

Zionist PM: Western Governments Seek My Overthrow

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – **Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has accused the West, particularly the Scandinavian governments, of plotting to remove him from power.**

“Scandinavian governments have spent millions of dollars on a campaign to remove me from power,” Netanyahu told Israel’s Kol radio station on Sunday.

The Zionist premier further said Western governments, mostly Scandinavians, prefer his opponents to win the regime’s upcoming parliamentary election.

The relations between Israel and Scandinavian governments have recently soured. In October 2014, Sweden became the first EU country to recognize Palestine as a sovereign state.

Following Sweden’s decision, the

occupying regime’s ambassador to Stockholm Isaac Bachman was recalled.

Netanyahu’s comments come just two days before Israel’s parliamentary election as his Likud Party is facing a tough challenge against competitors.

An opinion survey on March 10 revealed that the opposition Zionist Union is edging Netanyahu’s right-wing Likud party in the March 17 elections.

The poll conducted by Israeli research institute, Panel Politics, found that Isaac Herzog’s Zionist Union, which identifies itself as center-leftist, could earn 24 seats against Likud’s 21 projected seats in the Knesset (the Zionist regime’s parliament).

Earlier on Thursday, Netanyahu acknowledged that his Likud party



Zionist Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivers a speech to his supporters during an election campaign meeting in the Mediterranean coastal city of Netanya.

risks losing the upcoming parliamentary elections.

“Our security is at great risk because there is a real danger that we could lose this election,” he said.

On March 7, tens of thousands of people took to the streets of Tel Aviv to voice their anger at Netanyahu’s warmongering policies, calling on him to step down.

Iraqi Army Regains Control over Dozens of Villages in Salahuddin Province

BAGHDAD (FNA) – **The Iraqi army, backed by popular forces, has seized back control over tens of villages in Salahuddin province in less than two weeks, a senior provincial official announced on Sunday.**

“The (Iraqi) security forces backed by volunteer troops have regained control of 80 villages in Salahuddin province near the borders with Diyala province in the last 10 days,” Al-Sumeriya News

quoted Head of the Security Commission of Diyala Governorate Sadeq al-Hosseini as saying.

He noted that the villages liberated by the Iraqi army are stretched in an area in Al-Azim region (located 75 kilometers from Baquba city) to 20 kilometers inside Salahuddin territory.

Last week, Iraqi parliamentary officials announced that government and popular troops had

seized control of 110 villages from the ISIL terrorists in Salahuddin province in the last several weeks.

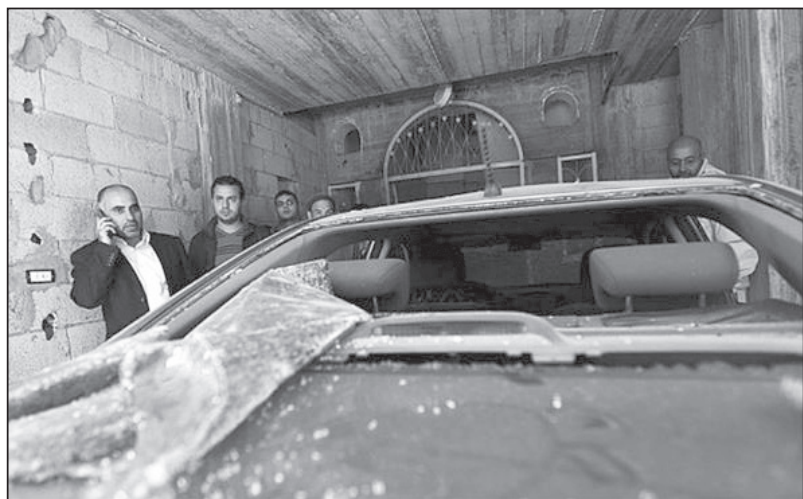
“The army and popular forces have managed to free hundreds of villages, towns and neighborhoods in Salahuddin province from the hands of the ISIL,” Abbas al-Bayati, the representative of State of Law Coalition at the Iraqi parliament, said.

He further described winning

back control over Beiji in Tikrit and its oil refinery as the main objective of the army and popular forces.

Bayati also underlined that the Iraqi army and volunteer forces’ victories against the terrorists have caused a change in the position of those who opposed supplying arms aid to the Baghdad government to keep it weak in its confrontation against the terrorists.

Hamas: Palestinian Authority Instigates Violence in Gaza



A Fatah leader in Gaza speaks on the phone as he inspects the damage to his car in the parking lot of his home in Beit Lahya, northern Gaza Strip.

WEST BANK (Press TV) – **The Palestinian resistance movement of Hamas says the Palestinian Authority (PA) sparks violence in the besieged Gaza Strip.**

Spokesman for Hamas Interior Ministry Iyad al-Bozum said on

Saturday that “members of the former security establishment in Gaza” exploit “the difficult conditions, especially since the last war, to spread chaos and confusion with explosions, car burnings and shootings,” referring to the latest Zionist

aggression against Gaza in the summer of 2014.

Over the past several months, bomb blasts have targeted cars used by Hamas officials, as well as some belonging to the members of PA President Mahmoud Abbas’ Fatah party.

According to Bozum, investigations have revealed that the incidents were “the result of plans by security chiefs in Ramallah,” where the headquarters of the PA is located in the Zionist-occupied West Bank.

He added that the acts of violence have been carried out with the aim of “spreading chaos in Gaza in order to cover up the government’s failure and absolve him (Abbas) from any responsibility.”

Hamas and Fatah have been at odds since the former won the Palestinian parliamentary elections in January 2006. Following the elections, Hamas took up the admin-

istration of the Gaza Strip. Fatah, however, set up its headquarters in the West Bank.

PA security forces were expelled from Gaza in 2007.

Hamas and the PA agreed to end their disputes and reconcile in spring 2014. However, the resistance group has since accused the government, which was created under the reconciliation deal, of leaving Gaza alone.

Ties between the two Palestinian groups have been further cooled since November, when a series of explosions hit the homes of a dozen Fatah officials in Gaza.

Several people have been arrested in connection with the incidents, Bozum said, adding that evidence showed they were members of the PA security services in Gaza before 2007 and carried out the attacks on Ramallah’s order. However, Fatah rejected the accusation in a statement.

Video: ISIL Executes 9 ‘Spies’ by Headshots

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – **A newly-surfaced video has shown the ISIL Takfiri terrorist group executing nine so-called spies by headshots after forcing them to confess to espionage.**

The barbarity featured in the footage takes place in an unknown location in the Middle East, The Daily Mail reported on Saturday.

The victims are shown admitting spying on the terror group’s location, movement, and armament beforehand.

They are then escorted outside by masked terrorists, who eventually carry out the killings.

The video starts with an ISIL commander, who says the group had succeeded in arresting an entire “cell” of spies who were tasked with monitoring their locations back to their commanding officer.

The group released the 13-minute-long footage on Tuesday apparently showing a young terrorist shooting and killing a Zionist man, claimed by the group to be a spy for the Zionist regime’s spy agency Mossad.

The execution video was one of several ones produced by the ISIL, starting with the beheading last August of American journalist James Foley and more recently including the burning to death of a captured Jordanian pilot and the beheading of 21 Coptic Christians.

The ISIL terrorists currently control parts of Syria and Iraq.

Meanwhile, the Middle East Monitor Publication reported that the ISIL executed four of its members in the Iraqi city of Mosul. According to the Turkish Anadolu Agency, the four were beheaded in public by an executioner wielding a sword.

Final... (Continued From Page One)

out a specific mechanism to make sure that all sides stick to their commitments.

Zarif said political directors of the P5+1 countries are also likely to join talks on Tuesday, noting that the negotiating sides should make efforts to put final touches on the proposed solutions as they should discuss all the proposed solutions before drafting the text of an agreement.

Zarif emphasized that “reaching solutions does not mean a comprehensive agreement”.

He further criticized U.S. senators for sending a threatening letter about the future of any final deal, saying their action showed to the world that Iran is genuinely seeking to find solutions, but a small group is resorting to all means to prevent any deal.

Kerry said most of the differences still barring an agreement are political rather than technical. He said “there are clearly some differences that still rest on a technical judgment”.

“But by and large, most of the differences now are political decisions that need to be made in order to fulfill the promise of proving to the world that a program is peaceful,” he added. Kerry said in an interview on CBS News that Tehran “to its credit has thus far lived up to every part of the agreement we made over a year ago”.

Kerry declined to comment on speculation about the nature of any nuclear program that Iran would have at the end of 10 or 15 years under a negotiated agreement.

“I’m not going to get into the end of the deal or the beginning of the deal, or how long it is, or what the framework is. That is what we are negotiating,” the secretary said.

“The proof will be in the pudding, but nobody should be jumping to a conclusion as to what the breadth and framework of this agreement is because it is not yet finalized.”

Kerry said he doesn’t know yet whether the letter sent to Iranian officials by Senate Republicans has jeopardized the talks, but said he has no doubt that it was calculated to interfere with negotiations.

If an agreement is not reached by the deadline set for the end of March, Kerry suggested that an extension was unlikely. He noted that discussions about developing a framework for proving that the Iranian nuclear program is peaceful have been going on for two years.

“We believe very much that there is not anything that is going to change in April or May or June, that suggests that at that time the decision you can’t make now will be made then,” he said. “If it’s peaceful let’s get it done. My hope is that in the next days that will be possible.”

Following the talks, Zarif will leave for Brussels on Monday to discuss Iran’s nuclear issue with his German, French and UK counterparts, namely Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Laurent Fabius and Philip Hammond.

EU foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, will host the Brussels talks “as part of the ongoing nuclear negotiations with Iran”, her office said in a statement last week.

Hardline French Position

As the talks resumed some analysts said France has adopted a tougher stance on Iran.

As the March 31 deadline for striking a deal approaches, France appears to have taken over from previous U.S. administrations the role of chief hawk in the negotiations.

“France has taken the opposite path to that of the United States, which changed strategies with the arrival of Barack Obama,” said Bernard Hourcade, an Iran specialist at the National Centre of Scientific Research.

Hourcade says France’s current Socialist government has adopted the same intransigent stance toward Iran maintained by former conservative president Nicolas Sarkozy.

The French have taken a harder line on Tehran as Paris recognizes Washington’s increasing pragmatism in seeking to conclude a deal swiftly.

The French diplomats taking part in the current round of nuclear talks hail from a neo-conservative school of thought that tends to recommend taking an inflexible

stance in dealing with Tehran.

CIA... (Continued From Page One)

the Obama administration in which terror suspects were held in foreign custody at the behest of the U.S. In 2011, Scahill reported for The Nation on a secret prison in Somalia’s capital, Mogadishu. Though officially run by the Somali government, Scahill wrote, “U.S. intelligence personnel pay the salaries of intelligence agents and also directly interrogate prisoners” at the facility.

Brennan’s comments are a rare confirmation that the CIA remains actively involved in the arrest and interrogation of terrorist suspects overseas. He also discussed a restructuring of the CIA that was announced this week, which will blur the traditional distinction between intelligence analysts and on-the-ground operatives. The overhaul brings them together along the model of the CIA’s Counterterrorism Center, which has spearheaded the agency’s hunting and killing of terror suspects since 9/11. Brennan said it had become common in the “war zone” to have “analysts and operators who are working cheek to jowl” and that the agency needed “to migrate those efforts to other areas”.

While there have been periodic reports that the Obama administration wants to shift the primary responsibility for drone strikes from the CIA to the military, where there would ostensibly be more transparency, Brennan said the CIA will still maintain “paramilitary skills and capabilities”.

In his wide-ranging remarks, Brennan also discussed cyber threats, saying government networks are under “constant assault” and “private companies are spending enormous sums of money to defend against hacking attempts, denial of service attacks, and other efforts to disrupt their networks”. He was silent, naturally, on the CIA’s own attempts to get inside private tech companies’ operations, like its multi-year effort to crack the security of Apple’s iPhones and iPads, revealed by The Intercept this week.

Iran... (Continued From Page 2)

political history of the West,” said part of the letter.

Ayatollah Khamenei criticized “the Western governments’ insincere and hypocritical treatment” of other nations and cultures and said, “The histories of the United States and Europe are ashamed of slavery, embarrassed by the colonial period and chagrined at the oppression of people of color and non-Christians.”

The Leader said the humiliation and spreading hatred and illusionary fear of the “other” have been the common basis of the so-called superpowers in the West.

“Therefore, don’t miss the opportunity to gain proper, correct and unbiased understanding of Islam so that hopefully, due to your sense of responsibility toward the truth, future generations would write the history of this current interaction between Islam and the West with a clearer conscience and lesser resentment,” Ayatollah Khamenei concluded.

Gen. Suleimani... (Continued From Page 2)

the Iraqi and Syrian governments against ISIL terrorists, reportedly landing in Baghdad hours after the Takfiri group overran Iraq’s second city Mosul last June.

Suleimani beat last year’s winner, Foreign Minister Muhammad Javad Zarif, in the poll, which is conducted by Khabar-Online, a moderate conservative news website.

Zarif, who heads Iran’s negotiating team in nuclear talks with the world powers, scored 28% this year.

According to KhabarOnline, 463,000 votes were cast between March 7 and March 14, with the results being released one week before Nowruz, which falls on March 21.

Popular pop singer and composer Morteza Pashaei, who died from cancer in November aged just 30, placed third in the poll with 18%.

Outspoken conservative member of parliament Ali Motahari came fourth with 13%.