

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran on Tuesday condemned U.S. meddling in Bolivia as well as coup-style actions against the South American country's legitimate president, who was recently forced to resign and leave the homeland under pressure from the army amid violent protests.

"Any forceful change of governments outside legal frameworks, particularly by foreign interference, is condemned and unacceptable," Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said. Iran, he said, believes any change "should reflect the people's will and come about at ballot boxes within the framework of law."

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- Dangerously poor air quality has forced Iran's government to close all primary schools in the capital, a city home to 10 million people. A thick smog is hanging over the city, caused by heavy traffic and factory pollution. It's been worsened by a lack of wind and rain in recent days. On Tuesday, the official state news agency IRNA cited Anoushiravan Bandpay, the governor of Tehran province, as announcing the following day's school closures.

Viewpoint

Zionist Entity on Suicidal Course

Australia Hosts Iranian Film Festival



Iran Add Two Silvers to Medal Tally at World Para Athletics Championships



'U.S. Wants to Create Illegal Quasi-State in Eastern Syria'



Islamic Jihad Commander Killed in Zionist Attack

Rockets Rain on Tel Aviv After Assassination

President Rouhani Slams European Hypocrisy

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – President Hassan Rouhani on Tuesday hit out at the hypocrisy of European nations for criticizing Iran's latest step back from a nuclear deal while failing to fulfill their commitments of relief from U.S. sanctions.

On Monday Britain, France, Germany and the European Union said Iran's decision to restart activities at Fordow was "inconsistent" with a 2015 nuclear deal, claiming that "the E3/EU have fully upheld their JCPOA commitments, including sanctions-lifting as foreseen under the JCPOA".

"To my EU/E3 Colleagues: 1. 'Fully upheld commitments under JCPOA' YOU? Really? Just show ONE that you've upheld in the last 18 months," Iran's Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif hit back.

"2. Iran triggered-& exhausted-dispute resolution mechanism while you were procrastinating. We're now using para36 remedies," Zarif tweeted.

Iran says paragraph 36 of the deal allows it to reduce its commitments because other signatories are not complying.

The Islamic Republic has long blamed the Europeans for failing to provide the economic benefits it was meant to receive under the deal, known as the JCPOA, and has begun steps to reduce commitments, including producing more enriched uranium than allowed.

Last week Iran resumed enrichment at its underground Fordow nuclear facility. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed on Monday that Iran is enriching uranium at the Fordow site and rapidly accelerating enrichment more broadly.

Iran's envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna said the UN agency has been given access to the site "with the utmost cooperation and clarification".

"Cooperation between Iran and the agency on this issue is still ongoing. Therefore, any attempt to prejudge and present immature assessment of the situation would be aimed at distorting the facts for political gains," Kazem Gharib Abadi said in a statement.

A year after the U.S. pullout from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Iran began reducing its commitments to the deal hoping to win concessions from those still party to the accord.

Iran's latest measure came last week, when engineers began feeding uranium hexafluoride gas into mothballed enrichment centrifuges at the underground Fordow plant south of Tehran.

EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini and European parties to the deal - Britain, France and

Germany - issued a statement on Monday urging Tehran to comply fully with the accord or face action which could include sanctions.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Mass threatened the use of "all the mechanisms laid down in the agreement" to make Iran comply with its obligations under the JCPOA.

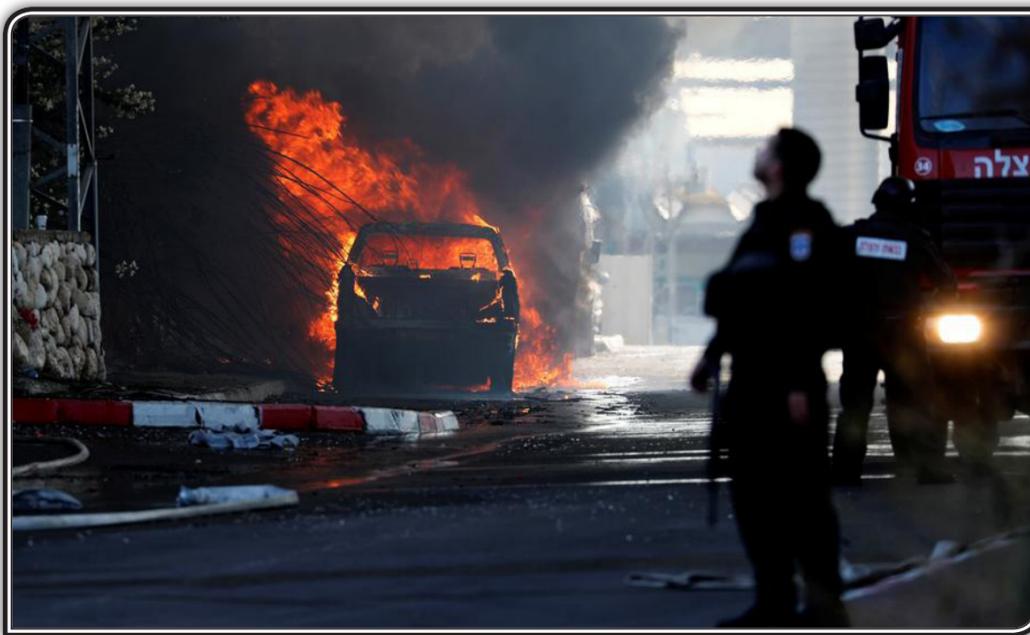
Some Iranian officials have warned that reimposition of EU and UN sanctions would be a red line that would cause the deal to collapse. Iran says it will further overstep the deal's limits in January if Britain, France and Germany fail to shield its economy from U.S. sanctions.

On Tuesday, Rouhani said Iran only began scaling back its nuclear commitments a year after the U.S. withdrawal to give the other parties time to make up for it.

"We waited for a year," Rouhani told a televised news conference. "Nobody in the world can blame us by saying 'Why are you abandoning your commitments under the JCPOA today and why have you launched Fordow today?'" he said. "This is a problem that the enemy has created for us," he said, referring to the United States.

Iran's approach, he said, was to take "the path of resistance and perseverance" by reducing commitments under the JCPOA and engaging in negotiations.

"We are negotiating with the world... they are giving us proposals, we're giving them proposals. Up until today, I have not accepted the proposals I've been given."



A vehicle burns after a factory was hit by a rocket in Sderot, southern Occupied Palestine on November 12, 2019.

GAZA/OCCUPIED AL-QUDS (Dispatches) – The occupying regime of Israel assassinated a top commander from the Palestinian resistance movement Islamic Jihad on Tuesday in the Gaza Strip, drawing rocket salvos that reached as far as Tel Aviv in the worst fighting in months.

The rare targeted strike which killed Islamic Jihad's Baha Abu al-Atta in Gaza came as Syrian state media said a separate missile attack had hit the home of an Islamic Jihad official in Damascus, killing two people including one of his sons.

As the sound of Palestinian rockets and airstrikes echoed throughout Gaza and Zionist occupied towns, Islamic Jihad leader Khaled Al-Batsh spoke at the midday Gaza funeral of al-Atta.

"Israel executed two coordinated attacks, in Syria and in Gaza, in a declaration of war," he said. Mourners fired guns into the air, chanting "revenge!"

In Tel Aviv, Zionist PM Benjamin Netanyahu described al-Atta as a "ticking bomb" who was responsible for a string of recent retaliatory rocket, drone and sniper attacks and was suspected of planning

more very soon.

The occupying regime did not comment on the separate strike which Damascus said it carried out in Syria.

Possible escalation in Gaza may hinge on whether the much larger Islamic resistance group in Gaza, Hamas, would join Islamic Jihad in firing rockets at the Zionist regime.

Hamas joined Islamic Jihad in condemning the Israel. The Zionist regime "bears full responsibility for all consequences of this escalation," Hamas said in a statement, pledging that al-Atta's death "will not go unpunished."

The rocket barrage sent Zionists huddling for shelter and forced occupied cities and towns to shut down.

Gaza authorities reported five people killed, including al-Atta, 42 and his wife in the pre-dawn strike that destroyed a floor in their home, scattering debris around their neighborhood.

Two more airstrikes in Gaza, one of which the Israeli military claimed targeted an Islamic Jihad rocket crew, killed three more Palestinian men.

Gaza medical officials said 24 Palestinians had been wounded, as ambulances streaked through abandoned streets and Israeli missiles landed, many in open fields.

In Occupied Palestine, officials said 22 Zionists had sustained injuries. Among the sites hit by Palestinian rockets were a factory in Sderot and a highway where CCTV footage showed cars and a bus barely escaping the impact.

The occupying regime's military, as usual, claimed that its air defense systems intercepted some of the Palestinian rockets.

The Zionist regime casts rising Gaza tensions as part of a regional struggle with Iran that has also played out in Syria.

Right-wing leader Netanyahu has invoked such scenarios in trying to form a broad coalition cabinet with centre-left rivals to secure a fifth term after two inconclusive elections this year.

Islamic Jihad said the target of the Damascus attack was the home of a

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President Morales Leaves for Mexico Bolivia on Brink of Abyss After Coup

LA PAZ, Bolivia (Dispatches) — Bolivia faced its worst unrest in decades amid a political vacuum Tuesday, while Evo Morales, who transformed the Andean nation as its first indigenous president, left the country following weeks of violent protests.

Morales flew out on a Mexican government plane late Monday hours after being granted asylum as his supporters and foes fought on the streets of the capital.

Morales stepped down Sunday following weeks of violent riots fed by allegations of electoral fraud in the Oct. 20 presidential election that he had won.

His departure came after what is seen by many as a dramatic coup against the one-time llama shepherd from the Bolivian highlands and former coca growers' union leader who as president helped lift millions out poverty, increased social rights and presided over nearly 14 years of stability and high economic growth in South America's poorest country.

"It pains me to leave the country for political reasons, but I'll always be concerned," Morales said on Twitter. "I'll return soon, with more strength and energy."

Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard published a photo of Morales holding the flag of Mexico, saying that the plane had left Bolivia and that Morales was safe.

In an earlier tweet, Morales posted a photo of his first night after he resigned showing him lying on a floor with an improvised blanket as a bed. He said he had been forced into those conditions after a coup by the opposition.

Angry Bolivians set barricades ablaze to close some roads leading to the country's main airport Monday, while his foes blocked most of the streets leading to the capital's main square in front of Congress and the presidential palace. Police urged residents of La Paz to stay in their homes and authorities said the army would join in policing efforts to avoid an escalation of violence.

The Senate's second vice president, opposition politician Jeanine Añez, said in an emotional address that she would take temporary control of the Senate, though it was unclear if she would be able to get approval from Congress. She would

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Saudi Court Gives Long Jail Terms to 38 People

RIYADH (Dispatches) – A Saudi Arabian court has convicted 38 people of financing terrorism and declaring other Muslims non-believers, handing out sentences ranging from 30 months to 25 years, state-run Al Ekhbariya television reported on Tuesday.

The TV channel said one of those sentenced had set up a terrorist organization while in prison and others had labeled the Saudi government, clerics and security forces as non-believers.

In 2017, the kingdom launched a crackdown on dissent, arresting scores of clerics, intellectuals and activists. Some of them have been put on trial for terrorism-related charges.

In April, Saudi Arabia beheaded 37 men for terrorism crimes. The UN human rights chief said most of them were Shia Muslims who may not have had fair trials and at least three were minors when sentenced.

Riyadh has come under mounting international scrutiny over its human rights record since the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in October 2018 and the detention of women's rights activists who are still

on trial. Ekhbariya did not give the nationalities or names of those convicted out of the 41 people in total on trial, nor did the TV channel provide details about when they were arrested.

It said the specialist criminal court in Riyadh, which was set up to try terrorism cases, sentenced one man to 25 years, another to 20 years and a third to 15 years. The rest received sentences ranging from 2-1/2 years to 12-1/2 years.

Saudi Arabia is an absolute monarchy where public protests and political parties are banned.

Saudi authorities kidnapped a Saudi lawyer and an activist from their residence in the Switzerland city of Geneva, the rights group Prisoners of Conscience has revealed.

Saudi lawyer Hassan Al-Omari was abducted by authorities in October 2017 and Hassan Al-Kanani in March this year with Amnesty International accusing Saudi of being behind the Al-Omari's disappearance.

The rights group said a prince had also

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