

Jordan Condemns Zionist Regime's Violations at Al-Aqsa

AMMAN (Dispatches) – Jordan on Sunday condemned the continuous violations at Al-Aqsa Mosque, the latest of which was the Zionist troops allowing hundreds of extremists to break into the mosque earlier in the day.

Jordan's Foreign Ministry spokesman Deifallah Fayeze said the continuous attacks represent a clear violation to the legal and historical status quo, the international law and the occupying regime's commitments, according to a statement by the ministry.

The Jordanian official stressed that Al-Aqsa Mosque is a place of worship "for Muslims only." He called on the occupying regime to stop its violations and provocations.

The official also urged the international community to bear its responsibility and exert pressure on the regime to halt its ongoing violations at the mosque.

Meanwhile, Zionist troops have severally beaten up and arrested



Zionist troops patrol the al-Aqsa Mosque's compound in the Old City of al-Quds, as Palestinians stage protest (unseen) against comments by French President Emmanuel Macron defending offensive cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), on October 30, 2020.

a Palestinian teenager in the West Bank after claiming he attempted to stab a settler.

The 15-year-old boy, identified as Majd Baida, was detained on Sunday in the village of Jayyus,

close to Qalqilya city in the occupied West Bank, Palestine's official Wafa news agency reported, citing local sources.

The Zionist troops claimed that the unidentified youth tried to stab

a settler who was waiting at a bus stop near the illegal settlement and fled the scene, the Palestinian Information Center reported.

Every year, between 500 and 700 Palestinian children aged between 12-17 are arrested and tried in the occupying regime's military courts, the Defense for Children International says.

Nearly three out of four Palestinian children detained by the Zionist troops experience some form of physical violence, according to documentation collected by the NGO.

The regime has built more than 230 illegal settlements on the occupied Palestinian territory since 1967 that have come to house some 600,000 settlers.

According to B'Tselem, an Israeli rights group, the regime has clearly allowed its settlers to assault Palestinians for years and inflict damage on their property as one of its policies.

U.S. Envoy in Kabul as Questions Over Troop Withdrawal Swirl

KABUL (Dispatches) – The U.S. special envoy to Afghanistan touched down in Kabul on Monday for meetings with local officials, in a bid to revive a flagging so-called peace process as violence soars in the war-weary country and a deadline for U.S. troop withdrawal draws closer.

Zalmay Khalilzad's arrival marks the first time he has returned to Afghanistan since U.S. President Joe Biden took office in January and asked him to stay in his post.

Speculation is rife over the U.S.' future in Afghanistan, after the White House announced plans to review a withdrawal deal brokered by Khalilzad and the Taliban in Doha last year.

On 29 February 2020, Qatar mediated a deal between the U.S. and the Taliban. Under its terms, Washington agreed to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan in 14 months in return for a prisoner swap between the two rivals.

In Kabul, Khalilzad met with Abdullah Abdullah, chairman of Afghanistan's High Council for National Reconciliation that is overseeing Kabul's talks with the militants in Qatar.

The two sides "discussed the talks in Doha and the review of U.S.-Taliban deal by the U.S. administration, ending the war in Afghanistan and ways to find political settlement through talks in Afghanistan," a spokesman for Abdullah's office said.

The envoy is also set to travel to Qatar, where he will meet with Taliban leaders along with trips to unspecified regional capitals, according to the State Department.

A day earlier, the Taliban called on the United States to adhere to the agreement which was signed last year in Doha, warning that any attempt to alter its terms would lead to the "failure of peace".

"The Doha agreement has created a practical framework for bringing peace and security to Afghanistan. If any other pathway is pursued as a replacement, then it is already doomed to failure," the movement said in a statement in commemoration of the deal's first anniversary.

Detained Saudi Princess Requires Urgent Medical Care: UK

LONDON (MEMO) – Prominent Saudi Princess Basmah Bint Saud, who is being held with her daughter Souhoud in Riyadh, is suffering from a heart condition that requires urgent medical treatment, her supporters have said.

They have sent two letters, one to British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab and the other to Commonwealth of Nations Secretary-General Patricia Scotland, urging both to intervene on behalf of the princess.

The daughter of King Saud

Bin Abdulaziz was placed under house arrest for wanting reform in the kingdom. A number of sources claim that a group of eight men appeared at her home in Jeddah on 28 February 2019 as she was preparing to leave with her family to go to Switzerland for treatment.

"We believe that her life depends on her release," said the family's legal adviser, Henri Estramant, and Lucy Rae of the British human rights organization Grant Liberty. The details

of the letters were released to the Guardian. "We are begging you to intercede. As they are citizens of the Commonwealth we believe you have a moral obligation to fight their corner."

In 2015 Princess Basmah and Souhoud became dual nationals of Saudi Arabia and the island of Dominica, a Commonwealth nation, after applying under their citizenship-by-investment program. The letter mentioned Basmah's ties to Britain, including her education at a school in Hert-

fordshire and a London-based research center, Global United Research and Analysis.

It is said that the princess and her daughter were taken to Ha'ir Prison, an infamous maximum security facility in Riyadh that houses an estimated 5,000 prisoners, including female activist Loujain Al Hathloul before her release in February. "You will be aware that Al Ha'ir is a well-known hub for the torture and abuse of prisoners of conscience in Saudi Arabia," Estramant and Rae wrote to Raab.

UNICEF Urges Repatriation of All Children in Syria's Kurdish-Run Camp

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) – The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on Sunday urged all countries to repatriate and safely reintegrate their young nationals being held at Syria's largest camp for refugees and internally-displaced run by Kurdish militants, following a deadly weekend fire at the al-Hol camp which saw at least three children die, and another 15 injured.

In and around the camp which has housed many families of terrorists since the defeat of Daesh in Syria and neighboring Iraq, "there are more than 22,000 foreign children of at least 60 nationalities who languish in camps and prisons," said the UNICEF regional director for the Middle East and North Africa, Ted Chaiban.

According to the UN, a fire broke out on Saturday evening during a family gathering among displaced Syrian camp residents. One woman reportedly died along with the three children, and at least 11 adults were injured. At least 20 people overall remain in hospital, with six reported to be in critical condition.

"Children in al-Hol are faced not only with the stigma they are living with, but also with very difficult living conditions where basic service is scarce or in some cases unavailable," said Chaiban.

"The detention of children is a measure of last resort and should be for the shortest time possible. Children should not be detained based solely on suspected family ties with armed groups or the membership of family members in armed groups."

Earlier this month, independent UN human rights experts noted that an "unknown number" of foreign nationals had died in the camps of al-Hol and Roj, in northeast Syria, urging their home countries to repatriate their citizens as soon as possible.

Chaiban said member states should do everything possible to reintegrate the children into their own societies and repatriate them in a "safe and dignified way."

"We call on all member states to provide children -- who are their citizens or born to their nationals -- with civil documentation to prevent statelessness. This is in line with the best interests of the child and in compliance with international standards," he added.

With almost 62,000 residents, al-Hol is the largest camp for displaced people in Syria. More than 80 percent of the population are women and children.

First-Ever UAE Envoy to Occupied Territories in Tel Aviv

MOSCOW (Dispatches) – First-ever ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to the occupied territories Mohammed Mahmoud Al Khaja arrived on Monday at Ben Gurion Airport in Tel Aviv to present his credentials to the Zionist regime's president Reuven Rivlin, media reported.

Al Khaja is also set to meet with Zionist prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and

foreign minister Gabi Ashkenazi, as well as other officials, according to media reports.

Last week, Al Khaja held talks with the regime's temporary ambassador in the UAE, Eitan Na'eh, who is stationed in Abu Dhabi, with the parties having discussed means of developing bilateral relations.

In mid-February, Abu Dhabi appointed its first envoy to the occupied territories, six

months after the two sides agreed to normalize their ties.

The UAE and the occupying regime struck a U.S.-brokered deal to normalize their relationships in August and ratified it in October. Palestinians and much of the Muslim world have been critical of the "treacherous" deal, saying that their own unmet statehood goal is sidelined.

Pope... (Continued From Page One)

people coming to see you may get infected and may die." "Is it wise under that circumstance for you to just turn up? And because you turn up, people turn up to see you and they get infected?" he asked.

The World Health Organization was diplomatic when asked about the wisdom of a papal trip to Iraq, saying countries should evaluate the risk of an event against the infection situation, and then decide if it should be postponed.

Francis has said he intends to go even if most Iraqis have to watch him on television to avoid infection. The important thing, he told Catholic News Service, is "they will see that the pope is there in their country."

Regional observers also see political ramifications to the unusual trip. They believe the insistence to proceed with the visit anyway is based on an urge in the West to create a schism between the seats of highest Shia schools of teaching in Iraq's Najaf and Qom in Iran. It is also in line with promoting the so-called Abraham Accords spearhead by the U.S. to sign normalization deals between the occupying regime of Israel and Muslim states, they say.

Christians hardly constitute one percent of the Iraqi population, with many observers wondering why there is so much persistence for the visit to go ahead.

Dr. Michael Head, senior research fellow in global health at the University of Southampton's Faculty of Medicine, said the number of new daily cases in Iraq is "increasing significantly at the moment" with the Health Ministry reporting around 4,000 a day, close to the height of its first wave in September.

The Iraqi government imposed a modified lockdown and curfew in mid-February amid a new surge in cases, closing schools and mosques and leaving restaurants and cafes only open for takeout. But the government decided against a full shutdown because of the difficulty of enforcing it and the financial impact on Iraq's battered economy, the Iraqi officials told AP.

Many Iraqis remain lax in using masks and some doubt the severity of the virus.

Madani, the Harvard virologist, urged trip organizers to let science and data guide their decision-making.

A decision to reschedule or postpone the papal trip, or move it to a virtual format, would "be quite impactful from a global leadership standpoint" because "it would signal prioritizing the safety of Iraq's public," she said.

UK... (Continued From Page One)

intelligence", "machine learning" and "ground-breaking technologies". Set against the backdrop of these bullish statements, General Barron's frank presentation centered on severe UK weakness in the face of a well-executed and sustained hybrid attack comes as a surprise and begs the question as to what motives drove him to make that admission.

The answer may lie in the nature of the Grey Zone podcast which purports to investigate hostile actions that lie just below the threshold of war, notably "assassinations", "cyber hacks" and "disinformation".

But in reality the podcast – which is 10 episodes long – is a form of British disinformation – if not outright propaganda – insofar as it focuses purely on the alleged activities and capabilities of the UK's foes and rivals.

Furthermore, the podcast is produced by Sky News journalists who are openly sympathetic to the world view and activities of the British secret state and on that basis they have gained remarkable, if not unprecedented, access to the highest echelons of the military as well as the intelligence services.

General Barron, who styles himself as an expert on the "Fourth Industrial Revolution", which according to the Grey Zone can involve anything involving technology such as "artificial intelligence" and "quantum computing", may well be trying to reinforce his colleagues' plea for even more financial support from the government.

Whatever his motivation, a noteworthy omission was the failure to discuss how and to what extent the UK's intensifying centrifugal forces – notably the Scottish independence movement and the broader constitutional crisis – will hamper the UK's efforts at fighting back in a hybrid warfare scenario.

Military... (Continued From Page 2)

"By God's grace, we put these adversities behind us and are today in possession of technology in our defense industry," said the defense minister.

Addressing an earlier event on Sunday, the Air Force commander said some of the country's defense universities have attained the capability to manufacture "various generations of jet engines."

"I daresay our students are among the best in their own majors throughout the country and even on the international level," Nasirzadeh said.

The Army Aviation commander, who had joined the defense minister, meanwhile, described the country's helicopter squadron as "the strongest in the region."

He said the squadron depended completely on the domestic defense industry for production of various parts.

Ghorbani also noted how the country has succeeded to come by the night-vision goggle technology, and is currently producing the equipment domestically.

Only a handful of countries have the technology at their disposal, he said, noting that the equipment is successfully used during military drills across the country's southern coastline in January.