

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) said Wednesday his forces have accomplished a mission to provide temporary housing for villagers in the western province of Kermanshah that were left homeless by a massive earthquake in November. Major General Muhammad Ali Jafari said IRGC forces have completed the task of providing quake-hit villages of Kermanshah with Conex boxes to accommodate the local residents. The IRGC had undertaken to construct 8,000 Conex boxes after the earthquake, but managed to set up more than 8,100 units in the rural areas in less than 45 days, the general added.

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Chief Justice of Tehran Province Gholam Hussein Esmaili called on the country's judges dealing with the cases of those arrested during recent protests to issue harsh sentences for ringleaders of the riots. Esmaili said during recent protests in the country, some individuals have been arrested by the Law Enforcement Force as they were making acts of vandalism. Some "targeted arrests" have also been made by other security forces, having enough documentation to support the charges against them, he added.

Viewpoint


By: S. Nawabzadeh

Grand Display of People's Power by Iranian Voters to Defeat Sedition

Excavations Reveal 45,000-Year-Old Stone Tools, Animal Bones in China



Kish Island to Host FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour



Palestinian Teenager Shot Dead by Zionist Troops



Regional States Hail Iran's Handling of Riots

MOSCOW (Dispatches) -- Russia has hit out at the U.S. over its stance on riots in Iran—comparing the Iranian response to the demonstrations with the American authorities' reaction to Occupy Wall Street and the Ferguson riots.

The Russian government issued its rebuke after Washington's top envoy to the U.N. praised the demonstrations as a cry "for freedom" and vowed to raise the issue at the Security Council.

Nikki Haley, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, called on countries to "not be silent" and encourage the rioters in Iran, leading to an angry reaction in Moscow.

"There is no doubt that the U.S. delegation (to the UN) has something to tell the world," Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova wrote on Facebook.

"For example, Nikki Haley can share America's experience in breaking up protests, going into detail about how, say, the mass arrests and the stifling of the Occupy Wall Street movement happened or how Ferguson was 'quelled,'" she added.

The Ferguson riots erupted in Missouri after the police shooting of unarmed African-American teenager Michael Brown in 2014, while the 2011 Occupy Wall Street protests took aim at income inequality. Both U.S. protests were among the most serious in recent history, leading to clashes with police and arrests.

in relations between Ankara and Tehran, which have worked together in recent months to reduce violence in Syria, despite backing opposing sides in the conflict for several years.

Turkey's ties with Iran expanded last year as Ankara's relations with the United States, the occupying regime of Israel and Saudi Arabia all frayed.

Turkey shares a border with Iran. They are the two biggest non-Arab powers in the Middle East region.

In August Iran's military chief of staff visited Turkey, which is a member of the NATO military alliance, for talks on cooperation in the Syrian conflict and counter-terrorism.

"Iran's stability is important for us. We are against foreign interventions in Iran," Turkey's Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said, in remarks quoted by television channel NTV.

Broadcaster CNN Turk said Cavusoglu also echoed Rouhani's suggestion that the United States and the Zionist regime had provoked unrest.

"There are two people supporting the demonstrations in Iran: (Israeli PM Benjamin) Netanyahu and (U.S. President Donald) Trump," it quoted Cavusoglu as saying.

Iranian Nation Produces Another Epic: End of Sedition



Demonstrators march in a show of unity and strength to condemn scattered riots in a number of Iranian cities on January 3, 2018.

TEHRAN (Dispatches)—Chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) announced the "end of the sedition" Wednesday as millions of people rallied across Iran in a massive show of unity and strength after days of deadly riots which were vociferously supported by the country's sworn enemies.

General Muhammad Ali Jafari said the IRGC only intervened "in a limited way" against fewer than 15,000 "trouble-makers"

nationwide, adding that a large number had been arrested.

"Today we can announce the end of the sedition," he said. "A large number of the trouble-makers at the centre of the sedition, who received training from counter-revolutionaries... have been arrested and there will be firm action against them."

Jafari spoke after millions of demonstrators took to the streets to vent their anger at seditionists and serve them a warning.

Chants of "Leader, we are

ready" rang out as images showed hundreds of thousands rallying in the cities of Ahvaz, Kermanshah, Gorgan, Bushehr, Abadan and elsewhere.

Several other cities planned to hold similar rallies on Thursday, while Tehrani residents will hold a rally following the Friday prayers.

The demonstrators waved Iranian flags and pictures of Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khomeini, as well as placards saying

"Death to seditionists."

"We offer the blood in our veins to our Leader," the participants chanted. They also shouted slogans against the U.S. and the occupying regime of Israel which welcomed the turmoil and voiced support for the riots.

U.S. President Donald Trump has angered Iranians by repeatedly posting insulting tweets in recent days after calling Iran a "terrorist nation" in October and slapping a travel ban against the country's citizens.

There were new reports of new riots on Tuesday and Wednesday after Iranians across the country closed ranks against the unrest since last week that has reportedly left more than a dozen dead.

General Jafari added those behind the protests had "intervened massively on social media" but that "once restrictions were started, the troubles reduced".

Telecoms Minister Muhammad-Javad Azari Jahromi said Telegram would only be unblocked if it removed "terrorist" content.

"I had mail exchanges with the head of Telegram and I told him that the continuation of Telegram's activities is conditioned on the suppression of terrorist content," he said.

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Palestinians to Trump: Al-Quds Not for Sale

RAMALLAH (Dispatches) -- Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's office said on Wednesday that Jerusalem Al-Quds is "not for sale" after U.S. President Donald Trump threatened to cut annual aid of more than \$300 million to force them to the negotiating table.

"Al-Quds is the eternal capital of the state of Palestine and it is not for sale for gold or billions," Abbas spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeina told AFP, referring to Trump's recognition of Jerusalem Al-Quds as the so-called capital of Israel.

UNRWA spokesperson Chris Gunness said on Wednesday that his organization "has not been informed by the United States administration of any changes in U.S. funding to the agency".

The December 6 declaration has sparked protests over recent weeks. Fourteen Palestinians have been killed including a 17-year-old in a village north of Ramallah on Wednesday.

Musab Firas al-Tamimi was shot dead

during clashes with the Israeli army in Deir Nizam, the Palestinian health ministry said. Ma'an News reported that three other Palestinian youths were injured with rubber-coated steel bullets during the clashes.

On Tuesday night, Trump tweeted that the U.S. has taken Jerusalem Al-Quds "off the table" and said Palestinians were "no longer willing to talk peace".

Earlier on Tuesday, U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said that the U.S. might halt funding the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) – the UN body tasked with helping Palestinian refugees – until the Palestinians agree to engage in "peace" talks with the Zionist regime.

"(Trump) doesn't want to give any additional funding until the Palestinians agree to come back to the negotiation table, and what we saw with the resolution was not helpful to the situation,"

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Norway Halts Arms Sales to UAE Over Yemen

OSLO (Dispatches) -- Norway has suspended exports of weapons and ammunition to the United Arab Emirates over concerns they could be used in the war in Yemen, the Foreign Ministry said on Wednesday.

The UAE is part of a Saudi-led coalition formed in 2015 to attack Yemen, in a war that has killed thousands and displaced more than three million.

While there is currently no evidence that Norwegian-made ammunition has been used in Yemen, there was a rising risk related to the UAE's military involvement there, the ministry said.

Existing export permits had been temporarily revoked and no new licenses would be issued under the current circumstances, Norway said.

In 2016, Norwegian exports of weapons and ammunition to the UAE rose to the equivalent of \$9.7 million from \$5.1 million in 2015, Statistics Norway data

showed.

Last week, UN coordinator in Yemen, Jamie McGoldrick, called the fighting futile and absurd, an unusually direct criticism of the war.

Citing initial reports from the UN human rights office, a statement by McGoldrick said airstrikes hit a crowded market in the Al Hayma sub-district of Attaziah in Taiz governorate last Tuesday, killing 54 and injuring 32.

Eight of the dead and six of the injured were children, according to the reports.

On the same day an air strike on a farm in the Attohayta district of Hudaydah governorate killed 14, and airstrikes elsewhere killed a further 41 civilians and injured 43 over the past 10 days.

"These incidents prove the complete disregard for human life that all parties, including the Saudi-led coalition, continue to show in this absurd war that has

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