

MANAMA (FNA) – Bahraini forces have raided the headquarters of the kingdom's biggest opposition society, the National Islamic Society, al-Wefaq in Bilad al-Qadeem, according to eyewitnesses.

Activists confirmed that security forces also raided the branch office of al-Wefaq Society in the Western Region, in the town of Malkiya. Photos circulated showed that the forces were confiscating the possessions and properties of the society, Bahrain Mirror reported.

One who takes account of his shortcomings will always gain by it; one who is unmindful of them will always suffer. One who is afraid of the Day of Judgment, is safe from the Wrath of Allah.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

Syria:

Terrorists Block Civilians From Leaving East Aleppo

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – Syria's UN envoy says al-Qaeda-linked terrorists are preventing civilians from leaving the areas they control in the northwestern city of Aleppo.

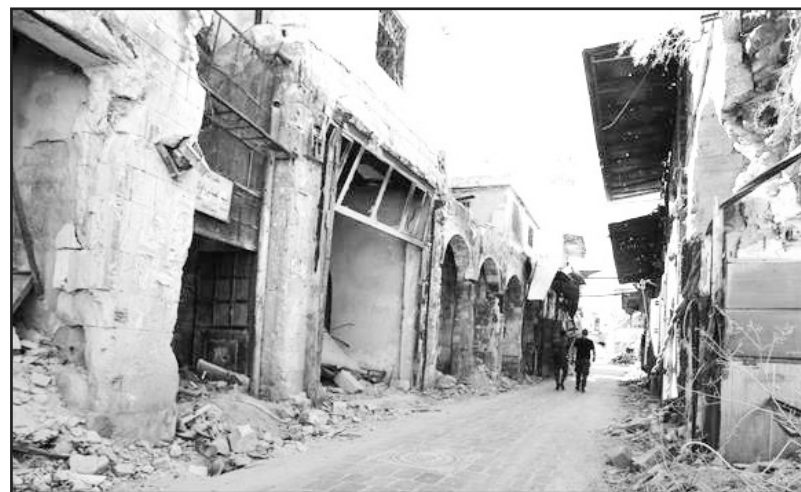
Bashar al-Ja'afari made the remarks during a UN General Assembly session, which had been held to address the situation in the beleaguered city and elsewhere across Syria.

The senior Syrian diplomat said Damascus has set up eight passageways for people to leave the city, six for civilians and eight for militants interested in government-offered amnesty or transfer to other areas.

However, the terror outfits of Jabhat Fateh al-Sham, formerly known as al-Nusra Front, and Ahrar al-Sham are blocking the exit routes for civilians, he said.

The terrorists resort to mortar attacks and use civilians as human shields, said Ja'afari, adding that they had executed 14 people earlier on Thursday for encouraging Aleppo's residents to leave terrorist-controlled areas.

The terrorists have also threatened to burn down the houses of those who choose to flee, according to Ja'afari.



Syrian government soldiers walk in the damaged al-Farafra Souk in the government-held part of Aleppo, northwestern Syria.

Aleppo, Syria's second largest city, has been divided since 2012 between government forces in the west and foreign-backed terrorists in the east, making it a frontline battleground.

On Thursday, a unilateral Syrian ceasefire went into effect to allow civilians and foreign-sponsored terrorists to leave eastern Aleppo.

However, reports said terrorists fired artillery shells at the humanitarian corridors opened by the army in two Aleppo areas. They accused

the government of trying to empty the occupied parts of civilians so it could take over the entire city.

Ja'afari further regretted that Aleppo's situation "started to become tense in August 2012, when Turkey opened its borders to terrorists and mercenaries, who were being paid by Saudi Arabia and Qatar and trained by the United States on Turkish soil."

The envoy said Damascus condemned the "wrongful method" with which the country's crisis was

being addressed.

More than 1,700,000 civilians have so far fled the terrorist-held areas to the government-controlled ones in the west, Ja'afari added.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also said on Friday terrorists of Fatah al-Sham Front (formerly known as the al-Nusra Front) and Ahrar al-Sham are sabotaging UN efforts, supported by Damascus and Moscow, to deliver humanitarian aid to the eastern districts of Aleppo.

"Both Fatah al-Sham and Ahrar al-Sham, along with other organizations cooperating with them, are ultimately sabotaging UN efforts to restore the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Eastern Aleppo that is carried out with the support of Russia and the Syrian government," Lavrov said, RT reported.

"(They) explicitly shell those routes through which such humanitarian aid can be delivered," he underlined.

Lavrov said that according to Russian intelligence, all the groups which have been operating in Aleppo are "one way or another under the command" of Fatah al-Sham Front, "which controls eastern Aleppo."

Saudi Airstrikes Violate Yemen's UN-Brokered Brief Truce



Yemeni medics and rescue workers carry a body on a stretcher amid destruction at the site of Saudi air strikes against a funeral in the capital Sana'a on October 8, 2016.

SANAA (Press TV) – Two separate deadly Saudi airstrikes against civilian sites in Yemen's northwestern provinces of Amran and Sa'ada have broken the UN-brokered ceasefire in the war-ravaged Arabian Peninsula state.

Three people lost their lives, when Saudi fighter jets struck a bridge in the Harf Sufyan district of Amran province, located 53 kilometers northwest of the capital Sana'a, Yemen's Arabic-language al-Masirah television network reported.

Another three people were killed in the Baqim district of Sa'ada when Saudi warplanes struck a residential building.

The fatal aerial attacks came on the same day that Yemeni army soldiers and fighters from allied Popular Committees targeted a gathering of militiamen loyal to the resigned Yemeni president, Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, in the Maslub district of the country's northern province of Jawf.

Informed sources, requesting anonymity, said at least 15 Saudi-backed gunmen were killed in the attack, while 30 others suffered injuries.

A 72-hour ceasefire went into effect in Yemen shortly before

Wednesday midnight to allow aid to reach families trapped in towns and villages cut off by months of fighting between warring factions.

In another development, United Nations sanctions monitors have told the Security Council that the October 8 Saudi airstrikes against a crowded funeral ceremony in Sana'a was in breach of international humanitarian law.

The UN officials said they found "in respect of the second airstrike, the Saudi-led coalition violated its obligations in respect of hors de combat and the wounded in this 'double tap' attack."

International humanitarian law prohibits attacks against hors de combat - fighters incapable of defending themselves - the wounded, and medical personnel and units.

"The second airstrike, which occurred three to eight minutes after the first airstrike, almost certainly resulted in more casualties to the already wounded and the first responders," the UN monitors said.

"These first responders included civilians who immediately entered the area after the first airstrike to provide urgent first aid and undertake casualty evacuation," they said.

UN:

Zionist, European Weapons Suppliers Fueling South Sudan War

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – A United Nations panel has found evidence of "well-established networks" of arms suppliers in the Israeli-occupied territories and Eastern Europe that are fueling the ongoing civil war in South Sudan.

A UN panel of experts said in a confidential report to the Security Council that arms suppliers from Bulgaria and the Zionist regime were fueling the war in South Sudan by supplying weapons to the rebels in the African country, the world's youngest.

"This evidence nevertheless illustrates the well-established networks through which weapons procurement is coordinated from suppliers in Eastern Europe and the Middle East and then transferred

through middlemen in eastern Africa to South Sudan," read the report, which was obtained by AFP.

According to the panel, arms deals dating back to 2014 or earlier involve Israeli and Bulgarian firms.

The panel said forces loyal to rebel leader Reik Machar recently turned up in the Democratic Republic of the Congo armed with automatic made by the Zionist regime rifles that were part of a stock that had been sold to Uganda in 2007.

A Bulgarian firm worked through an intermediary to deliver a shipment of 4,000 assault rifles and small arms ammunition to Uganda in July 2014, which was later transferred to South Sudan, according to the UN panel.

In addition, the UN experts are examining an arms trafficking network based in Europe that received an "extensive list of small arms, munitions and light weapons" for purchasing from the rebels in 2014.

The UN Security Council has threatened to impose an arms embargo on South Sudan over the continued fighting in the country. The council has said it will impose an arms embargo if outgoing UN

chief Ban Ki-moon determines that the government of President Salva Kiir in Juba is blocking the deployment of a UN-mandated regional force.

South Sudan has experienced a new wave of conflict since July 8, when gunfire erupted near the state house in the capital, Juba, as Kiir and Machar were holding a meeting. More than 300 people were killed in the clashes.

Pentagon Chief Visits Turkey 'to Discuss Battle Against Daesh'

ANKARA (Press TV) – U.S. Defense Secretary Ashton Carter has arrived in the Turkish capital Ankara for talks with the country's leaders over the battle against the Daesh terrorist group in Iraq and Syria.

The Pentagon chief's arrival on Friday comes amid escalating tensions between Ankara and Baghdad over Turkish military operations in northern Iraq.

Ankara claims it is training Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga fighters battling Daesh, which currently controls swathes of land in Iraq.

Baghdad has repeatedly asked Turkey to withdraw its forces from the Bashiqa camp, describing Turkey's military presence in Iraq as an infringement of its sovereignty.

Carter said he would stress the need to respect Iraq's sovereignty during his visit to Tur-

key, which has been locked in a dispute with Baghdad over who should participate in the campaign to retake Mosul from Daesh.

Carter was due to meet with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Prime Minister Binali Yildirim, as well as Defense Minister Fikri Isik.

"We've long had discussions with everyone about this - about respect for Iraqi sovereignty in the course of the conduct of the counter-ISIL campaign," Carter told reporters on his plane traveling with him to Turkey.

Currently there are about 5,200 U.S. soldiers in Iraq. The U.S. troops are allegedly providing air support, training and advice to the Iraqi military.

The United States and some its allies have been carrying out air strikes in Iraq and Syria since 2014 allegedly targeting

Daesh terrorists.

U.S. forces invaded Iraq in 2003 to topple long-time dictator Saddam Hussein but the large-scale military operation deteriorated security in the Arab country and gave birth to various terrorist groups like Daesh.

A massive military operation was launched by Iraqi forces earlier this week to drive out Daesh from the northern city of Mosul, their last stronghold in Iraq.

On Wednesday, Erdogan once again rejected Baghdad's objections to the presence of its forces in northern Iraq, claiming Ankara seeks to prevent the Mosul battle from turning into a "sectarian one" and causing "blood and fire" in the Middle East.

Ankara maintains an estimated 2,000 troops in Iraq. Around 500 of the soldiers are deployed

to the Bashiqa military camp in northern Iraq.

Carter said he also wants to talk to Turkish leaders about the ongoing effort to secure Turkey's border with Syria. Turkey has increased military operations against Daesh in Syria.

Ankara has been angered by Washington's support for Kurdish forces battling Daesh in Syria. Asked about Turkish air strikes that struck a group of Kurdish fighters allied to a U.S.-backed militia in northern Syria, Carter said he was not certain about what precisely transpired.

There are dozens of U.S. special operations forces in Syria, who are working closely with a collection of various terrorist groups that are trying to topple the country's legitimate government.



Soldiers of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the army of South Sudan, celebrate while standing in trenches in Lelo, outside Malakal, northern South Sudan.