

# Zionist Troops Target Palestinian Farmers in Gaza

GAZA STRIP (Wafa) – Zionist troops renewed their attacks on Palestinian farmers on Saturday in eastern Khan Yunis, south of the besieged Gaza Strip.

The Zionist troops stationed east of Khan Yunis fired gas canisters at Palestinian farmers working on their lands in the al-Sanati neighborhood, east of Abasan Al-Kabira town, forcing them to flee.

On Friday, dozens of Palestinians, including children, were injured as a result of the occupying regime troops' assault in the town of Hawara, south of Nablus in the West Bank.

The regime's navy forces also assaulted Palestinian fishermen while they were sailing off the southern shores of the Gaza Strip on Saturday, forcing them



Zionist occupation forces renewed their attacks on Palestinian farmers on Saturday morning in eastern Khan Yunis.

to return to the shore, according to local sources, Wafa reported, adding that the navy forces fired live bullets at the fishermen sailing off the city of Ra-

fah. Zionist naval forces and their gunboats have long been harassing fishermen in Gaza, shooting at them, damaging their boats

and making arrests. In some cases, fishermen were injured or even killed during gunfire attacks by the regime's navy.

In addition to attacking fishermen, the occupying regime regularly bans boats from accessing the water and reduces the fishing zone that Palestinians from Gaza can access.

Zionist naval authorities have been enforcing a naval blockade on Gaza's 40-kilometer-long coast since 2007.

The blockade has restricted fishing for the 3,700 registered fishermen in Gaza – the majority of whom live below the poverty line by shrinking the fishing zone from 25 nautical miles, down to only six to nine nautical miles, according to the human rights group B'Tselem.

## U.S.-Backed Militants Transfer Hundreds of Daesh Families From Syria to Iraq

BEIRUT (Dispatches) – U.S.-backed Kurdish militants in northern Syria transferred to the Iraqi government more than 600 people related to Daesh terrorist group members who were detained at the al-Hol camp, a monitor says.

It is the fourth operation of its kind this year from the camp, which lies less than 10 kilometers from the Iraqi border.

In the latest transfer, around "620 people, relatives of Daesh members, left al-Hol," coordinated between the camp administration and the Iraqi government, the so-called Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said in a statement.

The men, women and children belonged to 150 families and left the camp on Thursday, an official

in the Kurdish administration told AFP.

Thousands of foreign extremists joined Daesh as militants, often bringing their wives and children to live in the "caliphate" declared by the group across swathes of Iraq and Syria in 2014.

The camp is located on the southern outskirts of the town of al-Hol in Syria's energy-rich Hasakah province, where U.S. occupation forces and its allied militants are actively present. Besides the internally displaced, families of Daesh terrorists also reside there.

It houses around 55,000 people, the United Nations reported in June.

According to the official Iraqi

News Agency, Iraq should repatriate 500 families in total from al-Hol camp this year.

The first repatriation of Iraqi Daesh families from the camp, involving around 300 people, took place in May last year.

In early June, Iraq repatriated another 50 Iraqi Daesh terrorists.

Iraq declared victory over Daesh in December 2017 after a three-year counter-terrorism military campaign, which also had the support of neighboring Iran.

The terror outfit's remnants, though, keep staging sporadic attacks across Iraq, attempting to regroup and unleash fresh violence.

Daesh has intensified its terrorist attacks in Iraq since January 2020, when the United States as-

sassinated top Iranian anti-terror commander General Qassem Soleimani and deputy commander of Iraq's Popular Mobilization Units (PMU) or Hashd al-Sha'abi, Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, near Baghdad International Airport.

Iraqi anti-terror resistance groups have repeatedly warned Baghdad that the remnants of Daesh active in Syria's U.S.-occupied east may find unhindered access to the Iraqi border and infiltrate into its western Anbar Province.

This is while the positions of the PMU and its affiliated resistance groups operating against Daesh in the border regions have repeatedly come under attack by the U.S. military over the past years.

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

already bled into the real world after an armed Trump supporter on Thursday attempted to break into an FBI office in Ohio. The man, who made countless threats on Trump's Truth Social website ahead of the attack, was shot and killed at the scene.

In another video, one TikTok user can be heard attempting to recruit his viewers into joining his militia.

"I don't need sheep on my page, I need wolves that will stand with me so that we might fight this corrupt government, these corrupt cops, every fucking corrupt person in this country and bring our country back to the glory it once was," the user says.

Numerous videos also make reference to the recent claim that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is preparing to hire 87,000 new agents to carry out armed raids against American taxpayers.

The claim surfaced after a climate, healthcare, and tax package passed the Senate last Sunday that includes around \$78 billion for the IRS. The \$78 billion, however, will be phased in over a 10-year period.

The claim regarding armed agents stems from a Treasury Department estimation in May 2021 that the allocated funds could allow the IRS to hire around 87,000 new employees by 2031, the majority of which would replace current positions and not be armed agents.

Nonetheless, the belief that tens of thousands of armed IRS agents are preparing to descend upon the homes of Trump supporters has ignited calls to violence across TikTok.

"Dear IRS, we the people accept your civil war. We've been waiting for this for a long time," another user says. "If you bring guns to our homes, guess what? We have guns too."

With the Trump raid and IRS story still ongoing and the political divide at an all-time high, it remains unclear what can be done to decrease the current and growing calls to violence.

FBI agents recovered 11 sets of documents marked "top secret" during the search of Donald Trump's Florida estate, U.S. media reported Friday, as justice officials were poised to make public the warrant authorizing the extraordinary raid on the home of the ex-president.

The Wall Street Journal said FBI agents removed 11 sets of classified documents from Trump's Mar-a-Lago home in the raid, which ignited a political firestorm in an already bitterly divided country.

The newspaper said some of the documents were marked "top secret" and were "meant to be only available in special government facilities." It said a list of items removed included information about the "President of France."

The Journal said the list was contained in a seven-page document that also includes the warrant to search the palatial Trump estate in Palm Beach.

The Justice Department has asked a Florida judge to unseal the search warrant on Friday barring objections from Trump, who is weighing another White House run in 2024.

The Wall Street Journal said FBI agents carted away around 20 boxes of items including binders of photos, a handwritten note and the grant of clemency made by Trump to Roger Stone, an ally of the former president.

Meanwhile, the suspected presence of nuclear weapons documents at Mar-a-Lago has raised serious concerns.

If it turns out that Trump did take such material from the White House, it would raise the question of why a former president would need such closely guarded secrets after leaving office. The possibility that such material would be held at an unsecured facility, where guests come and go and where it would be potentially vulnerable to penetration by a foreign intelligence service, would alarm government officials.

Trump was particularly fixated on the

U.S. nuclear arsenal while he was in the White House, and boasted about being privy to highly secret information.

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

abundantly clear in a few seconds that he was being beaten," Savor said. He said the attack lasted about 20 seconds.

After the publication of "The Satanic Verses," protests erupted across the Muslim world against Rushdie, who was born in India.

A bounty led Rushdie to go into hiding under a British government protection program, which included a round-the-clock armed guard. Rushdie emerged after nine years of seclusion and cautiously resumed more public appearances.

## Europe's... (Continued From Page One)

economy for centuries, the 760 miles (1,233km) of the Rhine flow from Switzerland through Germany's industrial heartland before reaching the North Sea at the megaport of Rotterdam.

A total halt in Rhine barge traffic would hit Germany's – and Europe's – economy hard: experts have calculated that a six-month suspension in 2018 cost around €5bn (£4.2bn), with low water levels forecast to cost Germany 0.2 points of economic growth this year.

While the EU has said boosting waterborne freight by 25% is one of the bloc's green transition priorities, Germany is now working to divert it to rail and road – although between 40 and 100 trucks are needed to replace a standard barge load.

France's rivers might not be such key freight arteries, but they do serve to cool the nuclear plants that produce 70% of the country's electricity. As prices hit all-time highs, power giant EDF has been forced to reduce output because of the drought.

Strict rules regulate how far nuclear plants can raise river temperatures when they discharge cooling water – and if record low water levels and high air temperatures mean the river is already overheated, they have no option but to cut output. With Europe's looming energy crisis mounting and the Garonne, Rhône and Loire rivers already too warm to allow cooling water to be discharged, the French nuclear regulator last week allowed five plants to temporarily break the rules.

In Italy, the flow of the parched Po, Italy's longest river, has fallen to one-tenth of its usual rate, and water levels are 2 meters below normal. With no sustained rainfall in the region since November, corn and risotto rice production have been hard hit.

The Po valley accounts for between 30% and 40% of Italy's agricultural production, but rice growers in particular have warned that up to 60% of their crop may be lost as paddy fields dry out and are spoiled by seawater sucked in by the low river level.

In the protected wetlands of the river's delta, near Venice, its high temperature and sluggish flow have reduced the water's oxygen content to the extent that an estimated 30% of clams growing in the lagoon have already been killed off.

Low river levels and high water temperatures can prove fatal to many species. In Bavaria, the Danube reached 25C last week and could hit 26.5C by mid-month, meaning its oxygen content would fall below six parts per million – fatal for trout.

Freight on the 2,850km of the Danube has also been heavily disrupted, prompting authorities in Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria to start dredging deeper channels while barges carrying mainly fuel for the power generators wait to advance.

Even Norway, which relies on hydropower for about 90% of its electricity generation, has said the unusually low levels of its reservoirs may ultimately oblige it to limit power exports.

## Former Khashoggi Lawyer Leaves UAE After Jail Term Overturned

DUBAI (Middle East Eye) – Asim Ghafoor, the former lawyer of murdered Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, has left the United Arab Emirates after a prison sentence against him was overturned.

Ghafoor's representative, Faisal Gill, told AFP on Saturday that the U.S. lawyer would return to the United States after paying a five million dirham (\$1.36mn) fine.

"He's on his way to the U.S.," Gill said, adding that he was not facing any charges in the U.S.

Ghafoor, who helped to set up a human rights group with Khashoggi, had been transiting through Dubai en route to Istanbul for a family wedding when he was detained.

The UAE's official WAM news agency said the Abu Dhabi Money Laundering and Tax Evasion Court upheld Ghafoor's conviction and accused him of "money laundering crimes linked to a U.S.-based tax evasion operation".

The court in the UAE lifted the three-year prison term and ordered Ghafoor to pay a \$1.36mn fine and for the \$4.9mn in his account to be confiscated, lawyer Habib al-Mulla told Reuters on Wednesday.

His lawyer rejected the charges of tax evasion and illegal money transfers, the Associated Press reported. His supporters insist he had no opportunity to defend himself against the charges and describe his trial and conviction as unjust.

Earlier this month, the UAE embassy in Washington said Emirati authorities had determined Ghafoor committed tax evasion and money laundering by moving at least \$4.9mn in international transfers through the country's banking system.

Emirati authorities said they had investigated Ghafoor at the request of the U.S. The State Department, however, said Washington had not ordered Ghafoor's detention. The Justice Department declined requests to comment.

Ghafoor, a U.S. and civil rights lawyer, is a board member of the Democracy for the Arab World Now group, founded by Khashoggi, which is heavily critical of the authoritarian UAE.

The lawyer's website states that Ghafoor had previously defended businesspeople, charity leaders and institutions accused of involvement in the 9/11 attacks in the United States.

## Report: Young Egyptian Died in Police Custody After Suffering Torture

CAIRO (Middle East Eye) – An Egyptian man who died in police custody was subjected to brutal and harsh interrogation, which amounted to torture practice, a rights group has reported.

The Egyptian Network for Human Rights (ENHR) said in a report that Mustafa Nafe Ramadan, better known as Disheh, was held for nearly two weeks in police custody before being announced dead on Friday 5 August.

The 19-year-old from el-Raml neighborhood in the coastal city of Alexandria, who worked as a car electrician and had no criminal record, was interrogated by three officers for the duration of his detention, said the group, which monitors torture practices in Egypt.

It added that Disheh suffered from "torture

and the continuous assault on him by severe beatings in different parts of his body by the officers" at the police station.

"[Disheh] was well-behaved and had a clean criminal record, as he had not been arrested before and had not entered a police station before his arrest. He was loved by the neighbors in the area in which he lived," ENHR said in a statement.

ENHR said that when his family received Disheh's body they found bruises on his back and neck, an injury on the left side of his head caused by a sharp tool, and other injuries in the lower jaw and nose.

It also said that during his detention an Egyptian officer threatened Disheh's mother when she came to check on him at el-Raml 2 police station, telling her, "I will let you grieve for him soon."

According to a statement by the interior ministry, Disheh was arrested on suspicion of possession of a firearm. The statement denied the accusations of torture, saying the young man died after a fight with a cell inmate.

ENHR said that Disheh was arbitrarily arrested on 23 July when he was sitting in a coffee shop with a friend in Ard al-Mufti al-Jadeedeh area in el-Raml. An argument broke out between Disheh and an officer after police came to arrest the two friends. Disheh was insulted and slapped before he and his friend were arrested.

The police accused Disheh of possessing a gun, which he denied. ENHR said that Disheh was carrying a cutting tool, which he uses for his work, to cut cables and wires on cars.