypersonic weaponry, robotics, and autonomous systems," the publication added.

## China Gets Tougher on 'American Bullyism'

BEIJING (AP) — Facing another U.S. tariff hike, Chinese President Xi Jinping is getting tougher with Washington instead of backing down.

Beijing fired what economists called a "warning shot" at Washington by letting its yuan currency weaken in response to President Donald Trump's latest threat of more punitive import duties on Sept. 1. Chinese buyers canceled multibillion-dollar purchases of U.S. soybeans. Regulators are threatening to place American companies on an "unreliable entities" list that might face curbs on their operations.

Both sides have incentives to settle a trade war that is battering exporters on either side of the Pacific and threatening to tip the global economy into recession. But Xi's government is lashing out and might be, in a revival of traditional Chinese strategy, settling in for pro-

longed wrangling in response to what it deems American bullying and attempts to handicap China's economic development.

Negotiators are to meet in September in Washington, but China's political calendar makes progress unlikely. The ruling Communist Party is preparing to celebrate its 70th anniversary in power on Oct. 1 — a nationalism-drenched milestone that puts pressure on Xi, the party leader, to look tough.

"The downside risk of no deal has increased," said Raoul Leering, chief trade analyst for Dutch bank ING.

Six months ago, Chinese negotiators were discussing possible concessions including more purchases of American farm goods, market opening and changes in business rules. But by May, Chinese leaders had turned skittish in the face of what they saw as constantly

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## Ayatollah Khamenei Tells Houthi Delegation:

# Yemenis Will Definitely Emerge Victorious



Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei meets with Yemeni delegation headed by Houthi spokesman Muhammad Abdul-Salam (2nd R) in Tehran, Aug. 13, 2019.

**Kayhan Int'l Political Desk**

TEHRAN – Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei on Tuesday hailed the "faith, resistance, intelligence and Jihadist spirit of the Yemeni people against a brutal and rampant aggression", saying they will emerge victorious against the invaders.

"Any faithful nation which believes in the Almighty God and the divine promise will definitely win and hence, victory will be with the oppressed and Jihadist Yemeni people without any doubt," he told a visiting Yemeni delegation headed by Houthi spokesman

Muhammad Abdul-Salam.

"The Yemeni people, with their deep and historic civilization and the spirit of Jihad and resistance that they have shown in these five years, have a good future and, by the grace of God, they will form a strong government and progress," the Leader added.

Preserving Yemen's integrity, due to its religious beliefs and different ethnicities, requires a Yemeni-Yemeni dialogue, the Leader said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said Saudi Arabia and the UAE and their supporters have committed great crimes in Yemen, but they will certainly not succeed.

"They are after Yemen's disintegration, which requires to stand firm against this conspiracy and support a unified and united Yemen and its territorial integrity."

The Leader touched on Saudi atrocities in Yemen, especially during Eid al-Adha celebrations, saying that "what is going on in Yemen is the reality of today's world and human rights advocates".

Ayatollah Khamenei also touched on the indifference of the West to the crimes that take place in Yemen and Palestine, saying "these criminal powers must be confronted with the power

of faith and resistance and relying on divine victory".

"That's the way," the Leader added.

Ayatollah Khamenei further referred to various sanctions and pressures on Iran since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution, especially during the eight years of the Iraqi-imposed war of the 1980s.

"Despite 40 years of sanctions, the Iranian nation, through resistance, faith and Jihad, has achieved important capabilities in the field of defense weapons."

The Leader reiterated his support for "the struggle of Yemen's faithful and resilient men and women" and asked the Yemeni delegation to extend his greetings to "the beloved and Mujahid brother Seyed Abdul-Malik Badreddin as well as the faithful and resilient Yemeni nation".

At the beginning of the meeting, Abdul-Salam conveyed the "warm greetings" of the Houthi leader and "all the Yemeni fighters" to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution.

"We recognize your guardianship (Velayat) an extension of the rule of the Prophet of Islam and the Commander of the Faithful and consider your support for the oppressed people of Yemen a continuation of the late Imam Khomeini's line and a source of blessing and a morale booster," the Houthi spokesman said.

Abdul-Salam said, "The Yemeni people, who are in a very difficult situation, are standing with empty hands but strong faith and perseverance against the aggression of 17 governments."

"We promise you that the Yemeni nation, as one unit, will continue to stand up and resist against aggression until complete victory," he added.

## UK Drags Feet on Releasing Iranian Tanker

LONDON/TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- The British territory of Gibraltar will not yet release an Iranian oil tanker seized by Royal Marines in the Mediterranean, an official Gibraltar source said.

The commandeering of the Grace 1 on July 4, denounced by Tehran as "piracy", exacerbated frictions between Tehran and the West and led to retaliatory moves in Persian Gulf waterways used to ship oil.

The deputy head of Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization, Jalil Eslami, said on Tuesday that Brit-

ain was thinking of freeing the Grace 1 following an exchange of documents.

"The vessel was seized based on false allegations," Eslami said in comments reported by IRNA news agency. "We hope the release will take place soon."

Iran's Fars news agency, quoting unidentified Gibraltar authorities, said the tanker would be freed by Tuesday evening.

However, a senior source in the government of British overseas territory denied that would happen on

Tuesday.

Although Grace 1 was seized by British forces, Britain said on Tuesday that investigations into the tanker Grace were a matter for Gibraltar. The territory initially admitted that the encroachment was made on Washington's orders.

"As this is an ongoing investigation, we are unable to comment further," a British Foreign Office spokesman said.

Tehran has denied the vessel was doing anything improper and in retaliation Islamic Revolution

Guards Corps troops seized the British-flagged Stena Impero tanker in the Strait of Hormuz on July 19 for marine violations.

Earlier, maritime security company Dryad Global had reported that Grace 1 had signaled a new destination of Morocco, but later removed the update.

TankerTrackers.com also tweeted that the tanker had been signaling Morocco as its next destination after having spent five weeks in Gibraltar.

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## Russia Says Winning Arms Race Against U.S.

MOSCOW (Reuters) -- The Kremlin said on Tuesday it was winning the race to develop new cutting edge nuclear weapons despite a mysterious rocket accident last week in northern Russia that caused a temporary spike in radiation levels.

Rosatom, Russia's state nuclear agency, has said that the Aug. 8 accident occurred during a rocket test on a sea platform in the White Sea, killing at least five and injuring three more.

It has pledged to keep developing new weapons regardless, portraying the men who died in the test as heroes.

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Twit-

ter on Monday the United States was "learning much" from the explosion which he suggested happened during the testing of a nuclear-powered cruise missile vaunted by President Vladimir Putin last year.

Russia, which has said the missile will have an "unlimited range" and be able to overcome any defenses, calls the missile the 9M730 Burevestnik (Storm Petrel). The NATO alliance has designated it the SSC-X-9 Skyfall. Trump said on Twitter that the United States had "similar, though more advanced, technology" and claimed Russians were worried about the

air quality around the facility and far beyond, a situation he described as "Not good!"

But when asked about his comments on Tuesday, the Kremlin said it, not the United States, was out in front when it came to developing new nuclear weapons.

"Our president has repeatedly said that Russian engineering in this sector significantly outstrips the level that other countries have managed to reach for the moment, and it is fairly unique," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

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