

# Saudi Fighter Jets Continue to Hit Areas Across Yemen

SANAA (Dispatches) – Saudi warplanes carried out new airstrikes against several areas across Yemen, inflicting more human loss and material damage on the war-torn Arab country.

The Saudi-led coalition launched three attacks on the Yemen’s capital Sana’a overnight, an official told Saba News Agency on Wednesday.

In the meantime, five Saudi-led coalition airstrikes hit Hajjah province overnight, an official told Saba.

The strikes targeted Haradh and Medi districts, the official added.

Yemeni civilians have been under massive attacks by the coalition for almost three years but Riyadh has reached none of its objectives in Yemen so far.

Since March 2015, Saudi Arabia and some of its Arab allies have been carrying out deadly airstrikes against the Houthi Ansarullah movement in an attempt to restore power to fugitive former President Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi, a close ally of Riyadh.

Over 13,600 Yemenis, including thousands of women and children, have lost their lives in the deadly military campaign.

The Yemeni Ministry of Health says the Saudi-led military coalition has either killed or wounded some 35,000 people of Yemen during the ongoing war Riyadh imposed on the impoverished nation almost three years ago.

In a report read out in a press conference in the



Yemenis check the site of Saudi airstrikes at a detention center in the capital Sana’a on December 13, 2017.

Yemeni capital of Sana’a on Tuesday, the ministry said that the appalling number of casualties occurred in just 1,000 days since the Saudi regime began its military aggression against the Yemeni people in March 2015.

The report added that nearly all of Yemen’s provinces sustained losses in the war with the northwestern province of Sa’ada, the west-central province of Sana’a and the western prov-

ince of Hajjah suffering the most in a descending order.

The ministry also said that 415 health facilities were destroyed, either completely or partially, as a result of direct Saudi airstrikes, pointing out that more than 55 percent of the health facilities did not function due to the ceaseless aggression, and that the remaining 45 percent operated with a minimum capacity.

## U.S. Service Member Killed, 4 Injured in Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (Dispatches) – A U.S. service member was killed in a “combat engagement” in Afghanistan’s Nangarhar province, and four other U.S. service members were injured, according to a U.S. military statement.

The U.S. military did not immediately explain what kind of combat the service members were engaged in at the time or whether they were fighting Daesh terrorists or the Taliban.

Two of the injured service members were receiving medi-

cal treatment nearby. They were in stable condition, the military said, and the two others “have returned to duty.”

“We are deeply saddened by the loss of one of our own,” said Gen. John Nicholson, the top commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan. “At this very difficult time our heartfelt sympathies go out to the families and friends of our fallen and wounded brothers.”

Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., said in a statement that the service-

man killed is Army Sgt. 1st Class Mihail Golin of Fort Lee, N.J. He says Golin “served our nation with courage and distinction, and his death is a loss that will be felt across New Jersey.”

This area, along Afghanistan’s border with Pakistan, has been particularly deadly for U.S. troops in the past year, NPR’s Tom Bowman reports. “Of the 15 Americans killed in the country last year, eight were killed in Nangarhar, seven of them by hostile fire.” U.S. troops claim they

have been fighting Daesh terrorists in the area for two years, he adds.

“Most of the 11,000 Americans work inside bases training Afghans, but some American special operations forces go on combat missions, accompanying Afghan commandos on raids against ISIS (Daesh) and Taliban fighters,” Tom reports. “This year, more American soldiers are expected to head out on operations with Afghan units against the Taliban.”

## Scores of Daesh Terrorists Released in Northeastern Syria

DAMASCUS (Dispatches) – The so-called Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) have released over 25 Daesh members, and started a fresh wave of arrests against civilians in camps under their control in Raqqa province, local sources reported on Wednesday.

The sources said that the SDF has freed 26 Daesh terrorists that had been previously captured in the town of Ein Issa in northern Raqqah.

The sources further said that SDF has, instead, started arresting civilians in a camp near Ein Issa.

The arrests were launched after an SDF members was attacked by unknown raiders at the entrance of Ein Issa.

The pro-opposition Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) reported on Monday that the SDF transferred over 40 Daesh terrorists in Dayr al-Zawr to Hasaka province in northeast-

ern Syria.

The SOHR said that over 40 Daesh terrorists - that had surrendered to the SDF in Southeastern Dayr al-Zawr - have been transferred to Hasaka via northern Dayr al-Zawr.

A Turkish daily reported on Sunday that the U.S. troops deployed in Syria transfer a large number of Daesh commanders and senior members to the safe areas and military bases controlled by the SDF in the country.

The Turkish-language Sabah newspaper reported that the Daesh commanders and terrorists are transferred to the SDF bases to undergo advanced trainings to carry out terrorist acts.

It quoted the local sources as saying that the U.S. helicopters, carrying the Daesh commanders, land in the SDF bases in Dayr al-Zawr and Hasaka mostly mid night.

## Possible Heir to Zionist PM Says ‘Two-State Solution’ Dead

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – A Zionist politician considered a leading candidate to succeed the regime’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said world powers should stop trying to create a Palestinian state.

“Twenty-five years of failed diplomacy shows a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict isn’t realistic and a fresh approach is needed,” Likud party politician Gideon Sa’ar said in an interview near Tel Aviv.

The former education and interior minister has said he’ll run for prime minister after Netanyahu, who is facing a police investigation into alleged corruption, leaves office.

“The fact that people still say ‘two-state solution’ doesn’t make it a solution -- it’s a two-state slogan,” Sa’ar said. “It’s no longer rational to support a two-state solution. We must think

about reality.”

“No one could guarantee that a Palestinian state wouldn’t become a haven for militants threatening Israel’s main population centers,” Sa’ar said.

On the other side, the Palestinian Islamic resistance movement, Hamas, has called upon Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to withdraw from the Oslo Accords and put an immediate end to all its security cooperation with the Tel Aviv regime in protest at the Zionist regime’s parliament’s vote to consolidate its occupation of al-Quds.

Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum, in a statement released on Tuesday, urged Abbas to establish a framework for Palestinian political factions on the basis of anti-Israel resistance in order to restore the rights of the Palestinian na-

tion and disrupt the Israeli regime’s equations.

He also stressed the need to “escalate the uprising in al-Quds, and rally regional and international support for justice and Palestinian cause in the face of U.S. and Israeli radical and racist policies.”

Barhoum went on to say that the Israeli parliament’s al-Quds bill “is in continuation of a series of attacks on the holy city, and in line with targeting the Palestinian population there and falsifying history and realities.”

The senior Hamas official said the Zionist regime poses a threat not only to the Palestinian nation but also to the entire Middle East region in the wake of U.S. President Donald Trump’s recognition of al-Quds as the regime’s capital, and the international community’s silence on the crimes and terrorist acts of the Tel Aviv regime.

## End... (Continued From Page One)

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani told Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in a phone call that he hoped the protests in Iran would end in a few days, sources in Erdogan’s office said on Wednesday.

In the phone call, Erdogan said Rouhani had taken an appropriate stance by saying demonstrators should not violate the law while exercising their right to peaceful protests, the sources said.

Iran’s officials have said the protests, which began over economic issues on December 28 but quickly turned violent, were part of a foreign plot to destabilize the country.

“The enemies have united and are using all their means, money, weapons, policies and security services to create problems for the Islamic establishment,” Ayatollah Khamenei said on Tuesday.

“The enemy is always looking for an opportunity and any crevice to infiltrate and strike the Iranian nation.”

Even reformists, who backed the last sedition in 2009, condemned the violence and the support it has received from the United States.

On the streets of the capital, there is widespread opposition to any act which may undermine the country’s security in the face of outside threats.

“The poorer section of society is really under pressure,” Sakineh Eidi, a 37-year-old pharmacist in Tehran, told AFP. “But I don’t think it will continue.”

“Even those who maybe acted emotionally, vandalizing things and setting fire to public property, know that the smoke will get into everyone’s eyes and that insecurity in the country is not in anyone’s interest.”

Rouhani came to power in 2013 promising to mend the economy and ease social tensions, but high living costs and a 12% unemployment rate have left many feeling that progress is too slow.

Rural areas, hit by years of drought and under-investment, are particularly hard-hit.

Rouhani on Sunday acknowledged there was “no problem bigger than unemployment”, and also promised a more balanced media and more transparency.

Iran’s labor minister pledged to listen to the demands of protesters.

“We are all responsible when it comes to recent events,” Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Ali Rabei said, according to the official Islamic Republic News Agency. “The government and authorities will listen to people’s demands and will make every effort to materialize them.”

## Palestinians... (Continued From Page One)

Haley said at the United Nations.

On Monday, the Israeli Knesset passed a bill which will make it more difficult for the occupying regime to hand over parts of Jerusalem Al-Quds to Palestinians under any future deal.

The bill also paves the way for Palestinian neighborhoods in East Al-Quds to be hived off into a separate local council, reducing the city’s Palestinian population by a third.

Abbas condemned the bill, calling is “a brutal war on the Palestinian people and their land and holy sites”.

Trump also plans to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem Al-Quds from Tel Aviv.

In late December, Trump threatened to cut off financial aid to countries that voted in favor of the UN resolution calling for the United States to withdraw its decision to recognize Jerusalem Al-Quds as Israel’s “capital”.

“They take hundreds of millions of dollars and even billions of dollars, and then they vote against us. Well, we’re watching those votes. Let them vote against us. We’ll save a lot. We don’t care,” Trump told reporters at the White House.

Haley, in a letter to dozens of UN states last month, warned that Trump had asked her to “report back on those countries who voted against us”.

U.S. Vice President Mike Pence had been set to visit Occupied Palestine during the week of December 17, but according to the White House rescheduled his trip to focus on the tax bill then up for a vote in Congress.

## Norway... (Continued From Page One)

only resulted in the destruction of the country and the incommensurate suffering of its people, who are being punished as part of a futile military campaign by both sides,” McGoldrick said.

Under international law, the warring sides must spare civilians and civilian infrastructure, he added.

The United Nations has no up-to-date estimate of the death toll in Yemen, having said in August 2016 that according to medical centers at least 10,000 people had been killed.

The UN says Yemen is the world’s worst humanitarian crisis, with about eight million people on the brink of famine, a cholera epidemic that has infected one million people, and economic collapse in what was already one of the Arab world’s poorest countries.

## U.S.... (Continued From Page 2)

and to protest,” Zarif said in a post on his official Twitter account on Tuesday.

“These hard-earned rights will be protected, and infiltrators will not be allowed to sabotage them through violence and destruction.”

Trump posted several tweets to express his support for riots in Iran. In his latest tweet on Tuesday, the U.S. president said, “The (Iranian) people have little food, big inflation and no human rights. The U.S. is watching!”