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In the Name of the Most High Viewpoint

Assad Too Civilized to Threaten Terrorist Trump With Death

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

We have long been saying the US is a terrorist state. It is the greatest sponsor of terrorism worldwide. If its state terrorism targets its own nationals at home, it does not spare foreign dignitaries abroad. Its Chief Executive is always a terrorist-in-chief barely hiding behind the diplomatic camouflage.

The other day Donald Trump, the assassin of Iran's iconic anti-terrorist general, Qassem Soleimani, bared his ugly undiplomatic face to the whole world by admitting that in late 2017 he had given instructions for the assassination of Syria's President Bashar al-Assad, but his then Defense Secretary refused to endorse his murderous plan.

"I would have rather taken him out. I had him all set," said Donald the Dotard to the show Fox & Friends last Tuesday, adding: "(Jim) Mattis didn't want to do it."

Hours later the same day, Trump's terrorist streak was publicly defended by his Jewish son-in-law, the notorious Jared Kushner, who said in a TV interview that "the US president does not rule out the use of assassination of other heads of state in the future."

In view of these facts, will the UN Security Council instruct the International Criminal Court (ICC) to prosecute Trump for his admission of resorting to terrorism in violation of international laws?

Unfortunately, the World Body, because of big power pressures, is not expected to press charges against the US president for his murderous bid against the head of a sovereign member state that didn't materialize because of the presence of some saner minds at the Pentagon in those days.

The UN, however, can at least warn the criminals in Washington of the consequences of indulgence in acts of terrorism worldwide, especially since the January 3 murder this year of Qassem Soleimani at Baghdad International Airport, along with that of Iraq's senior-most anti-terrorist official, Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, is unforgivable, and the concerned authorities in both Iran and Iraq, reserve the right of retaliation.

The response from the Syrian Foreign Ministry has been swift. It issued a statement calling Trump's words proof, "that the US administration is an outlaw state, which is pursuing the same methods of terrorist outfits with murder and assassination, without taking into account any legal, humanitarian or moral controls or rules."

It added that Trump's remarks can only reflect a "regime of bandits" using "crime to reach their goals", adding that Trump's admission of such a step "confirms that the US administration is a rogue state".

The government of Syria, however, in contrast to the savagery of the uncouth Trump, had the civility to refrain from issuing any threats against his worthless life, in spite of Damascus' right to retaliate against the US in view of the illegal presence of American troops on Syrian soil in support of terrorists.

Here we should note the world of a difference between the presidents of Syria and the US. While Bashar al-Assad is an educated doctor, Donald Trump is an imbecile – factors that will ultimately decide as to who is the winner and who is the loser in the foreign-engineered crisis in the ancient land of Syria.

Over two years ago when the Syrian president was asked about the depreatory words used against him by his American counterpart, he behaved like a real gentleman and said with a smile on his face: "This is not my language, so, I cannot use similar language (against him). This is his language. It represents him."

Dr. Bashar al-Assad, an ophthalmologist by profession known for his political prudence and deep insight, didn't descend to the depths of the foul-mouthed Trump, whom money has failed to give any class or good breeding, nor has political leadership instilled any ethical responsibility.

Assad had added: "I think there is a known principle, that what you say is what you are. So, he (Trump) wanted to represent what he is, and that's normal."

It is obvious that Assad has weathered the storm of the most macabre-ever form of terrorism unleashed on his country over the past nine years by the unholy trinity of the US, Israel, and Arab reactionary regimes, in addition to the frequent US-Zionist bombardment and occupation of parts of Syria by the American Empire.

Yet he refuses to engage in a game of insults and threats with his sworn enemies, whose one single goal is his overthrow and the sanctions against the progressive forces helping him defeat aggression.

Admiral Tangsiri: U.S. Terrorists in Wrong Place



The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Nimitz (L) allegedly passes the Strait of Hormuz on September 18, 2020.

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- A senior Iranian commander on Saturday said the United States must end its military presence in the region or expect a crushing response from the Islamic Republic.

"Definitely, this is our home and it is U.S. terrorists who are in the wrong place," said Rear Admiral Alireza Tangsiri, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC)'s naval force.

His remarks coincided with a U.S. aircraft carrier passing the Strait of Hormuz to enter the Persian Gulf Friday amid Washington's threats to enforce sanctions without the backing of UN Security Council partners.

A strike group led by the USS Nimitz and including two guided-missile cruisers and a guided-missile destroyer sailed into the Persian Gulf to operate and train with U.S. partners, the U.S. 5th Fleet said in a

statement.

"The Nimitz Strike Group has been operating in the 5th Fleet area of operations since July, and is at the peak of readiness," said strike group commander Rear Admiral Jim Kirk.

The move came just days after hawkish U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo vowed to enforce an arms embargo and other sanctions against Iran which the U.S. said would resume on Saturday.

On Tuesday Pompeo vowed that Washington would prevent Iran from purchasing Chinese and Russian military equipment, even as European allies disagreed with Washington's stance.

"We are going to act in a way – and we have acted in a way – that will prevent Iran from being able to purchase Chinese tanks and Russian air defense systems and resell weapons to Hezbollah," Pompeo said.

And on Wednesday he said the United States would enforce resumed United Nations sanctions on Iran starting next week, despite nearly the entire UN Security Council saying Washington does not have the grounds to do so.

"We'll do all the things we need to do to make sure that those sanctions are enforced," Pompeo said.

The United States regularly sends aircraft carrier groups into the Persian Gulf for exercises and to support its military interventions in Iraq and Syria.

But the Trump administration has sought to step up pressure on Tehran after unilaterally withdrawing the United States from the 2018 nuclear accord.

Tangsiri said Saturday, "We have never started a war and will never do so. But should a war break out, we are definitely not afraid of it."

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Rouhani Warns Against Any COVID Complacency

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- President Hassan Rouhani on Saturday called on Iranians to observe health protocols with more diligence, warning against any complacency in the face of an approaching cold season which may exacerbate the coronavirus outbreak.

Addressing a daily session of a national task force to fight the new coronavirus, Rouhani underlined the need to intensify precautionary measures against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The president touched on reports about cases of a pneumonia-like disease in a number of neighboring

countries, which is said to be more dangerous than the new coronavirus.

Rouhani stressed the need for Iranians to cast off possible boredom with health restrictions and social distancing protocols, saying they have nothing but to get used to the new way of life.

This way of life may continue even after a viable vaccine is available, the president said.

A government health specialist said on Saturday around half of all coronavirus patients being treated in intensive care units are dying. The death toll among those on ven-

tilators is 90%.

"In all, 10% to 12% of hospitalized patients are losing their lives," Masoud Mardani, a specialist of infectious diseases and a member of the government coronavirus task force, told the ISNA news agency.

He was speaking on Saturday as the health ministry said the country's coronavirus death toll had risen by 166 to 24,118.

Payam Tabarsi, head of infectious diseases at Tehran's Masih Daneshvari Hospital, said the number of emergency room patients being admitted at his facility had

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Salehi: IAEA Not to Ask for New Inspections

TEHRAN (Dispatches) -- The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has said it will not ask for new inspections after visiting two locations in Iran in August, head of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran said on Saturday.

Ali Akbar Salehi said the UN nuclear agency inspectors had visited one of the two sites. "The first inspection was carried out and nothing special happened," he said.

The date of the second inspection has been set, but it will not be made public, Salehi added.

IAEA officials, he said, have announced that they have no more demands after inspecting the two sites in Iran.

Iran announced in late August it would voluntarily allow the IAEA to visit the two sites following

a visit to Tehran by IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi.

He told IAEA board members on Monday he was hopeful Iran's decision to voluntarily let inspectors into the two sites could lead to greater trust with Tehran.

Iran had been permitting IAEA inspectors in to current nuclear sites agreed upon in the landmark 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, but had argued the other two sites dated from before the deal so there was no reason to grant access.

The IAEA in March identified the two sites as places where Iran possibly stored and/or used undeclared nuclear material or undertook nuclear-related activities without declaring them to international observers. Grossi told the agency's board of governors in Vienna that

inspectors had already visited one site and would visit another later this month.

Iranian officials have said the country "acknowledges the IAEA's right for asking legitimate questions, seeking transparency or demand of access for its mission," but it "also emphasizes its right as a member state to request that the IAEA provide solid evidence and supporting documents and arguments in this regard."

In the past, the UN nuclear agency has been given access to the sites it has demanded to visit, but after getting all questions sorted out it has raised new controversies later based on "fake" intelligence supplied by the occupying regime of Israel or terrorist groups such as the MKO.

The Holy Qur'an

Verily, I am God:
There is no god but I:
So serve thou Me (only),
and establish regular
prayer for celebrating
My praise.

The Holy Qur'an 20:15

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:57
Evening (Maghreb)	19:21
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:27
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:51

South Africa: No Evidence of Alleged Iran Plot

JOHANNESBURG (Dispatches) -- South Africa's state security agency has said it had found no evidence that Iran was plotting to assassinate the U.S. ambassador to Pretoria, Lana Marks.

A U.S. media report, quoting unnamed officials, earlier this week claimed that Iran was planning to kill the U.S. ambassador to South Africa ahead of the U.S. presidential election in November.

"At present, the information provided is not sufficient to sustain the allegation that there is a credible threat against the United States Ambassador to South Africa," State Security Agency spokesman Mava Scott said in a statement.

"Such plots of assassination against diplomats are viewed in a very serious light and Her Excellency, Ambassador Marks has been assured of our commitment in this regard."

South African Minister of International Relations Naledi Pandor said Friday her country is "as surprised as its Iranian friends" after learning about the U.S. report.

"It's been a very strange public statement and of course our friends in Iran are as surprised as we were," Pandor said in an interview with SABC News, the full version of which was to be broadcasted later Friday.

"I find it surprising, why would Iran being a very good friend of South Africa come and commit a horrendous act in a country which has been a good friend to Iran, and of such a nature?" she added. "I can only describe it as bizarre and let me stop there."

On Monday, Iran's foreign ministry denied the report as "baseless" and part of "repetitive and rotten methods to create an anti-Iranian atmosphere".

Relations between Washington and Tehran have been tense ever since the Islamic Revolution of 1979. They have deteriorated sharply since Donald Trump unilaterally pulled out of a landmark international nuclear deal with Iran in May 2018 and reimposed the most aggressive sanctions ever.