

ISTANBUL (Xinhua) – Turkish police arrested 36 suspects on Tuesday for their alleged involvement in a failed coup attempt in 2016, local media reported. According to the state-run Anadolu agency, police conducted simultaneous operations targeting 45 suspects across the western province of Izmir, with 36 of them apprehended so far. Izmir Chief Public Prosecutor's Office Terror Crimes Investigation Bureau revealed that among the wanted suspects, 27 were shopkeepers, and 18 others were "hiding in cell houses," according to the report. The suspects are believed to be affiliated with the Gulen movement, a network led by the U.S.-based cleric Fethullah Gulen, and blamed by the Turkish government for orchestrating the coup attempt on July 15, 2016, resulting in the deaths of at least 250 people.

## UN: Zionist Troops Must Halt 'Active Participation' in Settler Attacks on Palestinians

GENEVA (Dispatches) – The UN voiced grave concern Tuesday over escalating violence in the West Bank, demanding that Zionist regime troops "immediately end their active participation in and support for settler attacks" on Palestinians there.

"Israeli authorities must instead prevent further attacks, including by bringing those responsible to account," Ravina Shamdasani, spokeswoman for the United Nations rights office, told reporters in Geneva.

The occupying regime is still imposing "unlawful" restrictions on humanitarian relief for Gaza, the UN rights office said on Tuesday. "Israel continues to impose unlawful restrictions on the entry and distribution of humanitarian assistance, and to carry out widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure," said Ravina Shamdasani, spokesperson for the UN human rights office, at a press briefing in Geneva.

In a latest incident, Israeli settlers killed two Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, according to Palestinian officials and witnesses, after a weekend of escalating violence across the territory.

The official Palestinian news agency Wafa, citing the Palestinian Health Ministry, identified the victims of the Monday attack near the northern West Bank village of



Mourners carry the body of Yazan Shtayeh, who was killed during clashes with Zionist troops in Nablus, during his funeral in the village of Salem, east of the West Bank city on April 15, 2024.

Aqrabah, located eighteen kilometers (11.18 miles) southeast of Nablus, as Abdulrahman Maher Bani Fadel, 30, and Mohammed Ashraf Bani Jame, 21.

Salah Bani Jaber, mayor of Aqrabah, who witnessed the settler attack, said that about 50 settlers, many of them armed, attacked members of his community.

They "assaulted residents and fired at people in the town leading to the death of two citizens," the mayor said, adding that "the occupation army is still holding the bodies."

"There were Israeli soldiers at the

scene who stood idly by watching the settlers," he told the Reuters news agency.

The Palestine Red Crescent Society said Israeli soldiers blocked its ambulances from reaching the area and tending to the wounded.

Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank are under constant threat as armed Israeli settlers continue to launch violent attacks on them, their families, and their homes in acts of vengeance.

Palestinian Ministry of Health officials reported on Monday that four Palestinians had been killed in Israeli settler attacks since Friday.

### 'Unlawful' Restrictions on Gaza Aid

The Zionist regime is still imposing "unlawful" restrictions on humanitarian relief for Gaza, the UN human rights office said on Tuesday, despite claims by Israel that barriers have eased.

The Zionist regime's onslaught on the Gaza Strip since Oct. 7 has turned much of the Gaza strip into a wasteland, with hundreds of thousands of people now displaced and crowded into disease-ridden shelters.

The amount of aid now entering Gaza is disputed, with the occupying regime and Washington claiming aid flows have risen in recent days but UN agencies say it is still far below bare minimum levels.

"Israel continues to impose unlawful restrictions on the entry and distribution of humanitarian assistance, and to carry out widespread destruction of civilian infrastructure," said Shamdasani, reiterating calls for unfettered access.

Israel, which denies hindering humanitarian relief to Gaza, has faced increased international pressure to let more supplies into the Gaza Strip since it hit an aid convoy on April 1, killing international relief workers.

"Those delivering or trying to access humanitarian assistance must never be attacked," added Shamdasani.

## UNICEF: Children in Gaza Bear 'Tremendous Share of Scars' of War



Palestinians sit next to their belongings outside their home during an Israeli military onslaught in the Nuseirat refugee camp, Gaza Strip, on April 12, 2024.

GENEVA (Dispatches) – Children in Gaza have become the faces of the ongoing war as their stories paint a "harrowing picture" of the human consequences of the conflict, a UNICEF official said on Tuesday.

"Children are wearing a tremendous share of the scars of this war," UNICEF Communication Specialist Tess Ingram, who left Gaza on Monday after spending two weeks there, told a UN press briefing in Geneva.

Citing the latest figures from the Palestinian Ministry of Health, Ingram said that more than 12,000 children – almost 70 children every day – were injured in Gaza since Oct 7.

This is "almost certainly an underestimate," she stressed, adding that only a small number of all reported injuries are disaggregated

to specify when it is a child that has been injured.

On medical evacuations, she said: "With at least 70 children injured every day, we need the number of medical evacuations to increase so children can access the care they urgently need."

"And with one child killed or injured every ten minutes, above anything else, we need a ceasefire," she urged, saying ceasefire "is the only way to stop the killing and maiming of children."

Tensions have been high across the occupied territory amid ongoing Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip, which left nearly 33,800 people dead since Oct. 7.

At least 468 Palestinians have been killed by the Zionist regime's army fire in the West Bank since then, according to the Health Ministry.

## 70,000 Sign Petition Calling on UK to End Arms Sales to Israel

LONDON (Dispatches) – A petition calling on the UK government to halt arms exports to the Zionist regime has been handed in at 10 Downing Street by Palestine Solidarity Campaign and a cross party group of MPs.

Nearly 70,000 people have signed the petition which comes as Chair of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, MP Alicia Kearns, was recorded at an event saying: "The Foreign Office has received official legal advice that Israel has broken international humanitarian law, but the government has not announced it."

According to the government's arms export guidelines, it "will not grant a license if it deter-

mines there is a clear risk that the items might be used to commit or facilitate a serious violation of international humanitarian law."

On Monday in the Commons, Zarah Sultana MP asked Prime Minister Rishi Sunak: "Was the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee telling the truth – yes or no?" Sunak refused to deny the Foreign Office has received such legal advice, saying only that "Israel is committed and capable of complying with international humanitarian law."

More than 1,000 lawyers, academics and retired judges, including the former President of the Supreme Court Baroness Hale, have signed an open letter saying that the continued

supply of arms to the Zionist regime puts the UK in breach of international law. Two weeks ago a cross party group of 135 parliamentarians wrote to the foreign and business secretaries, saying the case for a suspension of arms export licenses to Israel is "overwhelming."

Canada, the Netherlands, Japan, Spain and Belgium have all announced they would stop shipping weapons to Israel. Despite this, Foreign Secretary David Cameron has said the UK will continue arms sales.

"Israel's genocidal assault on Palestinians, and its attacks on Lebanon, Syria, and Iran, prove that arming it not only makes the UK complicit in violating international law but also

the sparking of a regional war with catastrophic consequences. Continuing to arm Israel cannot help the cause of peace or justice in the Middle East. Any government truly committed to upholding international law does not sell weapons to a regime that continually breaches it," PSC Director ben Jamal said.

More than 34,000 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza in six months, most of the civil infrastructure in Gaza has been destroyed and the UN has issued stark warnings that famine is imminent for the population of 2.3 million people. It is in this context that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) concluded there was plausible evidence that Israel is conducting a genocide.

## UK MPs Vote Down Plan to Protect Afghan 'Heroes' From Deportation

London (The Independent) – Conservative MPs in the UK have voted against a plan to prevent Afghan veterans who served alongside British soldiers from facing deportation to Rwanda.

An amendment to the controversial Rwanda bill was overturned by 312 votes to 253, in a rejection of plans to exempt agents, allies and employees of the UK from being deported to the African country.

The House of Lords' amendment 10B is part of the larger bill, which seeks the deportation of illegal migrants to Rwanda.

Several amendments set in the House of Lords have sought to prevent Afghan veterans who fought alongside the British military in the de-

cade-long war from being included in deportation orders.

The 10B amendment included people eligible to enter the UK under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy, which supports Afghans who helped the British campaign in their country and who are at risk under the Taliban government.

After the vote, the Rwanda bill will now return to the House of Lords for new scrutiny.

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak had told Conservative MPs to vote against all amendments to the bill, including 10B.

The move to exclude Afghan veterans from potential deportation to Rwanda has received

support from the highest levels of Britain's military establishment.

Thirteen senior military officials, two former chiefs of defense staff, a former defense secretary and a former UK ambassador to the .U.S have supported the amendment.

The Sunday Telegraph carried a letter from top military officials ahead of Monday's vote. They warned that a rejection of the amendment would cause "grave damage to our ability to recruit local allies in future military operations."

The letter added: "It is essential that those who have made it to British shores are not unduly punished by being removed to Rwanda when the government's scheme is up and running."

## Palestinian Detainee's Leg Amputated in Israeli Prison Due to Medical Negligence

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Palestinian detainee, Sufyan Abu Salah from Gaza, had his leg amputated while being detained in Israeli jails as a result of severe medical negligence, journalist Hassan Eslayeh said on X.

Eslayeh visited Abu Salah and other freed prisoners in the Abu Youssef Al-Najjar Governmental Hospital in the Rafah Governorate, south of the Gaza Strip.

Abu Salah said he was in good health at the time of his arrest but in prison he suffered severe infections in his leg that lasted seven days, adding that when he asked the soldiers for medical treatment they refused.

Once his health had severely deteriorated, he was transferred to an Israeli hospital where doctors amputated his leg, the photojournalist was told.

Israeli prison guards have escalated their violations against Palestinian detainees since 7 October.

According to the media officer at the Palestinian Prisoners' Club, Amani Farajna, there

is no information to date about the number of Gazans detained since October, nor about those who were forcibly disappeared by occupation forces during their military operations in Gaza.

Amnesty International has said that it possesses "testimonies and video evidence indicating that Palestinian detainees have been subjected to torture and ill-treatment, including beatings and humiliation, which includes being asked not to raise their heads and to kneel on the ground, in addition to being forced to sing Israeli songs in horrific detention conditions."

Footage circulating online also shows "Israeli soldiers beating and insulting Palestinian detainees, with the detainees blindfolded, naked, and handcuffed."

Earlier this week, 62-year-old Palestinian prisoner Walid Daqqa, a cancer patient, died in prison due to medical negligence after spending 38 years in jail. The Zionist regime has refused to release his body.