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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Investigating U.S. War **Crimes in Syria**

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

Catherine Marchi-Uhel has been appointed by Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to lead a panel known as the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism which aims to gather, preserve, and analyze potential evidence of serious violations of international law committed in Syria since 2011 for use by courts or an international tribunal. The legal team, established in Geneva, was created by the UN General Assembly in December 2015.

Though the exact figure is uncertain, estimates of casualties from the 7-year long war range from 320,000 to over 400,000. A UN International Commission of Inquiry has comprehensively documented atrocities committed by the U.S.-led parties to the conflict, including systematic attacks on hospitals and schools.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the American armed forces and their terrorist allies have committed war crimes by dropping bombs, killing innocent civilians and torturing detainees in Syria. This raises the possibility that American forces and American officials could be indicted even though Washington has not joined the global court. They have subjected an entire nation to murder, forced displacement, rape, cruel treatment, hunger, siege and outrages upon personal dignity on the territory of Syria since 2011.

The International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism, therefore, can and should seek authorization to open a full-scale investigation in Syria that could lead to war crimes charges against the Americans – with no strings attached and certainly no politicization of the process. This is important, because the American atrocities and war crimes are also happening on a regular basis in Iraq, Yemen and Afghanistan.

The Pentagon regime claims its latest massive under-count of the civilian death toll in coalition airstrikes against Irag and Syria has shown a significant spike in the death toll, putting the latest official count at 603 civilians between the start of the air war and the end of

The figure is rising a lot faster than it used to, growing by scores months now instead of by single digit numbers, reflective of the general trend of soaring death tolls as U.S. strikes concentrate on densely populated civilian targets.

They're still wrong, however, and wrong in a big way. The official number of civilians killed – 603 - is less than one seventh the figure by the Air Wars NGO, which put the civilian deaths through the same period at 4,354. This is because incidents with hundreds killed are often revised downward by the Pentagon to just a handful, and smaller incidents, where only a dozen or so are killed, tend to be ignored

Long story short, the Pentagon regime is getting away with murder. The spike in civilian deaths is unacceptable and the Pentagon cannot continue to come up with much less realistic numbers - when NGO reports note that massive numbers of civilians by U.S. strikes in recent months have been on the rise.

It's a perfect legal case for the UN and the ICC to step in, investigate, and prosecute. That's the least they are expected to do under international law and international humanitarian law.

Syrian Ambassador Told in Tehran:

U.S., Zionists Seek Protracted Mideast Crisis



Syrian Ambassador to Tehran Adnan Mahmoud, left, holds talks with advisor to Iran's parliament speaker Hussein Amir-Abdollahian in Tehran in this file photo.

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- The U.S. and the occupying regime of Israel seek the protraction of crises in the Middle East in order to be able to sell more weapons to regional countries, an advisor to Iran's parliament speaker has said.

During a meeting with Syrian Ambassador to Tehran Adnan Mahmoud here, Hussein Amir-Abdollahian said efforts by Washington and Tel Aviv to prolong "regional crises such as the continuation of (the Saudi) aggression against Yemen, threatening Syria with a military attack and the perpetuation of tensions in Riyadh-Doha relations are aimed at selling more weapons to the region."

He added that the White House's review of its policy on Syria shows a "change of tactics and not a change in the objectives of Syria's enemies."

Since the outset of the crisis in Syria

more than six years ago, enemies have been seeking to oust the country's legal President Bashar al-Assad, he said.

"Despite such a demand, the Syrian nation's choice and determination will be the only path to determining Syria's final fate and the Islamic Republic of Iran, since the beginning of this crisis, has emphasized on political dialogue and negotiations," Amir-Abdollahian

Russian Deputy FM Due in Tehran Tuesday

TEHRAN (Press TV) -- Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov plans to pay a visit to Tehran to hold talks with Iranian officials

ahead of a scheduled meeting of the Iran-P5+1 Joint Commission. Heading a political delegation,

Ryabkov will arrive in Tehran on Tuesday and meet with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for legal and international affairs Abbas Aragchi, the press attaché of Russia's embassy in Iran Andrei Ganenko said

He added that during his day-long stay in Tehran, the Russian diplomat would hold talks on the landmark nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), signed between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries.

Ganenko noted that issues pertaining to Tehran-Moscow relations are also on the agenda of the talks.

Deputy foreign ministers of Iran and the P5+1 group of countries are

slated to hold a Joint Commission meeting in the Austrian capital of Vienna later this month.

(Continued on Page 7)

Holy Qur'an

He it is Who made the sun a shining brightness and the moon a light, and ordained for it mansions that you might know the computation of years and the reckoning. Allah did not create it but with truth.

The Holy Qur'an (10.5)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)

20:43 Evening(Maghreb)

Dawn(Fajr)" Tomorrow" 04:17

Sunrise "Tomorrow"

The Iranian official emphasized that Syria stands at the forefront of resistance against the Israeli regime and the fight against terrorism and that it plays an honorable role in this regard.

05:57

He pointed to the common stance between Iran and Russia on the Syrian issue and stressed the importance of continued cooperation among the three

The Syrian envoy, for his part, said Iran has a leading and undeniable role in the region and added that the U.S. and its Western allies seek to undermine Iran's regional influence.

Mahmoud noted that Tehran and Damascus have a close stance on many regional developments and said the Islamic Republic is playing a vital role in the battle against terrorism both in Syria and the entire region.

He emphasized that Iran, Syria and Russia must continue with consultations to help Damascus solve the ongoing

Bitter Truth

KAYHAN: The United States and its allies seek regime change in Iran openly and arrogantly. They are not just saying this. They are actually trying to do it. This means we should always stand on-guard. No doubt they have taken their wishes to the grave but that doesn't mean they have given up. They want to repeat what they did to Russia in the 1980s.

Second Israel

RESALAT: The House of Saud is trying to turn Arabia into another Israel in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia is in fact the second Israel. The Saudis continue to commit crimes against humanity just like Israel committing atrocities in the besieged city of Gaza. They have bombed houses, schools, markets and hospitals, and they have killed scores in Yemen, including women and children. The similarities are preposterous.

Democratic Meetings

JAVAN: There is a growing need to improve security at the parliament. But that doesn't mean people should be deprived of seeing their representatives at the parliament. The best way to fix the problem is to introduce a computerized system that registers visitors in order to avoid any backlog. That makes it easier for authorities to check out the identity of visitors and prevent any abuse of the system in between. Stopping people from visiting the parliament should be the last option.

Forced Retreat

SIASAT ROOZ: The U.S. and Russia have agreed on a ceasefire in southwestern Syria, aiming to halt all fighting in the area. The ceasefire has begun Sunday, and is open-ended. It could be a first step which, if successful, would be spread to other parts of the country. The deal allows President Assad to stay in power and Syria to remain as a unitary state. Indeed, it is yet another proof that the Trumpsters have given up on the idea of regime changing Syria.

Gen. Soleimani's Role in Mosul 'Unparalleled'

TEHRAN (Dispatches) – Iran's ambassador to Britain has praised the role of the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s Quds Force Major General Soleimani in Iraq's recapture of Mosul as "unparalleled".

"The liberation of Mosul not only means the biggest defeat of Daesh over the last three years, but also represents a major development in the Iraqi and Syrian war against Daesh," Hamid Baeedinejad said in

a post on social media.

The diplomat added that Major General Soleimani has undoubtedly played an unparalleled role in the major development.

"When Major General Soleimani shouldered the responsibility of an advisory mission in Iraq at the request of the country's government, Daesh was only 60 kilometers away from Baghdad and considering capturing the city," he

Top Military Commander:

Armed Forces Ready to Confront Any Aggression

(Dispatches) Commander of the Iranian army's ground forces Brigadier General Kiomars Haydari said on Sunday his forces are ready to powerfully confront any foreign aggression.

Speaking to reporters in the northeastern city of Mashhad,

Haydari hailed a recent missile

attack on Daesh terrorists

in Syria, saying the strike by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) "brothers was a slap on the mouth of the enemies.'

All contingency measures aimed at preventing any aggression against Iran have been taken by the country's

armed forces in order "to rub the

enemies' nose in the dirt if they make a mistake," the commander

The IRGC fired six mid-range ballistic missiles at various targets within a range of 650 to 700 kilometers, hitting Daesh ammunition headquarters, depots and gathering centers

on June 18, leaving at least 170

terrorists dead.

Head of the IRGC Public Relations Department General Ramezan Sharif said the missile attack was coordinated with the Syrian government.

The strike was carried out in response to terrorist attacks in Tehran claimed by Daesh which claimed the lives of 18 people.