

KABUL (FNA) – At least 33 insurgents were killed in the Afghan National Army (ANA) operations across the country, Defense Ministry Spokesman General Zahir Azimi announced in a statement on Sunday. The statement said that 33 militants were killed and 42 wounded during separate military operations in eight provinces in past 24 hours.

Certainly, this world is a house of truth for those who look into it carefully, an abode of peace and rest for those who understand its ways and moods and it is the best working ground for those who want to procure rewards for life in the Hereafter.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

HRW:

Saudis Still Using Cluster Bombs Against Yemenis

SANAA (FNA) – Human Rights Watch (HRW) on Sunday published new evidence showing Saudi Arabia is still using internationally banned cluster bombs in Yemen, urging it to stop such attacks that were harming civilians.

The New York-based watchdog said it documented the use of three types of cluster munitions in Yemen, where Saudi-led warplanes have pounded Yemeni cities since March 26, AFP reported.

“These weapons can’t distinguish military targets from civilians, and their unexploded sub-munitions threaten civilians, especially chil-

dren, even long after the fighting,” said HRW’s senior emergencies researcher Ole Solvang.

The organization said the banned munitions had wounded civilians including a child in attacks on Northern city of Sa’ada, pointing out that a HRW team had visited Sa’ada province this month.

Two of three people wounded in one attack from the air were likely to have been civilians, while the source of ground-fired cluster bombs that wounded four other civilians, including a child, was not determined, HRW said. Both cases took place in an area under attack

by the coalition, it added.

Based on photographs, Human Rights Watch identified the weapon as a type of ground-fired cluster munitions containing “ZP-39” sub-munitions with a distinctive red ribbon. The ZP-39’s producer and the delivery system used are not publicly known or included in standard international reference materials.

According to the latest news, at least one Saudi border guard has been killed and seven others wounded in mortar attacks carried out by Yemeni fighters, Saudi officials say.

The soldier was killed in Saudi

Arabia’s southwestern city of Jizan on Saturday night, officials from the Saudi Interior Ministry said.

Yemeni retaliatory attacks on Saudi border regions began earlier this month. Dozens of Saudi soldiers have been killed in rocket and mortar attacks by Yemeni fighters since Riyadh started its indiscriminate airstrikes against its neighboring country in late March.

In the latest wave of air raids, Saudi fighter jets bombarded various parts of the Yemeni capital Sana’a.

Earlier in the day, Saudi warplanes pounded a hospital in the Bani Hashish district of Sana’a.

Officials:

ISIL Kidnaps 500 Children in Iraq’s Anbar, Diyala



This file photo shows Takfiri ISIL terrorists in an undisclosed location in Iraq.

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraqi local and security authorities say members of the Takfiri ISIL terrorist group have abducted 500 children in two provinces of Iraq.

Farhan Mohammed, a member of the Provincial Council in Iraq’s al-Anbar Province, said on Saturday that, in a time span of more than a week, the ISIL extremists carried out several raids in the towns of al-Rutbah, al-Qa’im, Anah and Rawa, during which they kidnapped 400 children.

Mohammed added that the abductees have been taken to ISIL bases elsewhere in Iraq and neighboring Syria and are being trained to carry out acts of terror under the terrorist group’s commands.

Meanwhile, the police chief of the eastern province of Diyala, Lieutenant General Kasim al-Saidi, said the ISIL terrorists kidnapped some 100

children in the province to use them as bombers.

A similar move by ISIL took place in April. Back then, ISIL stormed a number of schools in al-Qayyarah, al-Shura, Badoush and al-Baaj neighborhoods of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. About 120 school-children were kidnapped in the city, which is located about 400 kilometers (248 miles) north of the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, and has been under the control of ISIL since June 2014. The fate and whereabouts of the children are unknown.

The ISIL terrorists have perpetrated atrocious crimes and terrorized all communities, including Shias, Sunnis, Kurds, and Christians during their onslaughts in Iraq.

Units of Iraqi army soldiers and volunteer fighters have been engaged in joint operations to liberate terrorist-held regions in the country.

Official:

Hezbollah Ready to Engage ISIL in Arsal



Fighters from the Lebanese resistance movement Hezbollah parade in Beirut, Lebanon

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – A high-ranking Hezbollah official says fighters from the Lebanese resistance movement are fully prepared to drive Takfiri terrorists from the

border town of Arsal, and liberate the territory.

Nabil Qaouk, the deputy chairman of Hezbollah’s executive council, said on Saturday that

the movement is ready as long as “there is territory occupied” on the outskirts of Arsal, which lies about 124 kilometers (77 miles) northeast of the capital, Beirut.

He also accused the March 14 Alliance, led by former Prime Minister Saad Hariri, of ‘supporting terrorism and inciting internal strife.’

The senior Hezbollah official added that some Lebanese political factions are “betting” on the success of terrorists in the strategic mountainous region of Qalamoun on the Lebanese border with crisis-hit Syria.

Hezbollah fighters have been engaged in battles against terrorists in the Lebanese border areas over the past weeks.

On May 27, scores of al-Qaeda-

affiliated al-Nusra Front terrorists were killed after Hezbollah fighters, having spotted terrorist hideouts by means of a drone, mounted a surprise attack in an area located between Arsal and the northeastern Lebanese village of Nahle.

Hezbollah fighters and units of the Syrian army launched a joint operation on May 4 to push back the Takfiri terrorists from Qalamoun. They have made considerable victories over the terrorists so far, driving them out of major towns, including Assal al-Ward and Juba, and several other areas.

Hezbollah’s Deputy Secretary General Sheikh Naeem Qassem has said that the resistance movement is resolute to purge Qalamoun of terrorists.

Pakistani PM Vows to Counter ‘Foreign Threats’

ISLAMABAD (Press TV) – Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has vowed to defend Pakistan against alleged foreign attempts aimed at destabilizing the country, Press TV reports.

The Pakistani military said in a statement on Saturday that Premier Sharif, during a high-level meeting with senior intelligence officials in the capital, Islamabad, voiced concerns over the alleged involvement of foreign intelligence agencies in destabilizing the country.

Sharif said that all possible measures will be taken to counter “anti-Pakistan” acts.

The premier also expressed worries about the recent statements made by the Indian leadership.

“PM expressed serious concern on recent statements by the Indian political leadership. We would take all possible measures to counter any anti-

Pakistan acts,” Army spokesman Asim Bajwa said.

Indian Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar had earlier said that India would use terrorism to counter terrorism from other countries.

Reacting to the statement, adviser to Premier Sharif on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz said that Parrikar’s statement confirms Pakistan’s concerns that India is involved in terrorism in Pakistan.

Early on Saturday, Director General of Pakistan’s Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) Lieutenant-General Rizwan Akhtar briefed the prime minister and others senior officials “on external and internal security.”

The intelligence chief also briefed them about the security operations that led to foiling of several terrorist attacks and helped to dismantle militant networks.



Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif (C) with senior officials in Islamabad

The meeting comes a day after a group of heavily armed militants shot dead at least 21 passengers and injured several others after taking them hostage from two buses in the troubled southwestern Pakistan.

Islamabad has long accused India of fueling militancy in Pakistan’s troubled Balochistan Province.

Pakistan’s army has recently

accused Indian intelligence of “whipping up terrorism” in Pakistan, blaming India for fomenting unrest in the country.

Pakistan has seen a surge in terrorist and militant attacks in various parts of the country over the past months.

India and Pakistan have fought three wars since their independence from Britain in 1947.

UN Envoy Begins Mission to Discuss Postponed Yemen Talks

NEW YORK (AFP) – The UN special envoy to Yemen has launched a mission to discuss stalled Geneva peace talks on Yemen as Saudi Arabia continues pounding the impoverished nation.

Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed, who flew in to the Yemeni capital, Sana’a, on Friday, opened the mission on Saturday to discuss the postponed Geneva talks aimed at ending the crisis in the war-hit Arab country.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon had urged all Yemeni sides to attend the Geneva talks, which were initially set for May 28. The talks were postponed after the fugitive former Yemeni president, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, said in a letter to the UN secretary general that he would not be present during the talks unless his demands are met.

Yemen has been under Saudi airstrikes since March 26. The military aggression, carried out without a UN mandate, is meant to restore power to Hadi, who is a close ally of the Riyadh regime.

In its latest acts of aggression on Saturday, Saudi warplanes bombarded a hospital in the Bani Hashish district of Yemen’s western province of Sana’a.

According to the UN, about 2,000 people have been killed and more than 500,000 displaced as a result of the conflict in Yemen.

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