

Zionist Regime Jets Conduct Fresh Airstrikes on Gaza

GAZA STRIP (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime’s warplanes have conducted fresh airstrikes on the besieged Gaza Strip, shortly after the regime troops attacked and injured dozens of Palestinians during anti-occupation protests near the fence separating the coastal sliver from the occupied territories.

The Israeli military claimed the fighter jets struck two underground infrastructures purportedly belonging to the Palestinian Hamas resistance movement in the northern and central Gaza Strip.

There have been no immediate reports of possible casualties or damage as a result of the Israeli air raids.

The statement by the occupying regime also claimed that the airstrikes had been conducted in response to a rocket launch allegedly by Hamas against a target in the Israeli-occupied territories earlier in the day. It further said that the rocket had been intercepted and shot down in the south of the occupied territories.

The rocket fire had reportedly sounded sirens in the Sha’ar Hanegev Regional Council and in the Sderot settlement. Some settlers also said that they had heard sounds of explosions.

The developments came hours after at least 38 Palestinians sustained injuries, 20 of them by direct Israeli live fire, during anti-Israel protests in Gaza.

Palestinians have held weekly rallies in the area since last year to protest the siege on the enclave and stress the right to return of the refugees who have fled the Zionist regime’s aggression since 1948.

At least 305 Palestinians have been killed by



Palestinian protesters stay their ground in the face of tear gas fired by Zionist troops across the fence separating the Gaza Strip from occupied territories, in western Gaza, on August 2, 2019.

Zionist troops ever since the anti-occupation protest rallies began in the Gaza Strip on March 30, 2018. Over 18,000 Palestinians have also sustained injuries.

Gaza has been under siege by the regime since June 2007, which has caused a decline in living standards.

The Zionist regime has also launched three major wars against the enclave since 2008, killing thousands of Gazans each time and shattering the impoverished territory’s already poor infrastructure.

In the latest incident, scores of Palestinians

were injured by live bullets and rubber-coated rounds as Zionist troops attacked thousands of protesters taking part in the weekly Great March of Return at Gaza border on Friday, according to medical sources.

Troops manning the separation fence fired live bullets and rubber-coated steel rounds at the protesters who gathered at many encampments along the border, injuring 34 protesters by live bullets and 33 others by rubber-coated rounds, Wafa reported.

Dozens of protesters sustained inhalation from teargas fired by the Zionist troops.

Citing Zionist Regime’s Oppressive Conditions U.S. Rep. Tlaib Rejects West Bank Visit

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – U.S. congresswoman Rashida Tlaib has rejected an offer by the Zionist regime to let her travel to the West Bank, the latest twist in a dispute drawing Donald Trump and Benjamin Netanyahu together against U.S. Democrats ahead of elections in both countries.

Tlaib, a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives who has been critical of the occupying regime’s policy towards the Palestinians, said she would not visit her family there because

the regime had imposed “oppressive conditions” to humiliate her.

She had planned to make an official visit to the occupied territories along with fellow Democratic congresswoman Ilhan Omar of Minnesota.

Zionist Prime Minister Netanyahu, under public pressure from Republican President Trump, on Thursday said he would not allow the pair to make their trip. On Friday, the occupying regime said it would allow Tlaib to visit family in

the Israeli-occupied West Bank on humanitarian grounds.

The Michigan congresswoman rejected the offer, however.

“I can’t allow the State of Israel to take away that light by humiliating me & use my love for my city to bow down to their oppressive & racist policies,” Tlaib tweeted, using the word city to refer to her grandmother.

“Silencing me & treating me like a criminal is not what she wants for me. It would kill a piece of me. I have decided that

visiting my grandmother under these oppressive conditions stands against everything I believe in—fighting against racism, oppression & injustice,” she said.

The regime’s interior ministry said it had received a letter from Tlaib on Thursday seeking permission to visit her family in the West Bank village of Beit Ur Al-Fauqa, and it granted her request.

Tlaib did not outline what the conditions imposed on her visit were.

Palestinian Official Urges Int’l Community to Support UN Relief Agency

RAMALLAH (Xinhua) -- Secretary General of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Saeb Erekat on Saturday urged the international community to keep supporting the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

According to a statement by Erekat’s office, he sent such message to UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, the Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC), Arab League and three European countries that have suspended aid to UNRWA, urging them not to politicize humanitarian assistance.

His message comes ahead of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly meetings scheduled for September in New York and expected to discuss the renewal of the UNRWA’s mandate.

“Half a million Palestinian children who depend on your regular contributions cannot suspend their classes until the results of the investigation,” said Erekat.

Addressing foreign ministers of the Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland, Erekat expressed his regret of the three countries’ decisions to halt aid to the UNRWA on the basis of unconfirmed reports of corruption in the UN agency.

“We expect that you and all peace-loving states to take concrete measures of accountability to promote the realization of the long-awaited inalienable rights of the people of Palestine, particularly the right to self-determination,” he said.

The UNRWA has more than 700 schools serving almost 525,000 children and offers healthcare for some 3.5 million refugees through a network of 150 clinics.

In addition, the agency’s food and cash assistance program offers some 1.7 million dollars to extremely vulnerable refugees.

Throughout the region, the UNRWA serves over 5 million Palestinian refugees.

Turkey Moves to Fight Rampant Tech Addiction

ANKARA (Daily Sabah) – A 5-year action plan has been prepared as part of the efforts to fight against technology addiction in Turkey, Health Minister Fahrettin Koca said Saturday.

The ministry has prepared the action plan to fight addiction in internet games, online gambling and related issues, Koca said.

The action plan is divided into three categories under titles “Ensuring the safe and efficient use of information technologies, the internet and social media and preventing their excessive and harmful use,”

“Carrying out measures to prevent online gambling addiction,” “Ensuring the development and spread of counseling, treatment and rehabilitation services.”

The government aims to boost the efficient and safe use of the internet and raise awareness about the harms of internet addiction, the minister said, adding that they will prepare educational programs directly targeting children and youth.

“We aim to increase the time spent by the youth on the internet doing research by 10% and decrease the time spent on social media by 8%,” Koca said, adding that

they will make sure citizens have easy access to treatment and rehabilitation services for addiction.

Koca noted that addiction issues nowadays does not only involve alcohol, smoking and drug-related addictions and that technology addiction, which includes the internet, social media outlets, online games and gambling also pose threats.

“These types of addictions do not only cause psychological and social problems, but they also lead to problems in the senses and physical problems in the posture and more.

Yemen’s... (Continued From Page One)

recently captured in Aden. The war has been in military stalemate for years.

The separatist Southern Transitional Council said that its fighters had already moved away from the presidential palace and the central bank, and were vacating other institutions. They said the forces would not leave the military camps that give them effective control of the city.

“We will not retreat, we will not budge, and planes will not scare us,” one of the groups fighting as part of the southern separatists said in a statement issued on Saturday in response to the flares and low-flying warplanes.

The Houthi fighters and their allies in the Yemeni army have escalated cross-border missile and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia in recent months. The oil field attack comes a day after Sare’e said Yemen fighters launched drone attacks on the international airport in Abha, Saudi Arabia, halting air traffic.

The Saudi authorities did not immediately comment on the reported attacks or disruption to traffic at the airport, which is about 95 miles from the Yemen border.

The drone and missile attacks are Yemen’s retaliation for Saudi airstrikes on Sana’a and other mostly urban centers in the war-torn country.

The Saudi bombings are complicating United Nations-led efforts to ease tensions in order to pave the way for talks to end the war, which has killed tens of thousands of people and pushed millions to the brink of famine.

The Aden crisis has also exposed strains in the so-called Saudi coalition that intervened in Yemen in 2015 to try to restore the Riyadh-backed regime. The separatists are backed by the United Arab Emirates, a member of the coalition.

U.S.... (Continued From Page One)

the U.S. obtained a warrant to seize the vessel over alleged violations of U.S. sanctions, money laundering and terrorism statutes. Washington is seeking to take control of the oil tanker, all of the petroleum aboard and \$995,000, unsealed court documents showed.

The latest turn of events come as tensions continue to rise in the Persian Gulf since President Trump last year unilaterally pulled the U.S. out of the 2015 nuclear deal signed by Iran and other world powers. In recent weeks, oil tankers in the region have been the subject of attacks and seizures, stirring up a bitter diplomatic row. The chief minister of Gibraltar, Fabian Picardo, had warned the U.S. that a new legal case would need to be examined by the territory’s courts following the end of the tanker’s detention this week.

Richard Wilkinson, a lawyer representing three crew members of the Grace 1, including its Indian captain, said he was “not aware of any reason why the ship won’t sail on Sunday, as it is to be planned.”

“As far as Europe is concerned, and it’s common ground, there’s been no criticism or complaints that this vessel is carrying oil from Iran, the only problem from the European point of view was the destination of the vessel and that has been sorted,” Wilkinson said.

He also said that he doubted that the U.S. had any jurisdiction to enforce its own sanctions in Gibraltar, where he saw “little political will” to re-seize the tanker. The time window for a new seizure was also rapidly closing, as workers were seen by an AP crew hanging on a ladder to repaint the vessel’s bow with the name “Adrian Darya 1” over the place where “Grace 1” had already been blackened out.

The ship was reportedly no longer sailing under a Panamanian flag, but no signs of a new one could be seen on Saturday.

The shipping agent, De la Rosa, said that “if the Americans came forth with some kind of request or specific order, it would have to be looked into by the judges, but I don’t think that’s materialized.”

Tripartite... (Continued From Page One)

describing it as a prelude to the final settlement of the political crisis in the Arab state.

The Yemeni delegation arrived in Tehran a few days ago, and has since held talks with top Iranian officials including Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei and Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif.

Ayatollah 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 said.

“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.

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 Yemenis are confronting a war being waged by as many as 17 nations, Abdul-Salam said, pledging that the nation’s resistance and steadfastness in the face of the oppressors will last until “complete victory”.

Western countries, including the U.S., France and Britain, are accused of being complicit in the ongoing aggression as they supply the Riyadh regime with advanced weapons and military equipment as well as logistical and intelligence assistance.

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 suffer-

ing from extreme levels of hunger.

Inhuman... (Continued From Page One)

happening against the backdrop of the Iranian government’s strained resources as it is forced to import medicines at a higher price tag in those instances when a banking channel is available.

Responsible leaders in the United States recognize that there is little to gain by smothering humanitarian trade. European governments have sought clarity on humanitarian trade, only to be rebuffed. Iran’s European suppliers understand that this situation is dire, but the Trump administration remains unaccommodating.

During the Iran-Iraq War, the United States turned a blind eye to Saddam Hussein’s use of chemical and biological warfare against Iranian and Kurdish soldiers and civilians. Most damningly, the United States not only refused to place sanctions on Iraq to deter use of nerve agents, but it also refused to aid Iran’s access to the antidotes required to treat the victims of chemical attacks. I happen to be one of those victims; Saddam’s chemical weapons burned my lungs and eyes, causing lifelong injuries for which I continue to take medication, and which have gotten progressively worse in my old age. Seared in my memory are the hundreds of victims I saw in warzone emergency facilities near the Iran-Iraq border who had little or no access to treatment equipment, especially antidotes.

Nearly 40 years on, the U.S. government continues to suffer from the same moral failures, and I continue to witness the results up close. Though I have survived this unconventional war, many of my countrymen and my patients have not—and their sanctions-induced deaths are not a myth.

*Abbas Kebriaeezadeh is a professor of pharmacology at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

Courtesy: Foreign Policy

Sheikh ... (Continued From Page One)

India earlier on Thursday, citing obstruction of his treatment under the influence of the Nigerian government.

According to the statement and other media reports, Nigerian security agents “whisked” the religious leader away after he landed at the Abuja International airport “without allowing the multitude of journalists that were waiting for him for hours” to speak with him.

The IMN statement went on to detail the circumstances in which Zakzaky decided to discontinue his treatment in India, countering “the false claims” made by the Nigerian government.

It said Zakzaky and his wife had been transferred to India in a way that was greatly inappropriate for “patients suffering life threatening ailments” and not been allowed to rest between flights and upon arriving in India. “However, despite their need for rest, they were forcibly wheeled to a hospital on arrival without their personal physician that accompanied them from Nigeria,” the statement read. “There was even a report that the security agents in India subjected him to physical assault,” it added. According to the statement, health workers took “selfies” with the sheikh and posted it on social media, in an act that violated their privacy.

It said Indian authorities had rejected any supervision of doctors previously familiar with Zakzaky’s case, restarting the medical evaluation and treatment process without their oversight.

“The Kaduna high court allowed the Sheikh to go to India with the government only supervising, instead the federal government presented him to the Indian government as a dangerous suspect with an unknown ailment coming to India and demanded stringent security placed on him,” read the statement.

“It was at this point that Sheikh Zakzaky lost confidence in the whole process and refused any further attempt to have him forcibly treated,” the statement added.

China... (Continued From Page 2)

of Aden and waters off Somalia to escort ships. To better carry out escorts, China cooperates with Djibouti and established a support base there for the People’s Liberation Army ships.” The paper said, “There should be a maritime coalition, but definitely not one led by the US or one meant to serve U.S. strategies. The coalition should actually safeguard the interests of Persian Gulf countries and their legitimate trading partners.”

“Washington’s arrogance and reckless moves have led to turmoil in the Persian Gulf. As long as Washington doesn’t change its mind, uncertainties will linger in the region,” it added.

Enemies... (Continued From Page 2)

for its contradictory signals, saying that “Americans claim to be ‘ready for negotiations’ and send mediators, but on the other hand, they sanction our foreign minister.” “The U.S. is making stupid contradictory remarks due to its extreme illusion,” he said, adding that Washington is being led by people who envision “the international scene based on delusion” in order to “satisfy themselves”. Larjani compared Washington’s current provocations against Tehran with its once-powerful grip over the country, pointing to the U.S.-orchestrated coup d’etat, which overthrew the democratically-elected government of then Prime Minister Muhammad Mosaddeq in 1953.

The Iranian parliament speaker also denounced remarks made by U.S. special representative for Iran Brian Hook denying U.S. involvement in the coup d’etat. Referring to Madeleine Albright, Larjani said even the “former U.S. secretary of state had apologized to the Iranian nation” for the coup.

Larjani further praised “the resistance and vigor” of the Iranian people, saying it had forced London to “abort their attempted maritime piracy” and understand that it no longer holds previous power and influence over the country.

Larjani made the comments referring to Gibraltar’s unlawful seizure of the Iran-operated Grace 1 tanker by British marines last month. Earlier this week, Gibraltar’s Supreme Court voted to release the ship.