

Iraq Resistance Vows to Continue Fight Against U.S., Zionists

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – The leader of an anti-terror Iraqi group says the Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), better known as Hashd al-Sha’abi, thwarted the enemies’ plots against the Arab country and that the popular force will continue to fight American-Zionist terrorism in Iraq.

Akram al-Ka’abi, the secretary general of Iraq’s Harakat al-Nujaba movement, which is part of Hashd al-Sha’abi, made the comment in a statement on Monday on the eighth anniversary of the establishment of the popular anti-terror force.

“On this auspicious day, the plot of the big powers with their extortionate spending and their various support for terrorist groups to occupy, disintegrate and commit genocide against the children of Iraq failed,” Ka’abi said.

“Their efforts failed and God returned their plot to them. The righteous sons of Iraq stood up and rolled up their sleeves and obeyed the fatwa and the call for dignity;



Iraq’s Popular Mobilization Units (PMU), chant anti-U.S. slogans during a protest over the assassination of top Iranian anti-terror commander Lieutenant General Qassem Soleimani and PMU’s deputy commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis.

they sacrificed their pure blood and souls for the nation’s faith and soil, and displayed the most beautiful images of bravery and manhood.”

On June 15, 2014, Iraq’s prominent Shia cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani issued a fatwa that called on all Iraqi people to join forces with the army to confront

Daesh. The historic fatwa led to a mass mobilization of popular volunteer forces under the banner of Hashd al-Sha’abi. The force then rushed to the aid of the army and took the lead in many of the successful anti-terror operations, which ultimately led to the collapse of Daesh and liberation of the entire Iraqi land in

December 2017.

Ka’abi said, “The world should know that the valiant Iraqi heroes will always stand against the bouts of terrorism — spawned by the United States and Zionism — and will be a shield against evil forces and the Takfiris.”

Falih al-Fayyadh, the head of the PMU, also praised in a televised speech on Monday the establishment of the popular anti-terror force.

“We carry the weapon of truth, and this weapon is a tool to protect the country, human freedom and dignity,” Fayyadh said.

“There are those who are trying to turn Hashd al-Sha’abi into a temporary phenomenon in Iraq in order to bring back the conspiracies against the country, but the PMU is an Ummah because of the fatwa of the religious authority.”

Fayyadh stressed that the PMU is a rebellious establishment against corruption, slavery and humiliation, adding it accepts nothing but an Iraq ruling itself.

Major...

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personal finance analyst at Interactive Investor.

Official figures showed British economic output declined for a second month in a row in April, weighed down by runaway consumer prices.

“It is possible that this is the very first signs that the weakening in economic activity since the start of the year is filtering through into a less tight labor market,” Paul Dales, chief UK economist at Capital Economics, said Tuesday.

French cabin crew at Ryanair went on strike on Sunday and Monday demanding better pay and working conditions. A union representative said more than 40 flights had to be cancelled.

Ryanair’s Portuguese cabin staff will go on strike for three days in late June, Portugal’s union of civil aviation personnel SNPAC said on Tuesday.

The workers, demanding compliance with Portuguese law and better working conditions, will walk out on June 24, 25 and 26, SNPAC said in a statement.

“This mobilization is not only an opportunity to put the spotlight on multiple attacks on workers’ dignity and to make this reality known but also a moment to show unity and solidarity against dumping”, the union added.

The announcement came a day after Ryanair’s Spanish cabin announced a six-day strike planned for late June and early July.

It came after health workers associated with nine major unions and organizations rallied in the streets to protest against the shortage of staff and resources.

The fuel prices are also rising to record high figures in France caused by a spike in global demand and supply shortages.

With the situation worsening, President Emmanuel Macron points to “yellow vest” protests as the main reason for economic failures of the government.

The anti-government protests of 2018 by low-income voters in fluorescent yellow safety vests were sparked by anger over rising fuel prices and attempts to tax heavily polluting vehicles. They are making a return to the streets amid the worsening economic situation.

Average diesel prices in France hit an all-time record last week of 1.5583 euros a liter, while petrol was at nearly a 10-year high at 1.6567 euros a liter, slightly below the all-time record reached in April 2012, official data shows.

Meanwhile, rising cost of living across Austria prompted the government to introduce a package of measures, which it said would cost six billion euros this year.

Like many other nations across the European continent, Austria is grappling with inflation that has surged to its highest level in decades.

Greece...

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then tried to travel to neighboring Uruguay, but was denied entry and returned to Ezeiza outside Buenos Aires.

The crew also included 14 Venezuelans, who were free to go.

Iran said Monday Argentina’s move was part of a “propaganda” campaign against Tehran amid tensions with Western countries over negotiations to revive a 2015 nuclear deal.

The grounding of the Emtrasur plane came days before Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro visited Tehran on Saturday for the allies, both subject to U.S. sanctions, to sign a 20-year cooperation pact.

Iran’s Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh told reporters the grounding of the plane was part of efforts seeking to “cause a feeling of insecurity.”

The plane was sold by Iran’s Mahan Air to a Venezuelan company last year, he said.

“These recent weeks are filled with propaganda, are full of psychological operations, these wars of words that want to infiltrate the minds and composure of the people... this news is one of those,” said Khatibzadeh.

Monday’s court ruling to hold the crew’s passports came after a successful bid by the DAIA organization that represents Argentina’s Jewish community to be listed as a plaintiff in the investigation.

The grounding of the plane came as a resolution was adopted by the International Atomic Energy Agency’s Board of Governors to censure Iran after its chief Rafael Grossi made a controversial visit to Occupied Palestine ahead of the board’s meeting.

Russian...

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Germany pledged in May to supply Kyiv with seven self-artillery howitzers, adding to five such artillery systems the Netherlands have promised.

But Berlin has also faced accusations from Ukraine that it is dragging its feet and taking too much time to deliver heavy weapons as the conflict has shifted into a punishing war of attrition.

Lambrecht gave no details on when the howitzers would be sent to Ukraine.

“The first howitzers will be delivered (to Ukraine) when the training has been completed and it is responsible (to supply them),” she said, adding she would make neither the date nor transport routes public for security reasons.

Kyiv needs 1,000 howitzers, 500 tanks and 1,000 drones among other heavy weapons, Presidential Adviser Mykhailo Podolyak said on Monday.

Tehran...

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on the removal of the sanctions, referring to the Vienna talks about the revival of the 2015 nuclear deal.

The administration has relied upon domestic capabilities and maintains that the problems could be addressed internally as it pursues plans to neutralize the foreign sanctions, he stated.

The spokesman also noted that Tehran has taken proper measures in recent months for the nullification of the sanctions.

“In addition, the negotiations for the removal of the illegal sanctions are being pursued (by Iran),” Bahadori Jahromi said, adding that the IAEA’s report has nothing to do with the negotiations and such issues would not affect the negotiations.

Following the International Atomic Energy Agency’s move to pass an anti-Iran resolution on June 8, Iran’s top nuclear official said the country has begun injecting uranium gas into advanced centrifuges and disconnected some UN nuclear agency’s cameras monitoring its sites outside the Safeguards Agreement.

Iran...

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(sabotage) have been involved in the contamination of those locations.

4. On location 2, which as a result of Iran’s cooperation has been closed according to paragraph 7.6 of the Agency’s report. The report states further in paragraph 7.4 “the Agency conducted further verification activities at JHL. As a result, in a letter dated 14 January 2022, the Agency informed Iran that while it had not been able to identify the disc from amongst those stored at JHL, it could not exclude that the disc had been melted, re-cast and was now part of the declared nuclear material inventory at JHL. Nevertheless, the Agency could not confirm the current location of this disc”. It should be mentioned that:

- The claim about existing another undeclared location containing natural uranium in the form of a metal disc is based on the same false and fabricated assertions of illegitimate Zionist regime without any ground.

- Iran has stated frequently that the uranium metal had been produced previously only in Jaber Ibne Hayyan (JHL) which has been verified many times by the Agency since 2003 and have been under the Agency’s continuous C/S measures. This fact was reflected in the Agency report (GOV/2015/68) as “...the Agency re-evaluated this information in 2014 and assessed that the amount of natural uranium involved was within the uncertainties associated with nuclear material accountability and related measurements”. Therefore, this project was wholly verified by the Agency in the past and the issue was resolved. It is regrettable that the Agency reopens a closed issue dating back to 2003-2004 based on unauthentic information.

- Although all nuclear material pertaining to this project has been under the Agency seals since 2003, it is very unfortunate that the Agency has occasionally resorted to base on new fictitious assumptions according to unauthentic information delivered by Iran’s vicious enemy added to this report.

- It is very much regrettable that while the Agency in its letter as well as in this report made a conclusion that “... it could not exclude that the disc had been melted, re-cast and was now part of the declared nuclear material inventory at JHL”, but once again based on unauthentic information, in this report has changed its conclusion and looks for an assumable disc in a nowhere location!

C. Comments on actions taken following the Joint Statement

In paragraph 10, the Agency states “The Agency reviewed the information provided by

Iran on 19 March 2022 and found that it was predominantly information that Iran had previously provided to the Agency but also included new information, which was subsequently assessed by the Agency. The information provided by Iran did not address all of the Agency’s questions”. It should be mentioned that:

- In accordance with the agreed Joint Statement, on 4 April 2022 and within the determined time table, the Islamic Republic of Iran has provided the Agency with all required information requested by the Agency concerning the identified locations, which as it was said, have been under the control of private sector. It should be reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran has fulfilled all its commitments in this respect and addressed all Agency’s questions in a very cooperative manner.

Comments on the Agency evaluations related to each Location:

1. In section D.1 about Location 4 – ‘Marivan’: It should be mentioned that:

- the logic behind the naming location 4 as ‘Marivan’ by the Agency is irrelevant and unknown for Iran since the Agency had named until recently this location as ‘Abadeh’. Moreover, the Agency had closed the issue related to a location called ‘Marivan’ in its report contained in Gov/2015/68 of 2 December 2015 (see para 41 of the 2015 report).

- In reply to the Agency questions regarding this location, Iran repeatedly has responded that it gives no value to questions derived from fabricated information provided by illegitimate Zionist regime.

- The Agency has claimed that it has provided Iran with supporting documents about the location so called ‘Marivan’. These documents claimed by the Agency are only two images from an unknown location which cannot be regarded as authentic evidence at all, because they are easily producible thus have no legal and technical value.

- The Agency’s reference to the presence of neutron detectors in this location, principally has no safeguards and even AP ground. Despite this fact and although the Agency’s questions were not based on authentic information relevant to the purpose of safeguards for its request of access to these locations, the Islamic Republic of Iran based on its good-will, voluntarily granted access to the Agency and provided explanations regarding complete history, usage and even the application of bunkers.

- In spite of these extensive cooperation, the Agency has considered the information received from Iran as being inconsistent with the said alleged documents, simply by unjustifiably relying on some unauthentic and fabricated documents and drawing fallacious and invalid conclusion upon its own wrongly shaped assumptions.

- Iran has merely reflected the relevant history of the location without referring or linking it to such contamination to a foreign company. It is quite natural that the concerned Member State was not able to find any information about its company’s activities after half a century. Therefore, the Agency’s conclusion on the explanation of Iran is not correct and substantially defensible.

- This location was used for the exploitation of fireclay location with a contract with a foreign company decades ago. However, the Agency baselessly alleged that the location has been

involved in nuclear activities. The Agency’s allegations that this location has conducted explosive experiments with protective shielding in preparation for the use of neutron detectors is merely a fantasy based on false and unauthenticated information. This conclusion is absolutely false, unrealistic and biased.

- The Agency’s making linkage between Lavisan-Shian and the so called Marivan based on unauthentic and fabricated picture of detector is also baseless.

- The origin of presence of depleted uranium with U-236 mentioned in the analytical results of the Agency’s environmental samples is unknown. However, it is clear that these particles do not have Iran’s origin, rather have origin from companies such as Merck, Amersham and etc., which are commercially available in the market. It should not be difficult for the Agency which claims to having a rich library of the characteristics of particles to substantiate their origins.

- Other possible origin of reported particles by the Agency could be result of subversive acts (sabotage). It should not be forgotten that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been subjected to numerous sabotage acts in various locations repeatedly by different means and methods.

- The Agency’s assessment based on similarities between different trucks observed at the so-called ‘Marivan’ and Turqzabad during mid-July and mid-August 2018 through the analysis of commercially available satellite imagery is merely inaccurate and unprofessional for claiming that items were being removed from Turqzabad. Such commercially satellite imagery cannot provide a valid base for a deduction like that. Iran is a vast country; there are great numbers of similar trucks moving around the country. Surprisingly, the Agency has indicated the similarities of trucks in these two different locations seen through the commercial satellite imagery as a reason to claim that the same truck moving from one location to another.

- Unfortunately, the Agency considers all fabricated documents and fake information provided by the Israeli regime totally as authentic while it has disregarded Iran’s clarifications, and has concluded that the so-called Marivan issue, as “not clarified”, without sufficient reasons.

2. In section D.2 about Location 3 – Varamin: It should be mentioned that:

- the Agency in paragraph 22 of its report stating that “has information of the possible use or storage of nuclear material and/or conduct of nuclear-related activities, including research and development activities related to the nuclear fuel cycle, at Location 3 in Iran (a location known as Varamin)” which is not supported by valid proofs, is misleading.

- The said paragraph mentioning that “This location also underwent significant changes in 2004, including the demolition of most buildings”, is not correct. The fact is that due to changing the usage and application of this location, only one building among the complex of existing buildings was demolished and reconstructed in 2004. Furthermore, reconstruction of one building in this location neither should be regarded as sanitization activities nor need to be mentioned in the report. In spite of explaining this fact to the Agency, unfortunately the Agency ignored Iran’s explanations. Since the Agency has not presented authentic documents to Iran concerning its claim on “possible undeclared nuclear material and nuclear-related activities”, it should not be expected for Iran to consider unauthentic and fabricated documents as any Safeguards and Additional Protocol basis to respond the Agency’s requests. Despite this, Iran voluntarily granted access and provided information and clarification to the Agency on this location.

- It was explained to the Agency that the initial activities conducted in this location had been exploitation of sodium sulphate from the soil and water of the surrounding region by traditional method, which was subsequently shifted to industrial process in the next phase. Afterwards, due to municipal regulations, the operation of the location was halted and converted to farming and cattle raising. It is a matter of surprise that the Agency insists on its incorrect conclusion based on unauthentic and fabricated documents.

- Since there have never been any nuclear-related activities in this location, the Agency’s report on the presence of particles does not have any justification, rather than sabotage acts of scenario-composing by the well-known enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran. As pointed out before, sabotage acts of all kinds have frequently impacted various locations in many instances and occasions in Iran by its enemies.

- The Agency’s claim that “containers removed from Varamin at the time of the dismantlement of the buildings at the location were eventually transferred to Turqzabad” is improvable and unverifiable, and is not a professional and reliable assessment.

- Unfortunately, the Agency once again here considers all fabricated documents and fake information provided by the Israeli regime totally as authentic, and has concluded that Varamin issue, as “not clarified”, without sufficient reasons and has disregarded Iran’s clarifications.

3. In section D.3 about Location 1 – ‘Turqzabad’: It should be mentioned that:

- The Agency claim that “...Turqzabad... has been involved in the storage of nuclear mate-

rial and equipment”, is not based on authentic information and documents. The area in question is actually an industrial place encompassing various kinds of warehouses and depots for storing detergents, chemicals, foodstuff, fabrics & textiles, vehicles tires and parts, tubes and joints, and some industrial scraps; therefore there had not been any ground for this location to be declared to the Agency.

- Furthermore, the request of the Agency from Iran to provide information on the moving containers from one location to another, as well as the so-called sanitization activities in this location which is an area for industrial scraps storage and dealing, has no any Safeguards and Additional Protocol relevance. Therefore, the Agency question is fundamentally baseless. However, the access was granted to the Agency for broader cooperation based on Iran’s good will.

- In our intensive investigations into the background of activities carried out in this location, we did not find the origin of the particles reported by the Agency. There has not been any nuclear activity or storage in this location. Therefore, no technical clue concerning the origin of reported particles were found. However, the possibility of presence of such particles by sabotage cannot be excluded.

- Unfortunately, the Agency again and again considers all fabricated documents and fake information provided by the Israeli regime totally as authentic, and has concluded that Turqzabad issue, as “not clarified”, without sufficient reasons and has disregarded Iran’s clarifications.

D. Conclusion:

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran has so far rendered its full cooperation even beyond its obligations under the CSA and the AP to the Agency. It has to be re-emphasized that all Iran’s nuclear material and activities have been completely declared to the Agency and has gone through a very robust verification system. It should be noted that during the last 20 years the most intensive Agency inspections have been conducted in Iran, which has been confirmed by the Agency in its SIR 2021, as it says that 22% of its inspections worldwide have been conducted in Iran; whereas Iran possesses only 6% of all nuclear facilities covered by the Agency throughout the world.

2. The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly expects that the Agency conduct its reporting on verification activities in the Islamic Republic of Iran in a professional and impartial manner without extraneous political pressures.

3. Though having no obligation to respond to the questions raised by the Agency based on fabricated and unauthentic documents, Iran, on voluntary and cooperative basis, has provided all needed information, supporting documents and accesses to respond to the Agency’s requests. This level of cooperation by Iran is a testimony to Iran’s good will for clarifying the questions. Iran could have refrained from granting access and providing information and supporting documents if it had no intention to cooperate with the Agency on these questions. Unfortunately, the Agency’s insistence on the validity of the fabricated documents has resulted in an invalid and unjust assessment.

4. The Agency should not disregard the possibility of involvement of Iran’s staunch enemies in providing false and fabricated information to it and at the same time their role in possible perpetration of intentional contaminating of the locations in question, especially when they themselves repeatedly announce their intentions to disrupt entirely peaceful nuclear activities of Iran and attempts to undermine cooperation between Iran and the Agency. Why the Agency tends to overlook the statements made by the officials of the Israeli regime in the wake of each sabotage act against Iran’s nuclear program in recent years, in which they have credited such sabotages to themselves.

5. The Agency by referring to the above-said invalid information has overshadowed unfairly all Iran’s cooperation with the Agency and its transparent peaceful nuclear activities of. This approach does not match with the extensive cooperation of Iran with the Agency and the implementation of the most robust verification system being applied on Iran by the Agency. The Islamic Republic of Iran would like to seriously warn about the negative impact of such an approach on the overall existing constructive environment in its cooperation with the Agency.

Official...

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Saeed Khatibzadeh, the foreign ministry spokesman, addressing a weekly press conference in Tehran on Monday called for the immediate release of Assadi.

Assadi’s case, according to legal experts, is based on sham and unsubstantiated charges and smacks of political propaganda against the Islamic Republic.

Belgian authorities in June 2018 said the country’s police had intercepted a car carrying homemade explosives, claiming that the Iranian diplomat handed the material to two people in Belgium.

He was accused of plotting an attack against the anti-Iran MKO terrorist outfit, a claim that has been strongly rejected by Iranian authorities.